To see a photo gallery of this year's Moundbuilding ceremony, visit sckans.edu/moundbuilding.
Dear friends,

This issue of *The Southwesterner* highlights the college’s ambassadors, people who reach out to tell the world about Southwestern.

Ambassadors for the college’s Cole Family Summer Music Festival are working actively to attract young musicians to the college for a magical summer experience that, we’re certain, will turn some of them into Builders. Dawn Pleas-Bailey, who leads the college’s community engagement program, has created important new partnerships with schools in Kansas and Oklahoma that encourage students to make a plan for college. Again, we’re certain – because it’s already happened – that these programs bring new students to the college.

When President Merriman asked me to lead an initiative in cultivating urban areas regarding Southwestern College and higher education, I was more than excited! There is no bigger cheerleader in the Builder Nation than Dr. Merriman. In my two decades here, I have grown deeply in love with this college, its mission, the students and anything associated with Southwestern College.

The community engagement work began almost seven years ago in Wichita. We have had year-round partnerships including academic summer camps for Treadwell and Jardine middle schools. We spent significant time in Wichita high schools, college preparatory programs, community organizations, and churches. Most importantly, we are the preferred field trip decision for elementary, middle, and high school groups across the region. Visitors love the fun campus visit as they tour our beautiful setting, meet approachable students and professors, learn about our traditions, and the most popular stop….the all-you-can-eat cafeteria.

Dr. Merriman’s vision is that everyone should aspire to pursue some type of higher education. First, the community engagement work demystifies that private school higher education is an unattainable goal for first-generation, low-socioeconomic, and ethnic minority young people and their families. Second, this work exposes the region to our amazing learning environment. Needless to say, we have had a blast spreading purple pride. With our success in Wichita, we have expanded the work to other urban areas such as Tulsa, Oklahoma City, and Dallas. The world awaits!

Blessings,

Dawn Pleas-Bailey, Vice President for Student Life
Special Asst. to the President for Community Engagement
Hopes, dreams, and telling the Southwestern story

A presidential emphasis on education for all young people is spreading through the Builder nation as students, staff, and faculty are joined by alumni and friends to tell the Southwestern College story. This emphasis on community engagement is paying off as students as young as middle school catch the SC vision.

“Community engagement is about the collective energy that we’re creating, and everyone has a part in that,” says Dawn Pleas-Bailey, vice president for student affairs and special assistant to the president for community engagement. It is a special project created by President Dick Merriman, who sets the vision and standards of what I do. Some presidents believe in conservation, others emphasize foreign travel. Dick’s platform is the education of ALL young people.

As a result, campus groups (often coordinated by Pleas-Bailey) focus on partnering with people, organizations, and groups to connect with young people.

“We especially focus on middle schoolers to make sure they take their high school years seriously,” she says. “The key component of the work is the summer academic camps, which focus on conservation, others emphasize foreign travel. Dick’s platform is the education of ALL young people.”

The Cole Family Summer Music Festival is gearing up for its seventh summer, and the increase in participation seen over its first three years is expected to be even more pronounced this year, thanks to some student Pied Pipers.

Musical ambassadors who also are exceptional Southwestern students have been chosen to drum up interest in the camp, which will be June 9-14, 2014, on the SC campus. Tracks in choir, orchestra, band, jazz, and piano will be open to students ages 14-20.

The ambassadors will help build relationships with those involved in the festival including participants, faculty, families and alumni, explains festival dean Timothy Shook. Additionally, they will shepherd the festival participants from introduction of the festival through registration, the week on campus and Family Day 2014, then will help build enthusiasm for the 2015 festival. During the spring ambassadors will visit regional schools to meet with music educators in a recruitment effort for the 2014 event.

“We’ve been very excited about the growth in the festival since we began in 2008. This year we’re really ready to jump to the next level,” Shook says. Shook, who also is head of the division of performing arts, has worked closely with primary beneficiary Dr. George Cole. “Dr. Cole is completely invested in this event,” Shook says. “His entire family has been important to Southwestern, but he remembers attending music camp at SC when he was young, and he’s helping us with both ideas and with funding to make sure high school students still can have this kind of top-quality summer experience.

