

CLASS NOTES



The Defiance Area Foundation recently honored **Darrell Jones '51** with the 2016 Good Citizenship Award at the annual meeting of the Defiance Chamber of Commerce. Darrell was superintendent at Central Local Schools and Defiance County Schools. He has been active with the Defiance County Cancer Society and served in leadership roles for Northwest State, the American Red Cross and Maumee Valley Guidance Center, the United Way and is a former county commissioner. Darrell and his late wife, Hazel, have two children and one grandson.

After 27 years of creating products for the Peabody Essex Museum Shop in Salem, Mass., **Penny Head Bigmore '67** is retiring. Penny states that the scientific principles that she learned from Drs. Frey and Mikula helped her formulate a streamlined method of creating unique products for the Museum Shop. It's been a wonderful experience, but now it's time for other fun projects, says Penny.

In 1965, seven incoming freshmen at Defiance College became fast friends. After graduating in 1969, they continued to stay in touch and get together each year. Last summer, six of the group met up at Maumee Bay State Park. Pictured here are (front from left) **Carol Rogers Tyas, Cricket Sakai Young, Trish Meeks Jones, (back) Pat Hoover Basil, Mary Wagoner Sherman and Susan Witty Millinger.** Barb Brown Trame was absent.



In November 2015, **Bruce Saulnier '69** was named a Fellow of the Education Special Interest Group of the Association of Information Technology Professionals (AITP) in recognition of significant long-term contributions to Information Systems education. Bruce is a professor of Information Systems at Quinnipiac University. He resides in Cheshire, Conn.



John Trautman '72 met with **Elaine Kopke Gard '72** and **Wendy Morton Bernier '72** in Willard, Ohio, to discuss plans for the Women of McReynolds Reunion at the 2016 Homecoming. This was McReynolds Hall's 50th anniversary. A breakfast and program on the anniversary was held in McReynolds lounge during Homecoming.

Robert Rote '73 announces that he has turned another chapter in his life. After 28 years of law enforcement, 33 years of being a volunteer firefighter/EMT and spending the last 12 years as a municipal court bailiff, Bob retired December 31, 2015. He enjoys volunteering as an usher for the Cleveland Orchestra. Bob and **Alice (Busson) '72** reside in Doylestown, Ohio. Alice is a retired English and speech teacher who keeps busy as a student teacher supervisor with Kent State University and writing academic challenge questions for various high school academic challenge leagues around the state.

Gary Zupancic '75 received first place in the 2015 Feature Stories category from the Texas Press Association Winner's Circle, it was announced in June. The newspaper that published his feature, the Wimberley View, also won the fourth

place General Excellence Award. Back in 1975, his wife **Debra (Hitchcock) '77** was the editor of the Defender, and he was the sports editor. Gary and Debra celebrated their 40th anniversary on October 9, 2016. They reside in Wimberly, Texas.

Bryce Wilson '76 has been promoted to director of operations for the North Carolina News Network, a division of Curtis Media Group based in Raleigh, N.C. The network serves 80 radio stations across the Tar Heel State. Bryce has been with CMG since 1984. He got his start in radio at WDCW, the Defiance College campus radio station in 1972. Bryce resides in Cary, N.C.

Howard Barber '77 of Hurt, Va., recently published two books: *Killing Shang-Ti: the Short life of Emily*; and *Sixty Days to a New You*. Both are available through Amazon in paperback and digital formats. Howard currently works in occupational therapy with the Medical Facilities of America and is founder of www.godslovingways.com. He is currently working on illustrations to upgrade his first book, *Over The Hill Self Defense*.

Mary Marvel '77 retired in May of 2015 after 35 years in education where she worked as a high school math teacher at London City Schools and a substance abuse prevention coordinator and high school guidance counselor at Olentangy Local Schools. Mary is still advising in a drug free leadership program at Olentangy Liberty High School and doing consulting work in the field of substance abuse prevention. She also built a new home in Delaware, Ohio and moved into it in July.

