

Thiel College Magazine for Alumni & Friends

FALL / WINTER 2019

# The Bell

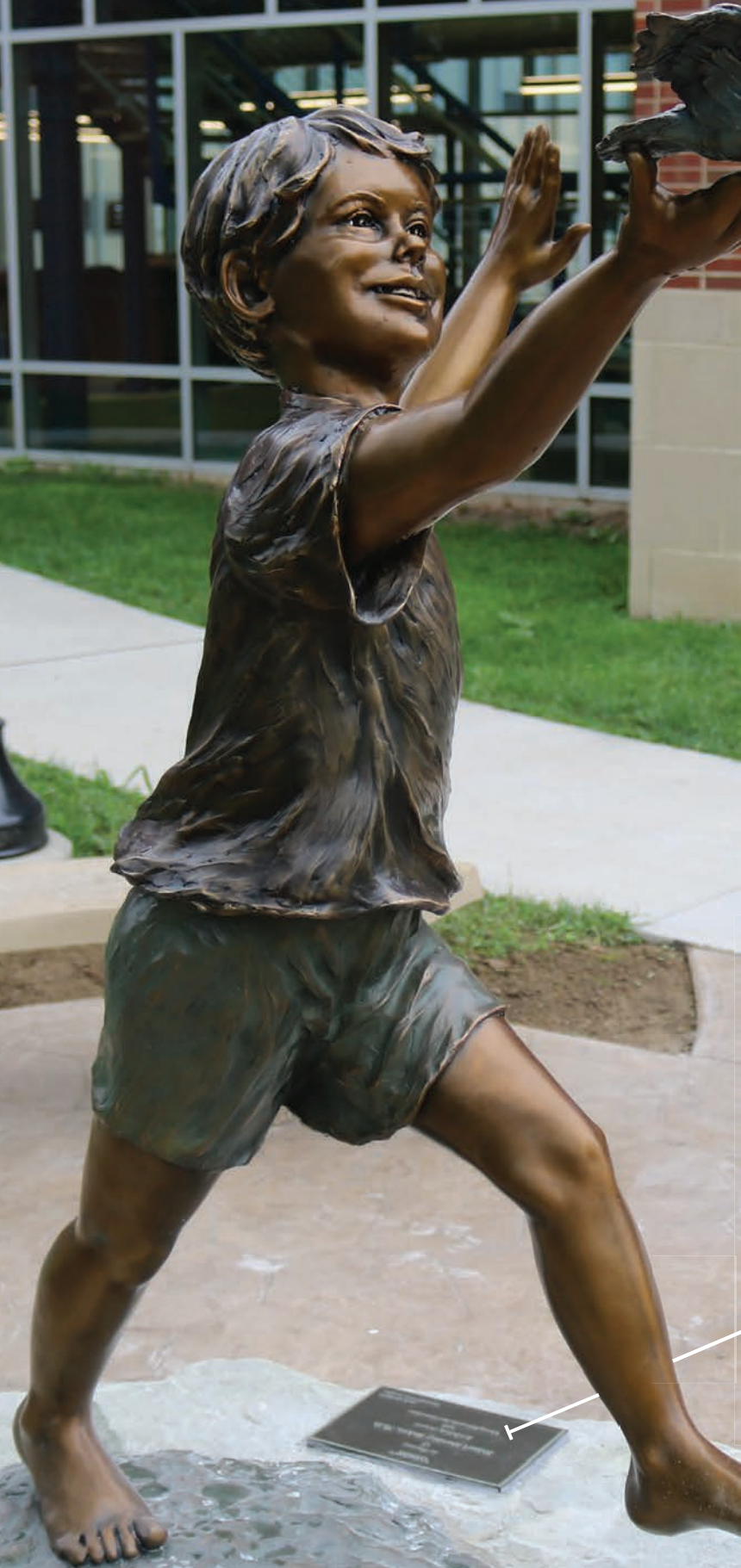


BECOME

**Transformation**  
the key to the College's vitality

“No bird  
soars too  
high if  
he soars  
with his  
own wings.”

William Blake  
Poet and author of 'Soar'



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Thiel College is a liberal arts, sciences and professional studies college affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

## “SOAR”

In Memory  
of

**Robert Hershey Baker, M.D.**

A Lifelong Learner  
and  
Strong Advocate for Education

Dedicated 2019  
Rosalind Cook, sculptor

## Dear Alumni and Friends,

The excitement generated by the announcement of Thiel College's first five-year master's degree program and the return of students in August rolled right into Homecoming in October with hundreds of alumni and friends of the College returning to campus to "Let the Good Times Roar." The positive momentum persists. Even the announcement that Professor **David Miller**



'61, one of the most beloved professors in school history, will be retiring in May did not diminish the excitement.

It is with great optimism that we look to the expansion of Professor Miller's role as an ambassador spreading the goodwill that he has spent more than six decades building. Serving in the role, even now, he was Grand Marshal for the Homecoming parade. The outpouring of support and love for David and Ruth Miller,

on that occasion and so many other events, is inspiring. This edition considers the third phase in our brand identity trilogy: *Belong, Connect, Become.*

Through the idea of "Become," we are looking at events and news on campus through the prism of change that is both new but also affirming of our deepest convictions.

At Opening Convocation, I encouraged students to "become who they are"—to grow and change and, in doing so, better understand themselves. Thiel College, like our students, is undergoing transformation. As we embrace these new endeavors, we are deepening the College's identity and "becoming who we are"—an institution of excellence in service to students and our region.

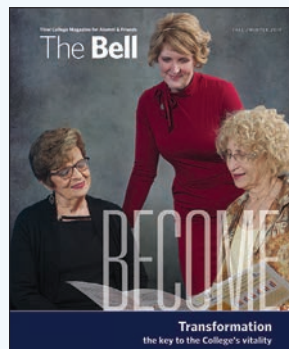
The stories in this edition of *The Bell* reflect the change and continuity that are vital to the College's future and central to the experiences of our students and alumni.

Go Tomcats!

**Susan Traverso, Ph.D.**  
President of Thiel College

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### On the Cover

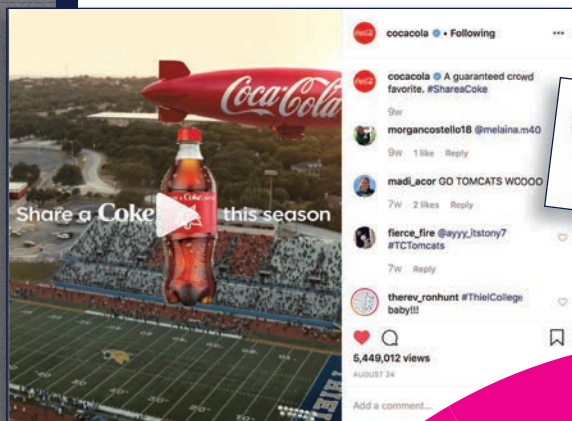
**Sonya Wilt, Ph.D., Mary Beth Mason, Ph.D., and Nancy Antonino, Ph.D.,** represent three of the important phases in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. They came together for the open house for the new Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology at Homecoming.

**Editorial note:** The editorial staff of *The Bell* strives for accuracy, but regrettably mistakes happen. If you find errors, please contact [pr@thiel.edu](mailto:pr@thiel.edu) regarding the error. Please provide contact information so we can verify the need for a correction and confirm the accurate information.

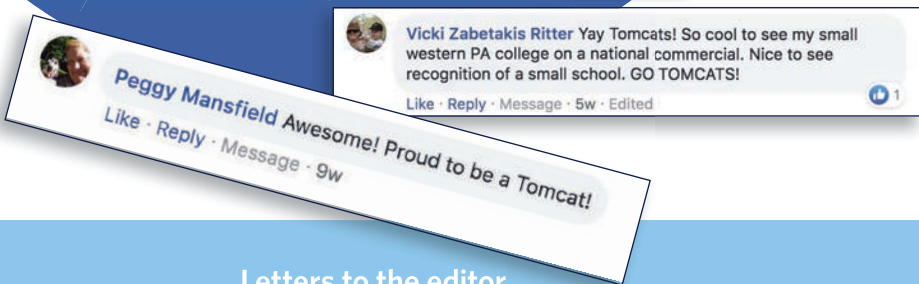
Although it debuted on a national television broadcast, Thiel's starring role in a Coca-Cola commercial had tens of thousands of social media interactions.