“We have grown from 35 to 70 participants and with the help of the SC ambassadors, new faculty, and the guest conductor, our goal is 100. We hope our alumni can help us reach that goal of 100 participants by sending us the names of students they know will benefit from this magnificent opportunity.”

Noted composer Steven R. Barnett will be guest conductor. Barnett is in his 11th year as director of bands and professor of music at Marshall University. He conducts the Marshall Wind Symphony and the “Marching Thunder” marching band, where he also serves as music arranger and drum designer.

For more information on the Cole Family Summer Music Festival, contact Jessica Falk, director of camps and conferences, at 620-229-6141, or visit the festival website at scKansas.edu/musicfestival.

Rude receives top award

The Kansas Campus Compact named Cheryl Rude, director for Leadership Southwestern, its Community Engagement Professional of the Year. The award was given at the Heartland Campus Compact Conference held Sept. 19-20 in Tulsa.

The award recognizes one professional who has worked toward the institutionalization of academic service-learning and/or service, created and strived toward a vision of service for his/her campus, promoted higher education as a public good, provided exceptional support to faculty and students, and has been instrumental in forming innovative campus-community partnerships.

According to Lindsay Wilke, assistant director for Leadership Southwestern, the award is one of three (and the most prestigious) given in the state of Kansas and required nomination es-

Richardson Performing Arts Center presents

Parrennial Walnut Valley Festival performer John McCutcheon will return to Winfield Sunday, Feb. 8, 2014, when he presents a 7 p.m. concert in Richardson Performing Arts Center. The McCutcheon concert is the first in an expected series of RPAC events designed to showcase the renovated auditorium. “Our own college performers have loved the space, and now we want to show it’s a regional treasure as well,” says Steve Wilke, vice president for planning and new programs.

For ticket information, contact Jessica Falk at (800) 846-1543 ext. 6141 or email jessica.falk@kansas.edu.
Harold Deets, a generous and gentle man, dies at 91

Harold Deets, who has been one of Southwestern's most faithful and generous alumni, died peacefully on Friday, Sept. 13, 2013. His memorial service was held on Sept. 21, which would have been his 92nd birthday.

"Harold left Southwestern's halls 70 years ago, but he never forgot the life-changing experiences he had here," says President Dick Merriman. "His time in the classroom, singing in the A Cappella Choir, and meeting and courting his future wife, Mary Ellen, created in him a profound sense of gratitude toward the college. Harold was a tremendously generous supporter of the college and was, for me, a special and true friend."

Deets grew up in Garfield, Kansas, and arrived at Southwestern in 1939, when he and his mother arrived on campus to enroll him for his first classes. He took a job as a student janitor and cleaned the library inside the entrance to the building includes portraits of Deets Library. Inductees will be Pedro M. Esquivel '62, Harry H. Dunn '23, and Bishop Bruce Blake. Cost of dinner is $20 per person. For reservations/information on any of the halls of fame, contact susan.lowe@sckans.edu or 620-229-6279.

Alumni & Friends Event Schedule

DECEMBER 5 | 3 p.m. Cumbernauld Village Christmas Party, Winfield. Martin Rude and the SC Outreach Teams will provide holiday music. Cumbernauld will provide refreshments.

DECEMBER 6 | 6:30 p.m. Women’s Basketball Reunion, Winfield Country Club. Hosted by Coach Dave Denly. Contact Coach Denly for more information, 620-229-6218.

DECEMBER 7 | 1:30 p.m. SC Athletic Hall of Fame, Roy L. Smith dining hall. Social will be immediately followed by the hall of fame ceremony. Inductees will be: Terry Barnett, Nicole (Liebenthal) Brannon '00, Niki (Nicholas) Schadegg '04, Janaye (White) Shaffer '97, Bill Shaw '76, and Andrea (Mohn) Stafford '04. Women’s and men’s basketball games that evening will be against Friends University.