David Maltry '81 recently completed his first ultra marathon, the Cajun Coyote 100K (62.1 miles), at Chicot State Park in Ville Platte, La. He completed the distance in 18 hours and 24 minutes. David resides in Lafayette, La.

Robert White '83 of Mesa, Ariz., has adopted his two grandsons and will be spending retirement raising the two boys as well as fostering drug and alcohol dependent newborn babies with his wife of 29 years. Robert celebrated retirement and the adoption with a trip to Hawaii.

Michael Razdrh '83 has retired after completing 30 years of service with the state of North Carolina, most recently as the associate director of the OneStop Student Service Center and teaching psychology at Western Carolina University. In retirement, Michael is enjoying working with children on a part-time basis and spending time with his family, including his newly arrived first grandchild, Sophia. Michael and his wife, Jodie, reside in Asheville, N.C.

Daniel "Doc" Daugherty '84 was one of two U. S. immigration judges sworn in at an investiture ceremony held Nov. 6, 2015 at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces in Washington, D.C. From 2008 to 2015, Judge Daugherty was a member of the Navy-Marine Corps Trial Judiciary, serving in capacities including chief trial judge and circuit judge. Prior to 2008, when not serving as a member of the Navy-Marine Corps trial judiciary, Doc served in the Marine Corps in various capacities including deputy staff judge advocate, chief trial counsel (prosecution), prosecutor, senior defense counsel, defense counsel, and special assistant U.S. attorney. He is a member of the Ohio Bar.

After 31 years on the Defiance Police Department, Chief **Tim Tobias '84** has retired. He and his wife, Kristy, plan to relocate to a warmer climate. He also thinks he may look for a position outside of law enforcement, but not until he has had some time off. Tim and Kristy have two adult children: Lindsey of Columbus and Jordan of Cincinnati.

Tom Held '85 was recently named the 2016 recipient of the Mike Schultz Leadership Award, given by the Defiance Area Chamber of Commerce to an individual in the community who has exhibited exceptional leadership and dedicated their time and talents for the betterment of the Defiance Area. Tom has long been involved in Defiance County. As coach, he has led Defiance baseball to three state championships, six regional titles, 12 district titles and 13 Western Buckeye League titles in the 18 years as head coach. He is a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Elks, FCA and various baseball boards. Tom and his wife, Deanne, have three children, Chayse, Cassidy and Calvin.

In June, **Sheila (Lewis) Whitlock '89** of Stryker, Ohio, received her Master of Fine Arts degree in Jewish Studies, graduating from Apostolic Theological Seminary summa cum laude. She continues at the seminary this fall in pursuit of her doctorate in theology. Sheila's work in the field of ancient biblical languages has yielded two published works.

Robin (Sowers) Groves '89 completed and published *Finish Line Achievements – the Runner's Ultimate Racing Journal*, in fall 2015. This comprehensive, multi-year journal has been specifically designed to make both documenting and reviewing personal race statistics quick, simple, and organized. It was soon followed by the first in the Glory Days Series of personal sports statistics journals for students, *Glory Days—Cross Country 4 Year Racing Journal*. More information can be found at www.finishlineachievements.com. Robin, her husband, **Mike Groves '90**, and their son reside in Kettering, Ohio.

Peggy Hoemann '90 married Gary Argiropoulos in August 2015. After working for more than 40 years in the plastic molding industry, mostly as a production scheduler, Peggy retired at the end of 2015. The Argiropouloses live in Defiance and, Peggy says, "Life is good!"

Caren Bauer-Male '90 has been the executive director at New Home Development for 25 years. New Home Development manages and develops housing for persons with mental illness in Defiance, Fulton, Williams and Henry Counties. Caren and her husband, Mike, live in Sherwood, Ohio.

In May, 2016, **Brian Miller '91** was named the head basketball coach for the Paulding High School's basketball program. Miller is a Paulding High School graduate and resides in the community, where he served as the freshman boys head coach and ran the eighth grade program prior to this appointment.