It started with a tweet by **Jaden Nozicka '16** and quickly spread across the four primary social media channels. Once the commercial was posted on YouTube, alumni and friends of the College were linking to the commercial and sharing their thoughts about the commercial.

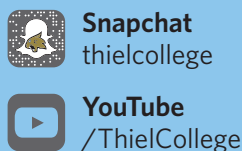
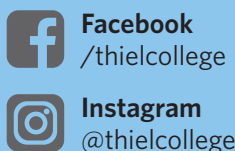
Read more about the commercial on Page 20.



**Amy Noble @urapiggy** · Aug 24  
 Replying to @JDawg545  
 Way to go Thiel College!!



### Follow us on social media



### Letters to the editor

Thiel College welcomes feedback regarding *The Bell*. Letters must contain a contact number (not for publication, but to allow for verification of the sender). Letters can be mailed to **Thiel College Office of Communications and Marketing, 75 College Ave., Greenville, PA 16125**; or emailed to **pr@thiel.edu**. Letters accepted for publication may be edited for length and clarity.

“How did I become who I am?  
That is an interesting question—  
‘Becoming who you are.’  
Typically, we associate  
‘becoming’ with changing,  
becoming something different  
than we are. Well, I am here  
to suggest that authentic  
‘becoming’ is more about self-  
discovery than it is about change.”

Susan Traverso, Ph.D.  
President of Thiel College

Read the entire Opening Convocation address at

<http://www.thiel.edu/2019convospeech>





## — faculty news —

**Professor Miller announces May retirement plans**

Professor of Economics and Business Administration and Norman P. Mortensen Chair of Economics **David Miller '61** recently announced his plans to retire from the classroom in May.



"We are blessed that Ruth and David will remain active members of our campus community," President **Susan Traverso, Ph.D.**, said.

In 56 years, Miller has taught, advised and mentored more students than any professor in the College's history.

**Professor and students collaborating on research**

Through a program implemented by Associate Professor of Biology **Sarah J. Swerdlow, Ph.D.**, Thiel College students are pitching in on groundbreaking research into bacteriophages—bacterium-fighting viruses.



Swerdlow implemented the Science Education Alliance-Phage Hunters Advancing Genomics and Evolutionary Science (SEA-PHAGES) program at Thiel College. The SEA-PHAGES program is a discovery-based research course designed for undergraduates to complete over the course of an academic year. **Ashley Prout '20**, a biology major from Topsham, Maine; and **Breanna Mesich '20**, a biology major from Jeannette, Pa., both attended workshops for the program.

**Gallagher takes passion for statistics to med school**

Associate Professor of Psychology **Kristel M. Gallagher, Ph.D.**, led a summer workshop for future doctors at the Campbell University School of Osteopathic Medicine in Lillington, N.C., which is near Raleigh.



Gallagher taught the three-day intensive course to rising second-year students in the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine program, introducing them to the "Passion-Driven Statistics" curriculum she uses in her semester-long "Statistics for the Social Sciences" course at Thiel College.

**Safety program one of only two in Pennsylvania recognized by top credentialing organizations**

Thiel College is one of only two institutions in Pennsylvania to be recognized by two nationally known and audited review boards for its environmental safety management major. Graduates of Thiel College's Bachelor of Science in environmental safety management program will be eligible for streamlined advanced certification and advanced professional graduate certification through The Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP) and the Institute for Safety and Health Management (ISHM).

**Professor's collaboration shows news impacts female politicians more drastically**

Female politicians benefit more than their male counterparts when it comes to positive news, but also suffer more severe consequences from negative news, according to research by Thiel College Assistant Professor of Political Science and Chair of the Department of Political Science **Marie Courtemanche, Ph.D.** She collaborated with **Joanne Green, Ph.D.**, of Texas Christian University, on the paper, "A Fall from Grace: Women, Scandals, and Perceptions of Politicians."

Their article appears in the *Journal of Women, Politics, and Policy*, a peer-reviewed academic journal that focuses on the role that women have in political processes.

Her publication was made possible by a GNC grant she received in 2015. The GNC grant was funded by **Fred Haer '66** and **Jill (Shackett) Haer '66**. Courtemanche worked with then Thiel College student **Morgan Gray '16** on developing a survey that was distributed to a national audience during summer 2016.



— *student news* —**Political science major among 35 from state to complete women's leadership program**

**Angela Campbell '20**, a sociology, criminal justice and psychology major with minors in political science and legal studies, was one of just 35 women from Pennsylvania to participate in the competitive National Education for Women's Leadership Pennsylvania program this summer.



Campbell, of Pittsburgh, is a 2016 graduate of Plum Senior High School.

The weeklong residence program, put on by the Pennsylvania Center for Women and Politics, is geared toward teaching college women across the state the value of civic engagement by encouraging them to see themselves as empowered leaders who can participate effectively in politics and public policy. During the summer program, students developed and practiced leadership skills, established networks with like-minded peers and successful political women and embraced their own leadership abilities.

**Drive collects two-plus tons of food to top goal**

The second annual community service project for first-year students collected and distributed two-plus tons of non-perishable food items for food pantries at the Good Shepherd and the Salvation Army.

The 4,500 pounds of items exceeds both last year's total and this year's goal. Food drive organizers were targeting 4,400 pounds of items to match one pound per child in Mercer County who was identified as struggling with food insecurity, according to Feeding America, a national non-profit hunger-relief organization. In its first year, the project collected 3,000 pounds of food for the Good Shepherd Food Pantry in Greenville.

This year, about 2,000 pounds were donated to the Salvation Army on Aug. 29, and the remaining 2,500 pounds were sorted and delivered to the Good Shepherd Food Pantry on Sept. 4.

**Children's Hospital Foundation gives Phi Theta Phi special recognition at awards dinner**

The Phi Theta Phi fraternity was recognized with the "Leaps and Bounds" Award at the annual Corporate and Community Dinner of the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Foundation late this spring.



The fraternity, which has raised more than \$1.5 million for the Hospital's Free Care Fund since it began an annual 100-mile Walk-a-thon in 1968, received the award from Foundation President Rachel Petrucelli because of its increased support for the Fund in 2018. The Walk-a-thon raised \$55,884.72 during its December 2018 Walk from Greenville, Pa. to Children's Hospital in Pittsburgh. The total was the most a single walk raised in the event's 50-year history. Accepting the award were alumni **Todd Peine '85** and **John Hauser '71**, 2019 walk chair **Matthew O'Connor '20** and Phi Theta Phi brother **Devin Button '21**.

**Mentoring and Office of Admission teams add more than 40 students**

The Thiel College Student Life Department hired 19 students as Peer Mentors for the 2019-2020 academic year and, the Office of Admission added 22 students to its Thiel Team.

Students in the Peer Mentor program serve as mentors and guides for first-year students. Some of their roles include assisting in teaching an introductory course and aiding their fellow students in creating a class schedule for the spring semester. The program is in its third year.

The Thiel Team students primarily serve as ambassadors for prospective students and their families, but they are also responsible for a variety of other jobs. The program is in its second year.

**See more news in the Thiel College Newsroom!**  
[www.thiel.edu/newsroom](http://www.thiel.edu/newsroom)

# The 'Good Times' roared on and on

Alumni and friends celebrated Homecoming 2019 and "Let the Good Times Roar" from Oct. 10-13. After some light rain in the morning, the skies cleared and beautiful weather held for the rest of the day and put everyone in a celebratory mood.