JANUARY 15 | 6:30 p.m. Phoenix Area “Party with the Prez” at Eva’s Mexican Restaurant, 2033 N Pinal Ave, Casa Grande, Ariz. Hosted by Frank ‘79 and Nancy Davidson. Reservations required by Jan. 7. Call the alumni office at 620-229-6279.

APRIL 12 | 7:30 p.m. If you are in Winfield for Founders Weekend be sure to attend the theatre performance of Jonathan Larson’s rock musical Rent on Saturday in Richardson Performing Arts Center. For more information or tickets to the theatre, call the fine arts office at 620-229-6272. For reservations/information on any of the halls of fame, contact susan.lowe@sckans.edu or 620-229-6334.

APRIL 11 | 5:30 p.m. Leaders in Service Hall of Fame for the Social Sciences, Deets Library. Inductees will be Michael H. Dunn '23, and Bishop Bruce Blake. Cost of dinner is $20 per person. For reservations call the alumni office.

APRIL 12 | 10:30 a.m. Fine Arts Hall of Fame, Darbeth Lobby/ Messenger. Inductees will be George M. Cole ’63, Loren B. Crawford ‘34, and Ronald K. Carfman ‘64.

APRIL 12 | 12:30 p.m. Business Hall of Fame, Deets Library. Inductees will be Rodney C. Kreie ’77, James L. Richardson ’70, and Merle D. Shariat ’68. Cost of lunch is $15 per person. For reservations call the alumni office.

APRIL 12 | 3:30 p.m. Educators Hall of Fame and Scholars Hall of Fame, Deets Library. Inductees will be Frank D. Davidson ’79, John W. Marshall ’70, Ronda J. (Sims) Marshall ’70 and Marilyn (Brown) Corbin ’70 and Everett V. Samuelson ’48.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO MAKE RESERVATIONS, CONTACT THE ALUMNI OFFICE AT SUSAN.LOWE@SCKANS.EDU OR 620-229-6279.

Alumni Award winners

Outstanding alumni and friends of the college were honored during Homecoming 2013. Shown above with President Dick Merriman is Travis Hastings ’03, Young Alumni Award; (above right) Florence ’64 and Ted ’64 Metcalf, Alumni Award; and (right) Ron Holt, Ambassador Award.

Alumni & friends event schedule
Jim Helmer’s 35-year run of excellence ends

By Scott Nuss ’07 SC Sports Information Director

Jim Helmer has seen a lot in the last 36 years. He’s seen the cost of a gallon of regular gasoline jump from 62 cents to nearly four dollars. He’s seen a first class postage stamp go from 13 cents to nearly 50 cents. He’s also coached the Southwestern College cross country program to a Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference championship — 50 times.

Helmer will retire in May and was hoping to hang at least one more banner Nov. 8 when Southwestern hosted the 2013 Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference Cross Country Championships.

“Tucked away in a basement office on the north side of historic Stewart Field House, just off the track that now bears his name, Helmer’s office more closely resembles a Southwestern College Cross Country and Track and Field museum. Hundreds of plaques and trophies line the office’s walls, but to understand the significance of the awards, one must look to the humble beginnings of the program.

Helmer was hired as the Southwestern College head cross country coach in 1976. The 1971 Southwestern College graduate, who was a three-time All-KCAC selection, and a three-time NAIA National Cross Country Championship participant, simply wanted to revive a Moundbuilder cross country program that had fallen into the middle of the pack in the KCAC.

As a former member of some of Southwestern’s most competitive cross country programs, Helmer had watched the program decline while he taught and coached at Winfield High School.

“I wanted to get the program back to a level of respectability,” Helmer said. “I wanted to be able to be competitive at the conference level, I wanted to compete with class, and I wanted to develop the program to a level where we might be able to compete for conference championships. But I also wanted to bring quality student-athletes to Southwestern College and give them every opportunity to grow, develop and mature as students and as athletes. And to be honest, when I first started, I wanted to maybe have an All-American someday.”