Melanie (Cline) Caustrita '93 has recently accepted a position as a trauma nurse practitioner at Chandler Regional, a Level 1 trauma center in Chandler, Ariz. Melanie resides in Phoenix.



Jane Krites '93 & '00 was awarded the 2016 Rhodes State College Outstanding Alumni award. She is a 1987 graduate of their nursing program, and holds a BS and MBA from Defiance College. Jane served as a nurse for 20 years and held leadership positions with Girl Scouts for 24 years. She lives in Lima, Ohio.

Jason Lee '95 received his master's degree from Capella University in Education Administration with principals' licensure. Jason is currently principal at Foxfire High School in Zanesville, Ohio. Now in his 20th year of coaching football, most recently in Zanesville, his team has made state semi-finals in 2013 and 2015. Jason coaches quarterbacks and defensive backs and has had five All-Ohio QBs during his coaching career. He and his wife of 15 years, Julie, reside in Zanesville with their daughter.

Melissa Fries '97 is currently the mayor of Monroeville, Ohio, being sworn in for official duty in October 2015. Melissa continues to teach kindergarten as well, recently completing her 19th year.

Spangler Candy Co. in Bryan, Ohio, has appointed **Niki (Hastings) Mosier '99, '04** vice president human capital, the first female officer in the company's history. Niki joined Spangler Candy Co. in 2003 as safety/training coordinator. She has been director of human capital since 2010 and was appointed to the company's management committee in 2012. She and her husband, Griff, live in Bryan with their two sons, Andy and Logan.

Doug Billman '02 has returned to his high school alma mater in Antwerp, Ohio, as the boys basketball head coach. Doug has been coaching in Bryan for nine years. He will remain a health and

gym teacher at Bryan, where he resides. The Antwerp position was previously held by another DC alum, **T.J. Hammer '05**.

Joshua Francis '02, '06 has been appointed Dean for the College of General Studies at Indiana Tech in Fort Wayne, Ind. Josh resides in Ney, Ohio.

Ryan Kaiser '02 & '04 is now the athletic director for the Lindenwood University-Belleville in Illinois. He comes to LU-Belleville from Northwest Oklahoma State University where he was associate director of athletics for internal operations. Ryan resides in Belleville with his wife, Corie, and twin sons, Carson and Caden.

Tiffany Bostelman '03 and Thad Scheurich were united in marriage on July 9, 2016 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Defiance. Tiffany is employed by Defiance City Schools as a Title I reading teacher for the parochial schools.

Sara Jacob Elston '04 & '09 and her husband, Jason, announced the birth of their fourth child, Jacob Worth Elston, on February 14, 2016. The Elstons reside in Ney, Ohio.

Sylvania (Ohio) Schools has hired **Lisa Shanks '05** as the district's new treasurer and chief financial officer. Lisa has ten years' experience working in the Holgate and Patrick Henry school districts. She resides in Malinta, Ohio.

Dustin Looser '07 has been awarded the professional insurance designation, Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter (CPCU) from the American Institute for Chartered Property Casualty Underwriters. Dustin is employed by Central Insurance Companies and resides in Delphos, Ohio.

Keep in Touch

We'd like to know about your new job, recent marriage, new member of the family, new address, or other happenings in your life. For photos, please send those of Defiance College people only, identify everyone, and label the back with your name and address. If you are moving, please send this form in with your new address.

Name: _____

Maiden Name: _____ Class Year: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

News: _____

Mail this form to:
Alumni Office, Defiance College, 701 N. Clinton St., Defiance, OH 43512

or email news and photos to:
alumni@defiance.edu

Defiance College veteran, transfer and adult recruitment admissions counselor **Brenda (Delarber) Aversch '09 & '12** was recently presented the new member award from the Ohio Association for College Admission Counseling (OACAC). The award recognizes members with less than five years of involvement with OACAC who have made significant contributions in admission counseling. Brenda served as first-timers chairman for the organization's annual conference for two years and as co-chairman on the program committee for the 2016 conference. Brenda resides in Kalida, Ohio, with her husband, Eric.