"Homecoming was all about people and fun. Alumni and friends returned from as far as California, Texas and Massachusetts. The classes of 1969 and 1979 competed for the largest number of returning alums," Alumni Director **David Hummel '83** said. "It was truly a Homecoming for people from all generations in the alumni association, Thiel community and our neighbors. It was a fun-filled weekend."

Everything got kicked off Oct. 10 with National Thiel Spirit Day. Alumni from around the country took selfies and photos wearing Thiel gear. **Mei Williams '23** was chosen as the student winner. **Kelsey Montozzi '15** won the alumni group category, while **Michael Robbins '96** and **Heidi Patterson '96** were co-winners in the individual category. Robbins works in Toksook Bay, Alaska and took a selfie in his Thiel gear in Alaska.

On Friday, the College inducted the newest members of the athletic Hall of Fame. **John Stevens '65** (wrestling), **Steve Minton '08** (football), **George Kum-Nji '05** (football), **Dave Hendricks '05** (football), **Caleb Goist '04** (baseball) and **Amber Bodrick '09** (basketball, track & field) were inducted during the 39th annual ceremony, which took place in the Lutheran Heritage Room. **Fred Kiser**



**Colleen Trainer '22** and the cheer and dance team were among the parade participants, which included the prizewinning floats of Phi Theta Phi and Alpha Xi Delta and the local Girl Scouts troop.

'66 (Athletic Alumni Commendation Award), **Joe Scarpitti '80** (Meritorious Service and Commitment Award), **Dominic Farabaugh '20** and **Jess Vormelker '19** also received special awards during the ceremony. Farabaugh and Vormelker were the recipients of the Charles Evanoff and J. Lynn Trimble Awards, respectively, which are given to a male and female athlete from the previous year's senior class who demonstrated qualities of scholarship, leadership, character and sportsmanship in addition to participation in athletics.

Among Saturday's events were the choir reunion, which offered a chance for alumni to meet the College's new choir director **Thomas Winger, D.M.A.**, and pregame performance. The Organization of Black Collegiates hosted a cookout during halftime of the football game that included many of the founding and early members of the organization.



2019 Homecoming queen **Taylor Guth '20** and 1969 Homecoming queen **Marlene (Boddy) Jackson '69**. Jackson made national news when she was elected Thiel College's first black Homecoming queen in 1969.



Hear the award winners in their own voices online  
<https://thiel.edu/alumniawards2019>

**Kevin M. Farr '09, Joseph T. Nairn, D.Mgt. '79, Maggie A. Giel-Bovaird '09, Alumni Association Board of Directors President Damen Taylor '95, Darrin L. Rubino, Ph.D. '95, Clyde J. Morgan '00, Gary W. Fincke, Ph.D. '67** after the Alumni Awards event.

## Alumni tell their stories of Thiel's role in their becoming

Six alumni from a variety of graduation years and professional backgrounds gathered together in the Lutheran Heritage Room on Oct. 12 for one of Homecoming's most popular events: The Alumni Awards Luncheon.

Young Alumni Awards were presented to **Kevin M. Farr '09** and **Maggie A. Giel-Bovaird '09**.

Farr is a speech-language pathologist at St. Andrew's Village. In 2016, he won the health care worker of the year award. He received a master's degree in speech-language pathology from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania (Edinboro, Pa.) and lives in Indiana, Pa. with his wife, **Sheila (Gross) '10**.

Giel-Bovaird works for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh. She has worked on several initiatives, including most recently the "Bigs in Blue" program—a one-to-one mentoring program for law enforcement members and community youth. She earned a master's degree in school counseling from Indiana University of Pennsylvania (Indiana, Pa.) in 2011

and lives in Glenshaw, Pa., with her husband, **Andrew**, and their two sons.

The Service to Thiel Award was given to former track and field coach **Clyde J. Morgan '00**.

Morgan was Thiel College's track and field coach from 2004–2008 and was a Thiel College Athletic Hall of Fame inductee in 2012. This is his 12th season as the coach of the Wabash College track and field team.

The Distinguished Alumni Awards were given to **Gary W. Fincke, Ph.D. '67, Joseph T. Nairn, D.Mgt. '79** and **Darrin L. Rubino '95**.

Fincke's newest collection of poems, "The Infinity Room," won Michigan State University's Wheelbarrow Press Poetry Prize for Established Poets and was published in February. He recently retired from Susquehanna University as the Charles Degenstein Professor Emeritus of English and Creative Writing. He founded and directed Susquehanna's Writers Institute. Fincke has a master's degree in American literature from

Miami University (Oxford, Ohio) and a doctorate in modern American literature from Kent State University (Kent, Ohio). He and his wife, **Elizabeth Locker '68**, have three adult children.

Nairn became the founding president of the Northern Pennsylvania Regional College in July 2017. The college has grown to 28 instructional sites in nine northwestern Pa. counties and has added 15 faculty and staff members. He has a Doctor of Management in community college policy and administration from the University of Maryland University College. He and his wife, **Terri**, have three adult children.

Rubino is a Professor of Biology at Hanover College (Hanover, Ind.) and Chair of the Department of Biology. He earned a master's degree from Clarion University of Pennsylvania (Clarion, Pa.) and a doctorate from Ohio University (Athens, Ohio). Rubino co-authored a textbook on using tree rings to date historically constructed buildings and has won several teaching awards at Hanover. He and his wife, **Michelle (Shuey) Rubino '95**, live in Madison, Ind.

≡ HOMECOMING 2019 ≡



The Homecoming court (L-R): **Emily Main '23**, **Roman Booth '23**, **Taylor Guth '20**, **Brett Eckroate '20**, **Abigail Triskett '22**, **Jonathan Russell '22**, **Jackie Galford '21**, and **Matt Clark '21**.



Thiel College traditions: The Tomcat Marching Pride and the Majestic.



Trustee and GameDay Honoree **Alan Fager, Ed.D. '69**, with Trustee **Mark Benninghoff '82**, and his daughter, **Charlotte**.



Baseball team members past and present, (L-R) **Josh Grigoletti '23**, **Nick Guarnieri '23**, **Joe Schaly**, **Chad Ulogar '09**, **Josh Tedesco '09** and **Andrew Howard '09**, find some shelter from the rain in the dugout.

For more images from Homecoming 2019, go to <http://bit.ly/tchomecomingflickr2019>



Potential future Tomcats cheer on the parade near Amelia Earhart Drive.



Thiel College choir singers and alumni perform at the football game.



Kevin Farr '09 and his wife, Sheila (Gross) Farr '10, sing the Alma Mater at the end of the annual Alumni Awards luncheon.



Founding members of the Organization of Black Collegiates were joined by current students and staff during OBC's cookout during the football game.



Gary Kunkle '69 celebrates Homecoming in style.

Several reunion years and groups joined the annual tradition of the 50th Class Reunion photo at this year's Homecoming.  
(See reunion photos on Page 30.)

# Becoming

The College is changing and developing as are the people, places, programs and even once overlooked equipment affiliated with it.

**(L-R) Nancy Antonino, Ph.D., Mary Beth Mason, Ph.D., and Sonya Wilt, Ph.D.,**

represent three distinct chapters of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders at Thiel College. Wilt got the program off the ground. Antonino helped grow the program and lead it to where it is today. Mason is the director of the Master of Science in speech-language pathology program.

It is Thiel's first five-year master's degree program.



Chair of the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders **Nancy Antonino, Ph.D.**, has been at Thiel College since 1989.

She has seen many changes at the College since then, but the most important for her is the development of the College's first five-year master's degree program.

"It's an overwhelming feeling. We have talked about it for years and now that it is a reality, I don't know what to say," Antonino said. "It is a much-needed asset for the community and Thiel College."

At Homecoming, Antonino had the opportunity to reunite with Emerita Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders **Sonya Wilt, Ph.D.** Wilt was there as part of the open house with Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders and Program Director for the Master of Science in speech-language pathology **Mary Beth Mason, Ph.D.** Wilt started at Thiel College in 1964 as a part-time lecturer. She progressed through to full professor. She played a pivotal role in the development of a video taping mini-laboratory and instituted a major in speech and hearing.