He didn’t have to wait long. The Moundbuilders won the first KCAC championship of the Helmer era in 1980, his third year. It would be the first in a series of 31 consecutive men’s cross country conference titles, and one year later, Steve Delano became Helmer’s first All-American.

“I was blessed by some strange and amazingly good luck along the way,” Helmer said. “I had coached Steve Delano at Winfield High School. He was a seven-time state champion and had gone to the University of Arkansas and had great cross country success in his freshman year before he got injured. That led him to Southwestern. He definitely jump-started the program.”

“That streak is still bizarre to me,” Helmer said. “I was just trying to build on what we had and make them better. I never dreamed of winning 31 conference championships in a row. It wasn’t my goal at all.”

Helmer’s teams also found success at the national level. Southwestern posted 11 top-10 finishes at the NAIA National Cross Country Championships during those 31 years, finishing seventh twice. No other NAIA school has more top-10 national finishes than Helmer’s Moundbuilders. The coach’s squads also found national success in track and field. Southwestern was fourth at the outdoor championships in 1983 and fifth in 1984, with a fourth place finish at the 1987 indoor championships.

Helmer’s success led to induction into the SC Athletics Hall of Fame in 1991, and into the NAIA Cross Country Hall of Fame in 2001. He was recognized by his peers as the KCAC Cross Country Coach of the Year on 48 different occasions, 31 times for his men’s teams and 17 more times for women’s teams.

“Jim Helmer coaches at his final KCAC championships Nov. 9. He will retire in May with an astonishing 31-year conference championship streak to his credit.”

“The championships were fun, but the opportunity to work with hundreds of kids and their families has been the most rewarding. I’ve been very fortunate. I’ve had a great career.”

Helmer knew his team’s reign as conference champions would one day come to an end and in 2011, that day came. Southwestern’s rivals from Friends University assembled a team with the primary goal of unseating the Moundbuilders. On Nov. 5, 2011, SC’s men’s team finished as runners-up in the KCAC championship for the first time since 1980.

“We had a good team too, but we were young,” Helmer said. “I felt bad for the kids who had tried just as hard as previous winners, but there was also a sense of relief. We survived, and we didn’t do anything wrong. Somebody else got better. It wasn’t the end of the world, but it let me focus on what’s really important: working with people.”

It was around that same time that Helmer began to think about retirement. As the 2013 season progressed, he began conversations with administrators at Southwestern to develop a plan.

Soon things started to fall into place. Southwestern avenged its loss to Friends by winning the 2013 KCAC Men’s Cross Country Championship. A year later, it was Southwestern’s turn to host the KCAC championship. That same year was Colton McNinch’s senior season. McNinch was the son of Dennis McNinch, who ran for Helmer in his early years. Colton and his brother, Tanner, combined to form the only father-son combination to run for Helmer. Suddenly a perfect swan song had been born.

Dozens of Southwestern cross country alumni gathered at the Winfield Veterans Home on Nov. 8 to watch Helmer’s final group of Moundbuilders pursue one last KCAC championship for their coach. They could only sit and watch as the Southwestern men finished second to Saint Mary, and the women finished third in one of the most tightly-contested races of the season. The disappointment of second place quickly faded, though, as those who had gathered took a moment to celebrate the career of Jim Helmer.

“After you’ve put so many plaques on the wall, what more is there to prove?” Helmer said. “I know I’m only borrowing my time here. I’ve invested so much into this program, but I will leave with no regrets. The championships were fun, but the opportunity to work with hundreds of kids and their families has been the most rewarding. I’ve been very fortunate. I’ve had a great career.”
Homecomings can sometimes be loaded with dedications and announcements. Homecoming 2013, held Oct. 10-12, let returning Builders enjoy their fill of fun and games. From alumni tennis (at the new T.H. “Curley” Vaughan Tennis Complex), to annual alumni soccer matches, to sweet potato tosses, to student dodgeball matches, everyone had a shot at friendly competition among old classmates and new friends. It’s not too early to mark your calendar for next year, when Homecoming will be Oct. 3-5, 2014.