Eric Stolly '10 of the Stolly Insurance Group's Westerville, Ohio, location was recently named Lead Coach of the Year for Future Possibilities, Inc. This organization helps fourth and fifth grade students from Columbus City Schools develop life skills by working closely with a personal coach to help them learn how to establish goals and come up with a plan of action on how to achieve their goals. Eric and his wife, **Katie (Feher) '10** live in New Albany, Ohio.



Jared Orzolek '11 and Mariah (O'Shea) Orzolek '02 of Defiance announce the birth of their son, Dominic Bentley Orzolek, on February 9, 2016. Dominic was welcomed home by his big sister, Bianca. Mariah is the registrar at Defiance College.

Greg Pickett '13 and Toni-Ann Boyd '15 were married on March 19, 2016. Greg has been selected to be the head football coach at Clark Montessori High school in Cincinnati. Greg has been working at the high school as a paraprofessional and conducting the M.O.R.E. (Men, Organized, Respectful and Educated) program at Clark that is designed to nurture academic success and build strong character development among young African-American men. Toni-Ann is employed by Fifth Third Bank. The couple resides in Cincinnati.

Katelynn Busto '14 is stationed in Japan on MCAS Iwakuni as a broadcast journalist in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Treg Lymanstall '14 joined the staff of Wayne Trace Junior High/High School for the 2016-2017 school year as an intervention specialist. Treg and his wife, **Janelle (Doenges) '13**, reside in Defiance.

DEATHS

Doris (Marshaus) Heilman '38
March 19, 2016 – Defiance, Ohio

Mildred (Lovejoy) Jackson, Schauffler College '38
February 17, 2016 – Washington, D.C.

Ruth Max '40
March 20, 2016 – Defiance, Ohio

Kathleen (Steffel) Bittinger '47
March 26, 2016 – Defiance, Ohio

Robert Schwarzbek '47
February 15, 2016 – Grand Rapids, Mich.

Rodger Coffman '49
March 19, 2016 – Ocala, Fla.

Dr. William Busted '50
April 11, 2016 – Defiance, Ohio

Charles Duerk '50
March 11, 2016 – Defiance, Ohio

Edson Finkenbinder '50
May 13, 2016 – Tuscon, Ariz.

Donna McClain Cooper '52
June 13, 2016 – Bryan, Ohio

Betty (Skiver) Goller '54
August 3, 2016 – Defiance, Ohio

Noel Underwood '57
October 30, 2016 – Marysville, Ohio

Barbara Acus Moats '59
July 19, 2016 – Chesterfield, Mo.

Dean Wellman '59
May 29, 2016 – Defiance, Ohio

Betty (Moog) Arend '60
January 27, 2016 – Palm Harbor, Fla.

Thomas Simkins '62
July 10, 2015 – Hebron, Ohio

Thelma Ballreich Bowser '66
June 1, 2016 – Defiance, Ohio

John S. Allen '68
January 11, 2016 – Richmond Hill, Ga.

Rev. Bennett McNeal '68
September 29, 2015 – Sandwich, Ill.

Connie (Allison) Beardsley '71
December 7, 2015 – Cincinnati, Ohio

Demaris (McDougall) Rice '77
March 23, 2016 – Farmer, Ohio

Ruth (Rettig) Shock '78
August 16, 2016 – Jewell, Ohio

Dorothy (Sobieck) Hooker '79
February 26, 2016 – Paulding, Ohio

Juliane Van Buren-Niro '80
January 1, 2012 – Elyria, Ohio

Donald Phillips Jr. '84
March 29, 2015 – Medina, Ohio

Stan Brahier
December 4, 2016 – Defiance, Ohio

In recent months, Defiance College has mourned the deaths of three former faculty members and a Board of Trustees member. Professor Emeritus Richard Small, 91, passed away on Feb. 16. Professor Emeritus Dr. Robert Gaffga, 78, died on March 4, and Distinguished Faculty Member Dr. Bonnie Sloan, 84, died on April 16. Trustee and DC alumnus Tim Leuzarder died on Oct. 18.