Program director for the Master of Science in speech-language pathology **Mary Beth Mason, Ph.D.**, addresses prospective students in a classroom in the Glen Johnson Community Center. The center will be home to the College's speech language clinic, which will be open to the public and give students hands-on clinical experience.

She founded and co-chaired the Department of Communication Arts and Sciences in 1991.

Alumna **Marie (Kauffman) Willins '00** came back for the open house and was energized by what she saw.

"This puts Thiel on the map," she said. "Students are going to benefit from the strong relationships and individualized opportunities that this program offers. The coursework and practicum experiences helped me find the aspects of the work I was passionate about."



**Marie (Kauffman) Willins '00** returned to campus during Homecoming and attended the speech-laguange pathology open house to learn about the program.

## From student to honorary degree recipient: **Sarah Taylor-Rogers '69 H'19**



Thiel College recognized outgoing Board of Trustees member and the first woman to serve as Maryland's Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources **Sarah Taylor-Rogers, Ph.D. '69 H'19** with its highest honor, awarding her an honorary doctoral degree in November. She was recognized during a ceremony that included family, friends of the College, the Board of Trustees, alumni, faculty and staff members. Taylor-Rogers was a valued member of the Board of Trustees for 27 years. Her three nine-year terms make her the longest-serving board member in school history. She was named a Distinguished Alumna in 1997. During her speech, Taylor-Rogers thanked many current and past faculty members, including **Sonya Wilt, Ph.D.**, and members of the Board of Trustees.



# Development of fifth-year programs next step in College's evolution

By Dick Davis

**Samantha Keys '17** made the walk along Brother Martin's Walk with her classmates and crossed the stage and shook hands with President **Susan Traverso, Ph.D.**, in the William A. Passavant Memorial Center in 2017.

She savored those moments, never thinking she might get the chance to do them again. Keys is the first person enrolled in the College's new Master of Science in speech-language pathology program and will have the opportunity to participate in another set of Thiel College Commencement Exercises, when she completes the program.

"I'm beyond thrilled to be the first accepted student in (the speech-language pathology) graduate program at Thiel," she said. "I grew up in Greenville and always wanted to go to Thiel."

In mid-August, the College's Master of Science in speech-language pathology—was awarded candidacy status by The Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech Language Pathology of the American Speech-Language Hearing Association, which allows the College to recruit and enroll students into the program.

She might not be alone in terms of alumni who will get a chance for a second Commencement walk. Planning for master's degree programs in business administration and physician's assistant are currently underway.

"We are excited to get to work with three new programs," said **Elizabeth Frombgen, Ph.D.**, Thiel College Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of the College. "This is uncharted territory for us that will extend the reach of Thiel College."

Graduate students in the speech-language pathology program will be part of an accelerated 15-month program starting in May 2020. Undergraduates are also being enrolled for the five-year program.

The M.B.A. is also an accelerated program. It is being developed as a 12-month program. The plan is to enroll it's first cohort of graduate students in July 2020. In the short-term, the M.B.A. program will be focused on



*Arthur McGonigal, Department of Business Administration and Accounting Chair **Anthony Kos, Ph.D.**, talks to students and alumni during a Homecoming networking panel. With the recently approved speech-language pathology master's program providing momentum, more fifth-year graduate degrees are on the horizon.*

full-time students with the idea to expand the program to include part-time students in the future.

The M.S. in physician assistant is set to open in July 2021. Thiel is seeking accreditation through Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant.

"These three new programs all speak to the needs of our region for highly trained college graduates who can serve the community in healthcare and business," Frombgen said. "The College's strategic plan outlined adding master's programs to extend the reach of the College."

## New data analytics and public policy undergraduate programs added

New undergraduate programs in data analytics and public policy have been added to Thiel College's academic offerings this year.

The Board of Trustees approved the Bachelor of Science in data analytics in the Department of Math and Computer Science at its November meeting. Public policy was approved before the start of this academic year.

Businesses and industries are using data analytics to draw conclusions from large sets of raw data and solve a wide range of complex problems and improve performance. Thiel College graduates will be prepared to enter a job field that according to an article in *Forbes* magazine is expected to have an estimated 2.7 million postings in the United States by 2020, and a January report from Indeed.com showed a 29 percent increase in demand for data scientists year over year.

Data analysts work in a variety of private and public sector organizations and do jobs similar to actuaries, who work in the insurance industry. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Ohio, New York and Pennsylvania are among the top states in the country for actuaries and data research analysts, with the Columbus, Cleveland, Erie and Pittsburgh metropolitan regions being top employers.

Associate Professor of Political Science and Chair of the Department of Political Science **Marie Courtemanche, Ph.D.**, developed the new public policy program that will provide students opportunities to study policy across a variety of disciplines.

"The political science department is excited to be offering this new major in collaboration with a number of other departments on campus. Students will learn how to influence governmental actions while focusing on a particular concentration, like environmental science or health systems, helping them land careers in areas in which they are passionate," Courtemanche said.

"The speech-language pathology program being the first five-year graduate program at Thiel College is historic for Thiel College and the Greenville community," says **Mary Beth Mason, Ph.D.**, Graduate Program Director and Professor in Thiel's speech-language pathology program. "We are very excited for our undergraduates to continue their graduate studies at Thiel College."

Mason said Thiel undergrads will get preference in graduate admission while incoming first-year students can be accepted into the Master of Science in speech-language pathology program based on their high school records and contingent upon maintaining certain standards while earning their bachelor's degree.

"Applying to graduate school can be very stressful for undergraduate communication sciences and disorders students because the process is very competitive," Mason added. "Our new MS-SLP program will provide our undergraduates with the security of knowing they have a seat in a high-quality graduate program from the time they start as first-year students."

Thiel also has articulation agreements with colleges with undergraduate only CSD programs in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and New York allowing students to apply for graduate admission during their junior year of college. These students will be able to finish their junior year knowing that they have been accepted to Thiel's MS-SLP program upon completion of their undergraduate degrees.

The MS-SLP 15-month program includes requirements needed for national certification and state professional licensure. Students will have a combination of academic coursework focusing on professional issues and disorders across the speech-language pathology scope of practice, lifespan, and diverse populations. Students will complete four clinical practicum experiences including two rotations at Thiel's on-campus speech and language clinic, an externship at a school, and an externship at a medical facility.

Ultimately, these programs are being constructed to help students graduate in the most economical ways both financially and strategically.

"I look forward to having the opportunity to build a program from the ground up," says **Anthony Kos, Ph.D.**, newly installed Chair of the Arthur McGonigal Department of Business. "I am very excited about this."

Kos brings extensive experience to Thiel after more than 30 years in an MBA program at Youngstown State University.



Members of the Arthur McGonigal Department of Business Administration and Accounting **Gary Witosky '79, David Miller '61, Melissa Oakes '03 and Anthony Kos, Ph.D.**, expect to be the next department at Thiel College to offer a master's degree.

"I commend President Traverso and Dean Frombgen for moving in the right direction with the Strategic Plan," Kos said. "They are being very selective in starting new programs for optimal growth."

"An MBA from Thiel will help our students advance their careers by adding a level of security with higher salaries and benefits."

Starting in January 2020 will be **Lynn Williams, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Physician Assistant Studies and Program Director for the M.S. in physician assistant.

"I am excited to be joining Thiel College and the new physician assistant program. We look forward to training

future healthcare providers to serve our region and beyond."

The physician assistant program is also expected to have a five-year program component where students admitted as undergraduates who meet the requirements will begin graduate studies during their junior year. When they finish their undergraduate work, they will be just a year away from having a master's degree. There will also be entry points for Thiel students who graduate with eligible majors as well as graduates of other institutions who are admitted as graduate students.

"All of these programs are being considered in a thoughtful way to get to students on to their next step," Frombgen said.

## Alumnus, student named Haller top entrepreneurs at annual event

**Mike Zawoysky '79** and **Justin Pearce '20** were named Thiel College's Entrepreneurs of the Year at the College's annual Haller Enterprise Institute's awards dinner in October.