The most exciting play of the Homecoming 2013 football game against Bethany came in the final seconds and was a big one for wide receiver Joe Vargas (22). The Winfield senior caught a contested pass then dragged a half dozen Bethany players into the end zone, scoring the winning touchdown in a 28-21 win. The play was so impressive it was picked up by ESPNU’s Great Eight producers. Vargas’s play was a two-week winner and can be seen at http://youtu.be/wOL6R-WIpbo.
LaMar Burks '79, painter whose work has been exhibited at a local, state, regional, and national level. She is an accomplished pastel artist, and was named Overall Outstanding Art Teacher at Winfield High School, has received acclaim in the August 2013 issue of Tulsa People magazine.

Larry and Elaine (Evans) Clark '63 celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this June. They have four children and seven grandchildren.

James D. “Jim” Wilson '67 may have retired from education, but he is not done yet. Jim retired in 2007 as the superintendent of schools in Salida, Colo., after four decades in education. In the fall of 2012, he was elected to the Colorado House of Representatives where he serves on the House Education Committee. Following his freshman session, Jim was honored by the Community Colleges of Colorado as their 2013 Legislator of the Year.

Don Hayward '68 was recently highlighted in the East Wichita News, metro spotlight. Don is president of his own consulting firm, College Connections of Kansas, where he helps students/families in the college search process, scholarships, etc. Don and wife Carol reside in Wichita.

Deb (Settle) Helmer '69/’71 has retired from her position as Irving Library Media Specialist, 1972-2013. She had been named Master Teacher of the Year in 1990 by the Winfield NEA.

Lynn (Watkins) Felts ’77, art teacher at Winfield High School, has been named Overall Outstanding Art Educator of the Year 2013-2014. The Kansas Art Education Association (KAEA) officially presented the award at its fall conference on Oct. 25, 2013, in Overland Park. Over the course of her 36 years of teaching, Lynn has served the field of art education at a local, state, regional, and national level. She is an accomplished pastel painter whose work has been exhibited in several locations.

LaMar Burks ’79 continues to expand the collection of sports artifacts at the athletic museum at Booker T. Washington High School in Tulsa. LaMar founded and oversees the museum. His outstanding efforts recently received acclaim in the August 2013 issue of Tulsa People magazine.

Rob Fields ’83, a member of the Winfield High School staff for the past 13 years, was named this year’s Healthcare Hero at the William Newton Hospital Foundation gala Sept. 28. Fields is the founder and leader of the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) chapter at WHS. His students have won numerous individual state championships and gone on to compete nationally.

Eric Kurtz ’92 was inducted to the Kansas Bankers Association board of directors as a regional representative and will serve a three-year term. Eric, president of Union State Bank in Arkansas City, has been active with the KBA, serving on the Employee Benefits Committee.

Thad Leffingwell ’92 was recently promoted to professor and named head of the Department of Psychology at Oklahoma State University. Thad had been director of clinical training for the doctoral program in clinical psychology since 2006.

Charles Tatro ’94 retired from William Newton Hospital in August 2013. He and wife Karen Tatro ’93 became grandparents of twin girls on Sept. 3.

Anthony McKissic Sr. ’06 was married this summer. He is now the head cross country, head women’s basketball and head tennis coach, as well as recruiting coordinator for Morrow High School. His cross country team advanced to the state meet for the second year in a row.

Melissa Williamson ’06, Development Associate at the Commonwealth Shakespeare Company in Boston, helped secure a $100,000 “Our Town” matching grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. The NEA grant will support Shakespeare OFF the Common, a program that includes theater workshops in Boston public schools and free performances in neighborhood parks.

Darren W. Claphan ’07/’12, an alumnus of the arts, is a national account manager with U.S. Security Associates.

Tallon Mitchell ’08 has accepted a new position as environmental engineer at John Deere Coffeyville Works in Coffeyville. He and his wife, Jenny (Crank) Mitchell ’07, now reside in Independence, Kansas with their two children, David (4) and Anna (1).