These faculty members were beloved by students and respected by their colleagues. Their combined service to the college totaled nearly 80 years. After retirement, Dr. Sloan served on the college's Board of Trustees for several years. Professor Small, better known as Coach Small, remained active on campus assisting coaches in track and field.

Leuzarder graduated from DC in 1967 and always remained close to his alma mater. He passed away just days after attending 2016 Homecoming events. His wise counsel and dedication will be greatly missed.



RICHARD SMALL

Coach Small was a native of Defiance and excelled as an athlete at Defiance High School. He entered Miami University in the fall of 1942 but left after one semester to enlist in the Marines. He saw combat with the 1st Marine Division at Cape Gloucester, Peleliu and Okinawa and was awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. He described his World War II experiences

in his book, "I've Served My Time in Hell."

After the war, he returned to college, first at DC for a semester, and then at Miami University where he lettered in football. As a student coach his senior year, he coached Bo Schembechler among others and graduated in 1948.

He earned a master's degree from Bowling Green State University in 1954 and completed postgraduate work at Case Western Reserve. He taught and coached high school for several years and was hired by Defiance College as its head football coach in 1954.

Coach Small coached football for 10 years, track for 28 years, and cross country for 17 years. He was also director of intramurals for 20 years. From 1995 to 2007 he was a volunteer track coach. In 1976, he was inducted into the Defiance College Athletic Hall of Fame.

He was a faculty member for 35 years, teaching physical education, science for the physical education major, and mathematics for general degree requirements. He served as chair of the physical education department, director of Winter Term, president of the Adapted Section of the Ohio Association of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, and chair of the division of education, business education and physical education.

During his tenure, he was selected as Distinguished

Faculty Member, and upon retirement in 1989, he was awarded the Professor Emeritus Citation.

Coach Small was active within the Defiance community as a member of the Defiance County Board of Health, board of directors for the YMCA, and the Fort Defiance Players. He sang in the annual "Messiah" performance for more than 30 years. He was an active member of St. John United Church of Christ.

He is survived by his wife, Carolyn; daughters, Judy Dally and Robyn Small; a sister, Ann Small; grandchildren Ashley Hornish and Martin Dally; and a great-granddaughter, Marley Dally.

A memorial service was held April 16 at St. John UCC. Memorials may be made to Defiance College or the church.



ROBERT GAFFGA

Dr. Gaffga arrived at Defiance College in 1971. He had previously graduated from The Ohio State University, received a master's degree from Akron University, and a doctorate from the University of Tennessee. He was director of the Federal Title I program in Paulding County before coming to DC.

He served in the education department, first as assistant professor, then associate professor, and full professor. Much of his tenure was spent as director of special programs as well as associate academic dean. He was instrumental in the development and accreditation of the college's Master of Arts in Education program. From 1988 to 2000, he was head of teacher education.

For many years he was involved with the Ohio

Department of Education Division of Teacher Education and Certification, Ohio Association of Private Colleges for Teacher Education, the Ohio Association of Teacher Educators, and the Ohio Confederation of Teacher Education Associations. He was a member of numerous North Central evaluation teams for area high schools and served on a wide variety of panels and committees at area schools.

When he was not working, Dr. Gaffga loved spending time outdoors and near the water in Michigan and Florida, and enjoyed a variety of sports including water skiing, boating and snowmobiling.

He is survived by his wife, Judy; brother, James; sister-in-law Barbara Adams; nieces, nephews, cousins, and Jacqueline VanMeter. A son, Jerry, is deceased.