Zawoysky—the retired chief executive officer for Shoe Sensation Inc., a growing 198-plus store, 19-state, family footwear chain based in Jeffersonville, Ind. (near

Louisville, Ky.)—was the Haller Enterprise Institute's Entrepreneur of the Year. Pearce, who started Massive Gains Apparel as a sophomore in high school, was the Haller Enterprise Institute's Student Entrepreneur of the Year.

"We are extremely proud of the accomplishments of these two individuals," said Professor of

Economics and Business Administration, Norman P. Mortensen Endowed Chair of Economics and Executive Director of the Haller Enterprise Institute **David Miller '61**. "This year's awardees extend the tradition established by **Henry H'97** and **Grace Mary Haller** and continued by **Linda Haller H'13**."

# From storeroom to museum

Becoming is for more than just the College and its people

By Dick Davis

**David McGuire** stood in front of the collection of dials, switches and a screen as if he had just caught a glimpse of a rare bird in the wild.

"I have never seen one of these before," he said. "I have heard about them, heard they existed, but I have never actually seen one."

McGuire is the president and curator of the Large Scale Systems Museum and was in the storeroom of the Department of Physics this summer. The machine he was admiring was among an impressive collection of vacuum tube era electronics.

Vacuum tubes were the electronic predecessors of the transistor. The transistor is the basis of all modern electronics. No one in the department has used this material for either teaching or research for decades, according to Associate Professor of Physics **Eugene Torigoe, Ph.D.**

Due to a planned relocation of the physics department during a remodeling of the Academic Center and the Science Building next year, we were no longer going to have the room to store this equipment, he said.

"My job was to find a good home for it," Torigoe said. "It would have been a real tragedy to me personally to see this historically important equipment go into a dumpster."

After some searching on the internet and a series of emails, he got in contact with McGuire. He is an electrical engineer who runs the museum in



*Some of the out-dated equipment in storage that **David McGuire**, president and curator of the Large Scale Systems Museum in suburban Pittsburgh, looked over and considered adding to his collection this summer.*

suburban Pittsburgh in his spare time and loves this era of electronics.

McGuire came to Thiel College over the summer and found several items at which he took back for his suburban Pittsburgh museum. The equipment spanned decades of development and some of it was more than 60 years old.

"When he came on his first visit, he was like a kid in a candy store," Torigoe said.

Large Scale Systems Museum in New Kensington, Pa. is 4,000 square feet, filled wall-to-wall with old computers.

"There is so much historically relevant equipment (at Thiel College)," McGuire said. "It is important to identify it and



**David McGuire**, president and curator of the Large Scale Systems Museum, finds treasures in the Thiel College Department of Physics storeroom for his collection.

maintain it. These items are important in tracing the history of computers.”

McGuire said it is important to maintain these pieces because many times the equipment is torn apart for the gold, platinum or other precious metals that might be in their hardware. He made three other trips to Thiel throughout the summer to pick up equipment.

Thiel’s donations will take their place with the room-sized IBM mainframes and enormous disk and tape storage systems along with historic Apple and Atari computers and games. Each of the pieces on the museum floor is a functioning machine.

“(McGuire) also has a wealth of electronics knowledge, and told us

a lot about the equipment that we didn’t know,” Torigoe said.

It is more than just the students, faculty and employees of the College or the institution itself that are on the path to becoming. With the donation, once overlooked and forgotten items of computing equipment are finding a new life as museum pieces.

# Coke ad puts **Thiel College** on national stage

Thiel College became the star of a multi-million dollar advertising campaign this fall.

The College, its football team, band, cheerleaders, fans and even its mascot, Tommy Tomcat, were the focus of Coca-Cola's college football campaign. The ad debuted Aug. 24 on ESPN's broadcast of "College GameDay," which is watched by millions of viewers each week. Many of the College's first-year students might have missed the commercial's debut because they were moving in that day, but no worries, because the commercial has been playing throughout the fall and not just during football.

It was broadcasted during Game 7 of the World Series and has been shown in a variety of programming and on a wide array of networks. The beverage giant has also gone beyond traditional outlets. The commercial has been shown to people surfing the internet or using a streaming video service.

Read more about the social media impact the ad has had for alumni and friends of the College on **Page 3**.

Millions of views, along with thousands of social media interactions, countless mentions and in-person conversations ... they are all difficult to calculate, but one thing is certain, the Coke

commercial has generated buzz for the College. The long-term impact on the College's identity might not be known yet, but prospective students have mentioned to admission representatives the ad's impact.



Local media outlets like the *Greenville Record-Argus* and most recently the *Sharon Herald* picked up the story. The *Youngstown Business Journal* and regional television stations all reported on it. Forbes magazine asked "Is Thiel College a real place?"

"We are thrilled about Thiel College's starring role on national TV in Coca-Cola's new college football campaign," Thiel College President **Susan Traverso, Ph.D.**, said. "The ad speaks to the pride and belief we have in our football team, but also in all of our athletic programs and academic departments."

## Eaborn is named Thiel's first PAC women's tennis coach of the year



Weeks after celebrating her first work anniversary at Thiel College, tennis coach **Gabriele Eaborn** had an even bigger reason to celebrate.

She became the first coach in school history to be named the Presidents' Athletic Conference Women's Tennis Coach of the Year in October.

In her second season directing Thiel's tennis programs, Eaborn led the women's team to a 6-9 overall record and a 2-5 mark in conference matches this fall. Thiel's six wins are a single-season record for the program. The Tomcats were a combined 5-37 overall and 4-19 in the PAC between 2015-18. Eaborn was named head coach of the



men's and women's tennis programs in September 2018.

A 2018 Westminster College graduate, Eaborn was a four-year varsity letter winner for the Titans. During her career Eaborn collected more than 100 victories and was a part of two PAC championship teams. A three-time All-PAC honoree, she collected first-team honors as a freshman and junior.

Stay updated on all Thiel College athletic news at [thielathletics.com](http://thielathletics.com)

## Projects give student-athletes chance to become citizens

Nearly every college football team has an offseason weight lifting regimen, but the Thiel College football team's offseason program included some unconventional heavy lifting.

In the spring, the team came together to help alumnus **Fred Kiser '66** work on the community-based Revamp the Amp project. Work is underway to restore the historic Plimpton Gaul Amphitheater in Riverside Park in Greenville, Pa. At one time, the amphitheater hosted Thiel College Commencement Exercises.

The work in the amphitheater is one of the many ways student-athletes are working in the Greenville and surrounding region. Members of the football team are among the



students who also participate in the Snowflake Ball at St. Paul's Senior Living Community. Students from the wrestling team volunteer annually for the Knights of Columbus pancake breakfast and members of the softball and baseball team are donating clothes to an area non-profit.

"I feel it is important for our student-athletes to volunteer their time in our community because we are supported by so many local businesses and people who care about our college and athletic teams," Thiel College wrestling coach and advisor of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee **Craig Thurber** said.

# Homecoming rekindles long-held love for Thiel



It's impossible to describe what Homecoming was like a few weeks ago for members of our class; the best I can do is share my own story and hope that it might also resonate with some of you:

I got to campus a few hours before the official Homecoming festivities started, so I walked around on my own. Much was familiar, some very different—I hadn't been to Thiel for nearly 20 years. For me, the Howard Miller Center was almost completely unrecognizable inside, full of offices for organizations and services that hadn't existed when we were there, the cafeteria transformed into a food court.

The post office/bookstore building is gone; both are now in the HMSC and are state-of-the-art. But much is the same—Greenville and Roth Halls, the library, Brother Martin's Walk. Familiar, but with constant reminders that it's no longer 1979.

Seeing the positive changes on campus, listening to descriptions of current student life from the 2019 graduate who walked with us on the tour led by classmate-turned-Professor **Gary Witosky '79**, hearing of the accomplishments of Thiel grads young and old at the Alumni Awards Luncheon—all of this was pretty darn inspiring. I knew I'd had a great experience at Thiel, but had forgotten what being there in person felt like. It was good to be reminded of that, to know that while much has changed, Thiel is still shaping terrific people.