Abbey Lowry ’08 has been named chair of the nursing program at National American University. As a full-time staff member, she mentors faculty and staff, as well as developing curriculum and working with nursing students and pre-nursing students. She is a certified emergency nurse and continues to work as needed (PRN) at Wesley Medical Center in Wichita. In addition to her SC degree, Abbey has earned two master’s degrees—a master of science in nursing/master of health care administration, from the University of Phoenix. She is in progress toward a doctorate of nursing practice from American Sentinel University.

Kelsey (Milburn) Barrier ’09/’10 and Captain Andrew Barrier recently celebrated their one-year wedding anniversary. They live in Seattle where Andrew is a U.S. Air Force pilot and Kelsey has transitioned from marine mammal training into dog training, and hopes to open a training/kennel business for members of the military who do not have family to care for their pets when they are deployed overseas.

Robyn Voss ’09 has been appointed executive director of Marquee Inc. Voss will oversee the Marquee Performing Arts Center as it moves forward through renovations to the launch and use of the new multipurpose facility in Winfield. Voss had served as information technology manager and personnel director for the Walnut Valley Association for 10 years.

Lindsey Knak ’10 and Jason Keck were married on August 3, 2013. They live and work in Fairview, Okla.

Darrell Wilson ’10/’12 is now assistant coach for Washington College’s men’s and women’s tennis teams.

Chastity Owen ’12 and William Abernathy ’12 were married July 20, 2013 and now reside in Hutchinson. Chastity teaches at USD 310 Fair-
field and is assistant volleyball coach at Fairfield High School. William is a microbiologist in the research and development branch of Hospira, Inc. Chantyi’s parents are Charles 94 and Kelii 92/94 Oseen. Winfield. William’s parents are William 04 and Deborah Abernathy, Burden.

Kirstie Gronau 13 and Jarrett Cates were married on Aug. 31, 2013, in Winfield.

Rachel Simmons, who is enrolled in SC’s music education master’s program, was named the 2014 USD 402 Secondary Teacher of the Year. She is a vocal music teacher at Augusta High School.

NOTES ON FRIENDS
J. Hansby Barton Jr., 92, died on Oct. 10, 2013, in Naples, Fla. He was a former academic dean at Southwestern College. Hansby is survived by his son, Jesse Hansby III and George Barton.

Ron Broadhurst, former vice president of The State Bank of Winfield, died on Sept. 2, 2013. He is survived by his wife, Dixie; son, Jamie; and daughters Kelly (Broadhurst) Nichols 89 and Amy Broadhurst. Memorial gifts are for Southwestern College Cross Country/Track and Field.

Alfredo Rodriguez, who taught Spanish at Southwestern College in the 1960s–80s, died Sept. 26, 2013. He was beloved by Moundbuilders, including his daughter, Gladys 73.

Margaret Settle passed away Sept. 12, 2013, in Kingsman. Margaret was a retired kindergarten teacher. Survivors include children, Curtis Settle 70 and Deb (Settle) Helmer 69/71 and husband, Jim 71, and grandchildren, Cory Helmer 79, Cassie (Helmer) Turner 02/08, and Ashley Helmer 12.

Jack Speer of Arkansas City died September 5 at the Galichia Heart Hospital in Wichita. Survivors include his wife, Mildred 79, daughter, Susan Schmidt 77, and son, Barry.

DEATHS
Pauline (Stanley) Farnam 34, age 101, died peacefully in her own home on Oct. 24, 2013. She is survived by her sons, John and Philip, and her daughter, Ann (Farnam) Van Norman 64.

Irene (Buhr) Miller 36 died Aug. 20, 2013. She was the widow of Gerald Lee Miller 34, and is survived by her son, Gerald Lee Miller Jr. and daughter, Sheila (Miller) Long. Irene was active in her church and was a dedicated docent at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art for 37 years, where she was happy to be learning, volunteering, and teaching visitors of all ages.