BONNIE SLOAN

Dr. Sloan was a native of the Toledo area where she spent the majority of her career in education. She came to Defiance College in 1988 after retiring from the Toledo schools where she taught and was later an assistant principal and principal.

She earned her bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in education from the University of Toledo,

where she also taught.

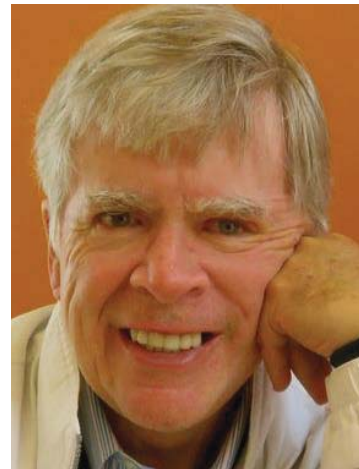
She began her DC career as an assistant professor of education and was later promoted to associate professor. In 1996, he was recognized by her peers with the Distinguished Faculty Award which cited her campus involvement in many committees, contributions to the creation of the Master of Arts in Education program, and her expertise in elementary education, especially in the areas of children's literature and reading language arts.

She was a member of numerous professional and civic organizations including Phi Delta Kappa, Delta Kappa

Gamma, Pi Lambda Theta, American Association of University Women, the Kidney Foundation of Northwestern Ohio, Zonta Club II, and the Flower Hospital Auxiliary.

After retiring from Defiance College, she served on the college's Board of Trustees for several years.

She is survived by a brother, Harry MacVay, and nieces and nephews. She and her husband, Gordon, were married for 50 years, and he preceded her in death in 2006.



Defiance College alumnus and Board of Trustee member **TIM LEUZARDER** of Florham Park, N.J., passed away suddenly on Oct. 18. He was 71.

A native of Verona, N.J., Tim graduated from Defiance College in 1967 with a bachelor of science in business administration. He lived in Florham Park for 45 years.

Tim was an Exclusive Agent with Allstate Insurance for 41 years, retiring in 2011 to travel and spend time with friends and family. He won numerous awards throughout his career, but his biggest reward was servicing his 7,000+ customers in the area.

Tim was predeceased by his wife of 39 years, Patricia Cregan Leuzarder. He is survived by his four children: Tim of Long Island City, N.Y., Tracy (Jim) Hunt of Florham Park, Alyson Braca of Florham Park and Maggie of Summit, N.J.. He is also survived by his five wonderful grandchildren Lucas, Katie, Shannon, James and Arabella; his four siblings, John (Sue), Linda, Mark Dean (Phyllis), and Justin Ripley; and by many nieces, nephews and cousins.

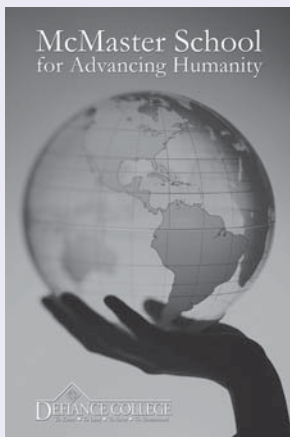
He was an active volunteer in Florham Park, serving on the Board of Education as Vice President for several years. He also coached little league and girls' softball for nearly 20 years. Tim treasured his time at Defiance College, keeping in close contact with his classmates and serving on the Board of Trustees for the past 14 years.

**LEAVE
YOUR
MARK ON
THE FUTURE**

A simple bequest written into your will can help ensure that a Defiance College education is accessible to future generations of young people. By working together, we can see that the opportunity to learn and grow, both in and out of the classroom, continues well beyond our lives.

You may leave a gift to the Defiance Annual Fund, which is for immediate general support or create an endowment with a specific purpose, such as scholarship, faculty development or to sustain a favorite educational or co-curricular program. Some gifts can even return an income stream to you. For more information, please visit our webpage: dclegacy.org.

THE QUESTION OF INDIVIDUAL LIBERTIES AS CRITICAL TO
IMPROVING THE HUMAN CONDITION



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