I was surprised at how many people were there that I knew, and not just from our class. I reconnected with many I counted as friends 40 years ago and found that I still feel the same way. I talked with folks I remembered by name only and wished I'd taken the time to have those conversations back in the '70s. I left Greenville feeling more than glad that I had come, looking forward to our next reunion, and thinking about how I might help the class of 1980 plan their 40th next year (which I might just crash—I don't know that I want to wait another five years to go back).

If you were there, hopefully, your experience was as good as mine. If you weren't, you missed something special, and I hope you seriously consider coming back to Greenville in 2024 if not before.

See you then.

**Donna (Sopher) Kline '79**

On behalf of the Class of '79  
Reunion Planning Committee:

**Grace Liste '79**

**Joe Nairn, D.Mgt. '79**

**Gary Witosky '79**

**Mike Zawoysky '79**





**Carla (Gebhardt) Berg '83** was among the alumni who returned this fall to speak to students in the Health Professions Institute's seminar series, where topics in healthcare are discussed along with etiquette and networking tips.



Members of the Class of 2009 share a neighborly moment in front of the room dedicated to one of Thiel College's most famous honorary degree recipients, **Fred Rogers H'69**.



## The Thiel Fund File

*A short profile of the people who donate to The Thiel Fund, the College's largest source of unrestricted funds.*

**Names:** David '68 and Dolly (Skezas) Whelan, Ed.D. '69  
**Residence:** Great Falls, Va.

**Professional experience:** David worked in accounting before he founded a company in 1998 that became a large national wholesaler of computer supplies. He also owned a second company that sold IT equipment to the federal government. He sold both companies in 2015. Dolly began her teaching career as a first-grade teacher. She completed a master's in education from Duquesne University and moved to Maryland where she taught first and second grade before beginning her life's work in adult education. She earned a Doctor of Education from the University of Virginia in 2002 and retired in 2008 after 27 years.

**Reason for giving back:** Thiel College established an excellent base for our personal and professional careers. Every young person graduating from high school needs to mature and grow into a young adult. Thiel provided that opportunity. It was up to each of us to do something with it. It is only fair for us to try and provide the same opportunity for the next generation.

— 1950s —

**Audrey C. (Waterman) Harrington '57** and her husband, **Dr. Donald P. Harrington**, celebrated 60 years of marriage on June 20, 2019. They have two sons that they enjoy in Florida. They also have five grandchildren and their granddaughter was accepted to veterinary school in London, England.

**Mary Jane (Wick) Nelson '57** is a member of the Central Pennsylvania Women's Chorus—which rehearses weekly and just finished a season with four choral programs in the past month—and the Market Square Singers, a group of SATB singers who rehearse twice a month at Market Square Presbyterian Church in Harrisburg, Pa. This group sings music similar to that which the Thiel Choir used to sing when she was a member.

— 1960s —

**Beverly (Titus) McQuone '61** was elected Woman of the Year in Sewickley, Pa. She received the award based on her many years of volunteerism with the Quaker Valley schools, the Sewickley YMCA, the Sewickley gift shop and surgical center, St. Stephens Church, the Girl Scouts of America and her many clients throughout her 35 years as a realtor. Beverly met her husband, **Gary A. McQuone '61**, at Thiel. She was president of Sigma Kappa sorority.



— 1970s —

**Janet (Prickett) MacCartney '71** announces her daughter, **Patience Marie MacCartney**, was wed at First Lutheran Church, Norfolk, Va. on Labor Day 2018. Her spouse is Navy Academy Lt. **Ryan Easton**, of Forest Lakes, Chesapeake, Va. Both Ryan and Patience are graduates of Great Bridge H.S., Chesapeake, Va. She recently transitioned to real estate employment after almost a dozen years as an assistant recreational director with a nursing home in Suffolk. The couple resides in Norfolk and is seeking a permanent home in Chesapeake.



**Frank Newnam '71** and family spending his mother's 90th birthday on a Rhine River cruise.

**Wayne King, Ph.D. '75** The Barnes Group Advisors, headquartered in Pittsburgh, Pa., has appointed King to its ADDvisor® Services team. King was described by The Barnes Group Advisors as a recognized leader in metal additive manufacturing with more than 30 years of experience. King most recently led the Accelerated Certification of Additively Manufactured Metals project at Lawrence Livermore



National Laboratory, Livermore, Calif. He holds a Ph.D. in materials science and engineering from Northwestern University.

**Maryellen Stoops '77** retired April 5, 2019 after working 42 years in the Automated Testing Lab at UPMC Shadyside in Pittsburgh. For the past six years, Maryellen was head of the Reference Testing Department, which sent samples not performed in-house to other area hospitals in the city, other states or even other countries. She now has more time for quilting, playing the mountain dulcimer and being a Civil War living historian, which she has done for 20 years.

**Joseph T. Nairn '79, D.Mgt.** began his third year as founding president for the Northern Pennsylvania Regional College. He would like to share that when his granddaughter Adalyn was baptized, the officiating priest was **Fr. Lance Robbins '78**. Joe tells everyone, "It's a Thiel World, we just let others live in it."

— 1980s —

**Denise (Boustead) Muha '81**, a longtime housing champion, was inducted into Affordable Housing Finance's Hall of Fame for her lasting contributions to the industry. The Affordable Housing Hall of Fame was created in 2006, and Denise will join 60 other pioneers from different sectors of the industry. It didn't take long for her to become passionate about the affordable housing industry. When Denise first



— 1990s —

moved to Washington, D.C., in 1985, she got an administrative job with the National Leased Housing Association. Three years later, she became executive director of the organization, which advocates for housing providers specializing in federally assisted rental housing. In her role, which she still serves today, she works with the NLHA's 500 member organizations on policy issues and represents them before the Department of Housing and Urban Development and Congress. In addition to her day-to-day work at NLHA, she formed a separate nonprofit scholarship program in 2007 for residents of federally assisted rental housing, granting over \$1 million.

**Peter Brown '83** began a position as an acquisition business specialist with the Federal Emergency Management Agency Office of the Chief Information Officer in Washington, D.C. at the end of April. He is enjoying the new duties and received a promotion. His wife, **Margaret**, and their three small dogs live in Falls Church, Va.

**Brian Durniok '84**, nearly a year after his appointment on an interim basis, has been named president at UPMC Chautauqua in Jamestown, N.Y. Durniok has more than two decades of operations and management experience with UPMC, first joining the system in 1995 as director of human resources at UPMC Horizon in Mercer County, Pa. He also holds an M.B.A. from Baker College. Durniok will continue to serve as president of UPMC Northwest in Venango County, Pa., where he has led a telemedicine expansion and directed an \$8 million renovation of the UPMC Hillman Cancer Center at UPMC Northwest.

**Michael Cappozzoli '94** is a veteran film and television producer and is proud to announce the creation of a new production company named Hondo Productions, LLC (hondo-productions.com) with Nils d'Aulaire and Jay Klaitz, from the band 'Future Folk' and the film "The History of Future Folk." Hondo is based out of New York, N.Y. but has ties to companies in Hollywood, Calif. and is affiliated with Cappozzoli's production company Capture Production Studios, LTD in London, U.K. With new investor backing, Hondo is ready to create innovative and beautiful productions that will be appealing worldwide.



**Damen Taylor '95** and his wife, **Sara**, are at the place Damen loves, with the person he loves, wearing his favorite shirt of the school he loves.

**Erin L. (Newnam) Rushman '99** is employed by Perficient Digital as a senior client partner. Erin was recently recognized by her company with the 2018 Delivery Excellence Award, which is given to the top two percent of performers within the company. Erin, her husband, **Peter**, and their three children reside in Oxford, Mich.