Dr. Billy Carlton 42 passed away peacefully on Sept. 3, 2013, in Englewood, Colo., with family at his side. Billy was a dentist in St. John, Kansas and retired in 1984. Survivors include his wife of 72 years, Eileen 43.

Philip “Phil” Pettinger 50 died Sept. 16, 2013, at his home in Wichita. His career was spent making a difference in the lives of young people as a teacher, counselor, and coach. After retiring from education in 1987, he worked on the chain crew at KU’s home football games for 35 years; he was an avid golfer, and loved to dance. Phil’s first love, Rheta, died in 2001. He married Rosie Miller in 2011. In addition to Rosie, Phil is survived by daughters Kim Cook and Joyce Marsh, and son Jay Pettinger.

LeRoy Young 50 died Oct. 21, 2013, at the Forrest Manor Nursing Home in Dewey. Okla. LeRoy was employed as an aircraft sheet metal worker for most of his working life. His hobby was playing bluegrass music in the Desert Rhythm Band.

Donald K. Lowry 51 died on Sept. 17, 2013. A farm kid from Great Bend, Don played basketball, football, and baseball as a Moundbuilder. After graduation, he moved to Kansas City, where he was a life insurance agent. He is survived by his daughter, Leslie Lowry-Super; and sons Barry Nordyke and Mark Bowman.

Sheldon McGuire 53 died Oct. 23, 2013, in Albuquerque, N.M. He was a teacher and principal in the Albuquerque public schools for many years, and a member of the SC Education Hall of Fame. He is survived by his wife, Pat; stepchildren, Rob and Mariann McGuie; and his brother, David McGuire 47.

M. Nonon (Bird) Clare 55 died on Oct. 24, 2013. She is survived by three daughters and two grandchildren.

Keith Dudeck 57, retired minister, passed away Sept. 27, 2013. Keith worked for the FBI in Washington for a short time before coming back to Kansas. He became a United Methodist minister, serving numerous churches including Grace UMC in Winfield. Keith is survived by his wife, Joyce 58; children, Mike 81, Kathy Porter 82, and Kim Bays.

Eulah (Holle) Pieschl 57 died on Aug. 5, 2013. She is survived by her husband, James Pieschl 60; three sons, Kevin, Kyle, and Marc; one daughter, Marcia Orgish; and a brother, Joe Holle.

Thelma (Johnson, Nuse) Struble 57 died on Oct. 6, 2013. She was an exemplary teacher and conducted workshops and seminars in her field of special reading, retiring in 1996. In 1991, President Bush honored her as one of the “Thousand Points of Light” in the U.S. Thelma is survived by her husband Harold Eugene Struble; sons Dale Nuse and Deborah Nuse; daughter Danita Williams; four grandchildren; and brothers Melvin Johnson and Clifford Johnson 61.

Wendell Morgan 58 died June 25, 2013 in Hutchinson. Wendell was a chemistry professor at Hutchinson Community College for 34 years and had taught at several Kansas high schools. He is survived by his wife, Monica; and five children.

Rev. Phyllis (Choate) Southard 58 died on Oct. 11, 2013. Survivors include her daughters, Susanna Southard and Melody Choate; and her brother, C. Arthur Choate 54.

Carol Biberstein-McGee 59 died Oct. 5, 2013, in the Atica Long-Term Care Facility. Carol met her husband, Howard 58, while attending Southwestern. She is survived by her sons, Alan and Jeff 85; and her brother, Glenn Biberstein Jr. 57.

Robin Jacquet 63 died on Aug. 4, 2013. He and his wife of 52 years, Marsha, raised their family on a farm north of Sublette, before retiring to Colorado. In addition to his wife, he is survived by sons Rollie, Ragan, and Clint; and daughters Kristi Thompson and Kerri Finegan.