— 2000s —

**Matthew P. Burkett '04** shares that after seven years as the Manager of Finance Planning & Analysis at Christensen Farms & Feedlots, a \$500M vertically integrated pork production company located in Sleepy Eye, Minn.; Matt has been named the Chief Financial Officer at FUN.com located in North Mankato, Minn. FUN.com is one of the largest online retailers of Halloween costumes and novelty collectible goods.

Pastor **Brian Riddle '07** was named the Thiel College campus pastor this fall. He went to Trinity Lutheran Seminary (Columbus, Ohio) and earned a Masters in Divinity in 2012.

**Sarah L. (Meader) McCracken '09** has graduated with her Master of Social Work from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania in 2017. Sarah is working toward becoming a licensed clinical social worker.

**Keisha Shaw '13** is a human resources professional for the City of Philadelphia, where she also resides.

**Erin L. Huff '14** and **Matthew Schneider '13** were engaged on December 22, 2018.

**Santina McGuire '15** and **Ben Hellner-Burris** announce they will be married on September 5, 2020. Santina is a certified veterinary technician at PVSEC.

**Jared A. Wilcox '15** is the new Assistant Director of Sports Information in the Thiel College Athletics Department.

– marriages –



**Katie (Sourbeer) Barch '11** married **Ben Barch '11** on June 15, 2019 in Oakmont, Pa. with family and friends. Many Thiel alumni helped celebrate the day including mother of the bride **Kathy (Garofolo) Sourbeer '74** and the bridal party **Sarah (Barch) Brumberg '09**, **Joel Bussard '09**, **Jenny (Keller) Reed '11**, **John Reed '11**, **Shawna (McIntyre) Reed '11** and **Nick Travaglianti '11**. Other Thiel friends in attendance included **Erica (Riola) Clements '12**, **Leah (Glessner) Dever '74**, **Jayne (Malburg) Fogle '73**, **Ashley (Johnson) Habel '10**, **Dani Julian '10**, **Joy M. Boya '12**, **Rachel Neice '11**, **Kara (Bussard) Russo '16**, **Nico Russo '16** and **Cathy Wilkie '74**.



**Andrew Bolton '11** and **Viviane (Andrade) Bolton** were married on June 11, 2017 at Riverbank State Park on 145th Street in New York, N.Y.



**Jessica R. (Slupe) Bowser '15** married **Taylor M. Bowser** at Lutherlyn on June 1, 2019. The photo includes Jessica with Taylor and his grandparents, **Mont Bowser '48** and his wife, **Eileen**. Mont and Eileen met at Lutherlyn. Jessica chose Thiel, in part, because her counselors at Lutherlyn attended Thiel. Thiel friends in attendance included **Emily (Yavorsky) Spataro '13**, **Kayla Doran '17**, **Lacey Weaver '17**, **Kristina Nelson '15**, **Jessica Bartko '15**, **Ashley (Tigner) Duncan '14**, **Erika Leonhard '15**, **Amanda Zimmerman '17**, **Anna (Hart) Comp '15**, **Bri Walkup '18**, **Cloe Kistler '15**, **Judy Nguyen**, **Jenna (Farina) Bayne '15** and **Tressa Snyder**.

**Nancy J. (Holcomb) Fritz '74** and **William S. Fritz '74** and were married on March 30, 2019 in Sharon, Pa.



– births –



To **Sheena (Fuga) Hendricks '05** and her husband, **David Hendricks '05**, a son, **Finan Hendricks**, on February 26, 2019. He joins big brother, **Bodyn**. David works at the Bank of New York Mellon in Pittsburgh and was a 2019 inductee into the Thiel College Athletic Hall of Fame.



To **Romaine (Reagle) Shaffer '09** and her husband, **Joshua Shaffer '12**, a daughter, **Callaway**, on July 31, 2019. She joins big brother, **Ryker**.



To **Katelyn Marie (Downey) Smith '15** and her husband, **Andrew Smith '14**, a daughter, **Ava Mae**, on June 28, 2019.

– gatherings –



1976 Reunion

**Bonnie (Humberston) Peltomaa '76** retired as the pastor of St. Timothy's in Mansfield, Ohio where she served for the last 22 years. Her husband, **Brian**, was also a Lutheran pastor. She has a daughter, **Anastasia**. She was a math and computer major at Thiel and a member of Zeta Tau Alpha, the basketball team and the Thiel Choir. Photo includes **Dr. Bob Burns '74**, **Anne Daly '76** and **Barbara (Euwer) Spiri '76**.



**Nancy (Duncan) Marchesano '88** shared a photo from a St. Patrick's Day celebration in Pittsburgh this year. Pictured front (L-R) are: **Maureen (Dadey) Swogger '86**, **Roy Wilt Jr. '86**, **Danelle (Senko) Ball '86**, **Nancy (Duncan) Marchesano '88**, **Lisa (Martino) Schmittinger '89**, middle row: **Cyndi (Sikora) Gabbard '86**, **Liz (Bruno) Wood '90**, **Sandy (Trasferini) Peace '87**, **Cindy (Hood) Allshouse '90**, **Kelly Hrebar '89**, **Laurie (Batte) Mussett '87**; back row: **Marie (Charlier) Murdock '89**, **Deb (Daugherty) Carr '89**.



**Roy Wilt Jr. '86** shared a photo of Thiel alumni **Rick Prindle '87**, **Roy Wilt Jr. '86**, **Bill Patterson '91**, **Ed Derrick '90** and **Dick Lugg '80** following a 50+ baseball league game. Greenville 50+ plays home games at Tomcat Park thanks to head baseball coach **Joe Schaly** and assistant coach **Jim Patterson**.

**TELL US  
WHAT'S NEW  
IN YOUR LIFE!**

Please contact  
the Office of Alumni  
Relations at  
[alumni@thiel.edu](mailto:alumni@thiel.edu)

– gatherings –



**George Kum-Nji '05** returned to Thiel College as a Health Professions Institute speaker and is joined by football coach **Mike Winslow '04** and many students in Bly Lecture Hall.



**Katrina Deckinger '22** and **Dr. Cheryl Finlay '76**, a National Board member of Lambda Sigma, at the national conference.



**Randy L. Keller Jr. '05** shared a picture of himself and his stylish daughter.

*Members of the Demos reunited during Homecoming to mark the 40th anniversary of the Class of 1979.*





## Nick Travaglianti '11

**Place of Residence:** Cleveland, Ohio

**Professional Experience:** In September, Nick became the team lead for the payroll team at Dealer Tire. Dealer Tire is an international distributor of tires and parts. Prior to Dealer Tire, he was a human resources professional for NRP Group—a real estate development, construction and property management company. He has also worked as a payroll systems and benefits analyst. Nick graduated from Thiel College in 2011 with a dual major in accounting and business administration.

**Involvement at Thiel:** Nick is a member of the Thiel College Board of Associates and on the Haller Enterprise Institute board. He stays as involved as possible by visiting campus for events and Homecoming as well as supporting Thiel as an advocate in Cleveland.

**Reason for Giving Back:** "Thiel will always be a special place to me. Not only did I walk away with a well-rounded liberal arts education, but I left with relationships and friendships that will last a lifetime. I will continue to give Thiel my time, talent, and treasure as much as possible and, I encourage others to do the same."

## The Thiel Fund File

*A short profile of the people who donate to The Thiel Fund, the College's largest source of unrestricted funds.*



# Hey, alumni!



Register your kids in the new

# Tomcat Cub Club



Join the Cub Club program and we'll celebrate milestone birthdays with your family member with special gifts. They will also be eligible for a \$1,000 legacy award scholarship!

Contact Admissions at [admissions@thiel.edu](mailto:admissions@thiel.edu) or 724-589-2345 for more information.

www.thiel.edu/cubclub

# Class year reunions



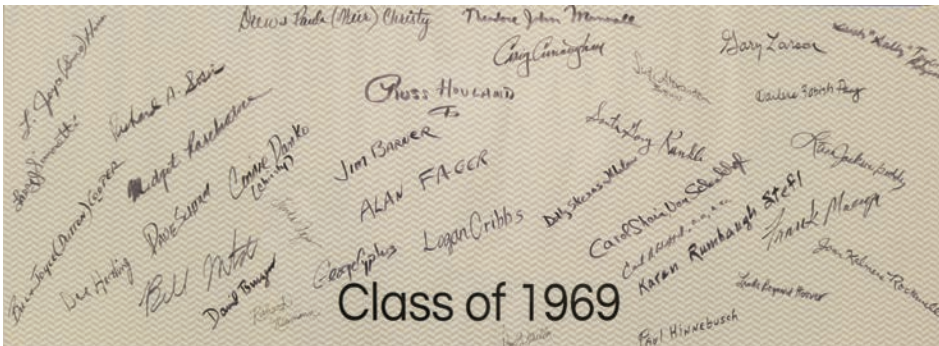
Attendees for the annual 50th Class Reunion breakfast included: seated (L-R) **Linda (Baynard) Hoover '69, Sarah (Boone) Larson '69, Gary Larson '69, Dave Harding '69, Joan (Kalmers) Rockwell '69**; standing (L-R) **Carol (Shain) Van Schenkhof '69, Theodore Manvell '69, Dolly (Skezas) Whelan '69, Drew Christy '69, Paula (Weir) Christy '69, Richard Neumann '69, Alan Fager '69, Jim Barner '69, Linda Raschiatore '69, Logan Cribbs '69, Connie (Danko) Christy '69, Larry J. Simonetti '69, Gary Kunkle '69, George Cyphers '69, Joyce (Dunton) Cooper '69, William Cooper '69.**



**Leah Devers '74, Kathy (Garafalo) Sourbeer '74 and Bob Burns '74.**



**Ruth Walkup '84 and Karen Ely '84.**



Members of the classes of 1989, 1995 and others also met for photos outside the gym.

— in memoriam —

A REMEMBRANCE OF ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE WHO HAVE RECENTLY PASSED

Dave A. Angle '81  
 Eve K. (Kiskoski) Banic '69  
 Mary Bauer  
 Charlotte M. (McCullough) Bennett '57  
 Charlene R. (Benson) Beno '54  
 Patricia Blatt  
 Woods Brown  
 Benjamin G. Brubaker '91  
 Charles E. Burlingame '61  
 Mary L. Burnett  
 Ruth (Amon) Callahan '45  
 Allison Canon  
 Donald P. Christoff  
 Mary Agnes (Godinich) Chupak '58  
 Larry A. Clark  
 Edward D. Clark '63  
 Autumn E. Colby  
 Sally Davies  
 Dale H. Dershimer  
 James R. Dingfelder '61  
 Daniel H. Drummond '73  
 Clair Ferguson  
 Gary W. Frampton  
 Nora Fulton  
 David L. Galentine

Mary Catharine (Fry) Gallagher '59  
 Eleanore (Flowers) Getchy '57  
 Quentin M. Gosser '52  
 Marilyn L. Green  
 Nancy E. Harig  
 Margaret R. Headland  
 Juanita (Moreland) Herrick '42  
 David O. King  
 Gay (Lay) Kline '55  
 Don L. Knox '60  
 June Lekon  
 Rita A. (Cannon) Leonard  
 Robert L. Leonard  
 Thomas Lewis  
 Carol A. (Mayr) Lindgren '63  
 Jerome E. Lipani  
 Mary K. (Wohlfarth) Maihle '72  
 Hugo Martin '59  
 Mildred McGinnis  
 Shirley McInturf  
 Harold A. McQuiston  
 Arthur Mogg  
 Betty Mohra  
 Arnold R. Moon '61  
 Emilia L. (Olson) Moseley '55

Edward A. Neiderhiser '69  
 Alberta Osborne  
 Mercedes Le-Shay Quarles '17  
 Lillian Reeher  
 Anne L. Reznor '70  
 Alan Saadi  
 Richard Seger  
 James W. Shelar '65  
 Janet L. Shipton  
 Evelyn (Sarcinella) Shreve '42  
 Anthony N. Siciliano  
 Scott Skakalski  
 Marjorie Smith  
 James H. Smyers '50  
 Joyce E. (Alexis) Steiner '50  
 John J. Steinmetz '54  
 Mary Katherine (Klein) Surrena '58  
 Norman David Valesky  
 Joel J. Wentling  
 Thomas W. Whieldon '57  
 Lawrence A. Wilson  
 Joyce R. Winner  
 Leo Joseph Wolker '76  
 Kate Yasgur  
 David E. Zuschlag

## The road to ‘becoming’ is traveled by the College and its community members

By John Hauser '71

“Become” is the third word in Thiel’s brand identity of “Belong, Connect, Become.” But what does that mean?

To me, it is best demonstrated by the statement a good friend (and Thiel alumnus) said after his daughter came home after her first semester at Thiel. “What did Thiel do to my daughter? She is a real person! I not only love her, now I can like her as well!”

*It is not just the gaining of knowledge in the classroom but the effect that Thiel often has in transforming lives from self-absorbed teenagers to men and women whose lives have meaning. Because of their interactions with faculty, staff and fellow students, they gain a better understanding of who they are; how they fit into the worlds in which they will live: their work, their families, their communities and their churches.*

The College also has changed during the 153 years since its founding.

Students in the first graduating classes had to take German all four years, regardless of major. There was also a “woman’s course of study” which allowed female students to take French instead of German. Originally, students didn’t pursue majors but rather programs in Classics, Philosophy, Science or Literature. Now, with 53 majors and 39 minors leading to either a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science or Associate of Arts degree, what is necessary to walk across the Passavant stage at Commencement fulfills two objectives: one to complete the college/liberal arts requirements and the other to meet the requirements of the individual’s areas of study.

All resident students had to be back in their residence halls as early as 8 p.m. and housemothers were in every residence hall. When I was a student in the late ‘60s, the feeling was that, if the women were in the residence halls by 10 p.m. (11 p.m. on the weekends), the men would go back to their dorms, too. No longer! While the men’s residence halls were supervised by male students who were juniors or seniors



starting in the 1967–68 academic year, it wasn’t until the 1980s that the women’s halls followed suit. Now, graduate assistants pursuing a master’s degree in higher education live in those suites once reserved, according to the 1893–94 catalog, for a “Matron, whose constant study is the comfort, welfare, and development in true womanhood of all those who are committed to her care” and all students are able to enter/leave their residence halls on their own schedules.

When the first students were at Thiel in the 1870s and 1880s, endorsed athletic competition existed solely between the “preps”—students in the academy—and the collegians. It wasn’t until 1891 that intercollegiate baseball was played at Thiel, followed by football on Thanksgiving Day in 1892. The women didn’t field intercollegiate teams (basketball and hockey) until 1923. Today, we have 12 men’s teams and 12 women’s teams.

The Thiel Fortnightly group was organized in 1922 by the wives of the professors to provide social gatherings and interaction among the faculty. It later expanded to include the female professional staff. Now, with women composing almost half of the faculty and professional staff, it is a “social organization for the women of Thiel College.”

One of the reasons Thiel College relocated from Monaca to Greenville, Pa. in 1870 was the promise of a building, which was dedicated as Greenville Hall at the 1874 Commencement. To meet the needs of a growing student body and the demands that increased academic, athletic and social programs require, the campus has grown from one building and several acres to 27 buildings and athletic fields on 135 acres.

*We are fortunate to have the leadership of a dedicated group of Trustees, administrators, faculty, staff and alumni who are constantly working to guide our growth as we continue to meet the needs of our students and society to prepare our graduates for meaningful lives of service in all areas of endeavors.*

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# Save the date

## 2020 Events

Honors Convocation  
*Keynote speaker: David Miller '61*  
*Honorary degree recipients: David '61*  
*and Ruth Miller*  
Feb. 7

Con Spirito Concert  
*Performers: New Orford String Quartet*  
March 9

146th Commencement Exercises  
*Keynote speaker: John Hauser '71*  
*Honorary degree recipients: Hauser*  
*and Rutbanne Beighley, Esq. '73*  
May 3