Dick L. Swindler 66 died on Oct. 12, 2013. He taught mathematics at Lawrence High School for 28 years before retiring due to early onset Parkinson’s Disease. He also coached gymnastics for many years, and was regularly named “Coach of the Year” and “Judge of the Year.” He is survived by his wife, Marjorie 67; son Sean Swindler and daughter Shana Morris; and his siblings, Patty Coons, Betty June Patton, Don Swindler and Jim Swindler.

Rebecca “Becky” (Laws) Gulick 77, passed away Aug. 12, 2013, in Oklahoma City. Becky’s love of nature led her to many years of volunteering with the local Girl Scouts, especially at camps Bradbury and Four Winds. Becky is survived by her husband, James; a son, Tony; daughters, Kristi Desimine, Rachel Gulick, and Jessica Sommier; and brothers, Greg and Ken.

Elizabeth “Beth” Anderson 80 died on Sept. 10, 2013, after a long and courageous battle with lung cancer caused by radon. Reading was a passion for Beth – as a classroom teacher and administrator for Clearwater, as Executive Coordinator for Literacy Instruction for USD 259, as president of the Kansan Reading Association, and as a book club organizer and member. She is survived by her parents, Don and Margaret 72 Anderson; sister Karen 89; brothers Robert 81 and wife, Mary; and David 85 and wife, Charlene.

BIRTHS
A son, Kase Lee, born July 2, 2013, to Micah and Mindy (Woydziak) Kille 05. The Killes are at home in Derby.

A son, Ryan Calvin Cochran, born July 16, 2013, to Chris 06 and Jessica (Harr) Cochran 06. The Cochrans are at home in Wichita.

What’s new with you?

Name __________________________ Class Year ____________
Street Address ___________________ P.O. Box ________
City _____________________________ State ______ Zip Code ___
Phone Number ____________________

Here’s something new in my life: (job, address, marriage, baby, etc.) __________________________________________________________

Here’s a student who may be interested in SC: (please fill in all information you know)

Name __________________________ Year of Graduation ____________
Street Address ___________________ P.O. Box ________
City _____________________________ State ______ Zip Code ___
Parents’ Names __________________ Phone Number ______
E-mail Address (if you know it) ___________________________
High School/College __________________

Relationship to you (daughter, friend, nephew, etc.) ____________________________
Any special interests you know of? ____________________________
A conversation to secure an internship two years ago afforded me the opportunity to travel to Israel for multimedia production work. Southwestern has been the platform on which these connections and opportunities are built.

After completing an internship two summers ago with The Upper Room, Nashville, I was invited to join a production effort in Israel in September to film a Lent devotional. The devotional features Rob Fuquay, senior pastor of St. Luke’s United Methodist Church, Indianapolis, leading video devotionals based on the “I am” sayings of Jesus Christ in Israel. It is scheduled for sale next summer.

Although this internship was unpaid, the all-paid expenses justified the 14-hour flight to Tel Aviv, Israel. My duties include filming b-roll footage, capturing images and documenting the production process for marketing purposes. I also filmed a promotional interview with the host, Rob Fuquay, and was the main videographer for one devotional segment at Lazarus’s Tomb located in an Arab community. The film crew refused to enter due to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Working with a three-man Israeli crew as the production assistant, I was amazed by the thought of working with a film crew of such caliber. The crew has done film work with Bill Clinton as well as the popular television series Survivor, among others. As a college senior, nothing is more valuable than these connections.

The technical experience gained through this work travel is wonderful. However, the most valuable element is being placed in a professional setting and doing professional work while being an undergraduate student. I see this as a unique and opportune experience that only Southwestern can provide.

My connections at Southwestern have not only afforded me the experience of another culture, but also have allowed me to explore and hone my skills in media studies. This opportunity has enabled me to learn professional-level production while completing my senior year.

Without the solid connections and flexibility of class schedules at Southwestern, it would be impossible to seize an opportunity such as this.
Happy New Year from jinx & bobo

Join the fun, text “Builder” to 20222* now to make an easy $10 donation to your friends at Southwestern College in honor of the new year!

For other year-end giving opportunities contact Jessica Dibble at Jessica.Dibble@sckans.edu or (620) 229-6155.