

BEYOND STEPHENS



SAMPSON H

ISSUE 9
FALL | WINTER | 2015



WELCOME HOME



2

3

4

5

6

8

20

21

10

12

14

16

in this issue

From Dianne

Stephens President Dianne Lynch guides you through your magazine.

A Closer Look

Stephens College by the numbers!

Point of View

L.A. launch: An insider's look at our new M.F.A. in TV and Screenwriting program.

A Stephens Snapshot

Sweet silence: Vespers important tradition for Stephens women.

Driven to Succeed

Stephens launches College-to-Career Program for incoming freshmen.

New Stephens Faculty

Stephens attracts talented new faculty and guest artists.

Welcome Home

Families and friends converge on campus for Welcome Home weekend.

News & Notes

Class Notes * Remembrances * Club Notes

special section: health sciences

Growing the Sciences

Stephens is investing in the health sciences, a rapidly growing industry.

In High Demand

Promising program: Master of Physician Assistant Studies would fill void in Mid-Missouri.

Rooted in Tradition

A rich legacy: Stephens is building on its long history of excellence in the sciences.

Under the Microscope

Six success stories about Stephens alumnae working in various health professions.

From Dianne



Stephens President Dianne Lynch with Ken LaZebnik, director of the Stephens M.F.A. in TV and Screenwriting, at the L.A. launch of the new master's program in August. Read more about the program on page 4. *Photo courtesy Linnea Bullion.*

Dear Stephens,

In 2011, when we decided that it was time to produce an alumnae magazine worthy of our amazing alumnae, our goal was to create a publication you would look forward to reading, one that would sit proudly on your coffee table to remind you—and all of your visitors—that you are a Stephens woman. And now we have.

Not only is it beautifully designed (isn't it *gorgeous!*?), this issue of *Beyond Stephens* reflects the extraordinary melding of tradition and innovation that is such a hallmark of Stephens College. From the cover image of our new Center for Health Sciences, to the special section on the history and future of the sciences; from the feature story about our longstanding tradition of Vespers, to the story about our new and exciting Center for Career and Professional Development; and from our collection of Class Notes about your friends and fellow Susies, to the introduction of our new Master of Fine Arts in TV and Screenwriting at the Jim Henson Studios in Los Angeles ... this is Stephens at her finest.

It's hard to believe that we write, edit, design and produce this exceptional magazine in our Marketing and Communications office on campus. We do this all "in house" with a small team of professionals dedicated to telling the Stephens story. I know it means a lot to them to have the opportunity to be a part of an alumnae magazine that's as unique as Stephens. It's also worth noting that the beautiful photos you see inside were taken by Stephens women. **Meredith Jacob '14** is our videographer and photographer. (You may remember her as one of the digital filmmaking students who traveled through 50 states in 50 days two summers ago). The talents of **Danielle Kelley '14** and **Darby Jones '18** are also on display.

It's a Stephens project, start to finish, and we are very proud of it. We hope you are, too.

As we look to the holidays and the end of the year, we also hope you'll remember to keep Stephens at the top of your "giving" list. We have a new catalog of all of the ways you can contribute to the College (and give a gift of Stephens support to those Susies in your world who have everything!). You'll be getting it in your mailbox soon if you have not received it yet. Your gift to Stephens will help to make the College's 183rd year its happiest yet!

All the best,

Dr. Dianne Lynch, Stephens College President

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Editor

Rebecca Kline, *Director of Marketing and Communications*

Managing Editor/Writer

Sarah Berghorn, *Communications Coordinator*

Writer

Janese Silvey, *Story Specialist/Strategist*

Art Director/Designer

Jennifer Cropp, *Graphic Designer*

Photographers

Darby Jones '18, Danielle Kelley '14, Meredith Jacob '14

Published by:

Office of Marketing and Communications

Stephens College
Columbia, MO 65215
(573) 876-7111
scnews@stephens.edu

Send address changes and story ideas to:

Office of Institutional Advancement and Initiatives
Stephens College
1200 E. Broadway
Columbia, MO 65215
(573) 876-7110
alumnae@stephens.edu

Or submit an online form:

www.stephens.edu/alumnae

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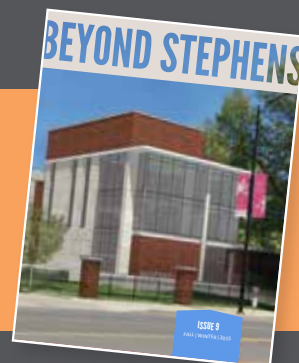
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ABOUT THE COVER:

Pictured: A rendering of Sampson Hall, which is currently under renovation. The hall will reopen next fall and house the Stephens College Center for Health Sciences.



A Closer Look

A quick dose of Stephens fun facts and interesting stats.

25



Number of film festivals (including Stephens' Citizen Jane Film Festival) named as the "Top 25 Coolest Film Festivals in the World 2015" by *MovieMaker Magazine*, the world's most widely read independent film magazine. Citizen Jane, which began in 2008, is one of a handful of festivals that exclusively showcases films made by women. It has since grown to become the Citizen Jane Institute at Stephens College and includes screenings and lectures throughout the year, as well as a camp for middle and high school girls in the summer.



40+



Number of years that professor Alan Havig taught history and social studies at Stephens. This fall, he was honored at an all-campus ceremony celebrating the history and future of the College. During the ceremony, President Dianne Lynch announced the creation of the Alan R. Havig Award for Distinguished Service, which will be presented periodically to an individual whose contributions to the College have had a lasting and significant impact. Havig has been a fixture at Stephens since 1966 when he joined the faculty after earning a Ph.D. from the University of Missouri. He currently serves as the curator of the Stephens College archives.



102

Number of Stephens Stars student-athletes who are competing this year in the College's eight National Association of Intercollegiate Athletes (NAIA) sports: basketball, cross country, competitive dance, golf, soccer, softball, tennis and volleyball. In addition, for the sixth straight year, the Stephens College Athletics Department was named to the NAIA Champions of Character Five-Star Institution list.



11

Ranking by The Princeton Review for the Stephens theatre program. That's up from last year's No. 12 spot. Stephens also was the only private college in Mid-Missouri to be included in The Princeton Review's Best 380 Colleges guide. In addition, Stephens consistently ranks among the top regional colleges in the Midwest by *U.S. News & World Report*.

#1

Ranking received by the Stephens fashion program for long-term value, according to new international rankings from The Business of Fashion, London, a respected leader in the fashion industry. Stephens' fashion program also ranked No. 5 for best learning experience and No. 13 for best in the world. Stephens is in the company of well-known schools, including Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) and Beijing Institute of Fashion Technology, which fell behind Stephens at 15th and 18th respectively; Central Saint Martins in London topped the list. This summer, Stephens also officially became a member school within the Council of Fashion Designers of America.

Enriching the World One Story at a Time

This August, 20 Stephens College students in our new Low-Residency M.F.A. in TV and Screenwriting walked beneath an immense statue of Kermit the Frog into the Jim Henson Studios in Hollywood. They passed by the British telephone booth that Charlie Chaplin installed when he built the studio in 1918, and we gathered together outside the sound stage where Chaplin shot *Modern Times*. Then, I welcomed them to the very first hour of instruction for this new program. For me, it marked a kind of return (via Los Angeles) to my childhood home.

My father, Jack LaZebnik, taught English at Stephens College, and I grew up wandering the corridors, passing by practice rooms where students sang or played the cello, and I went to the Playhouse to watch the terrific theatre department put on my father's plays. One of my earliest memories is standing in a long line of Stephens students—I recall rows of pastel dresses—at the annual fall barbeque.

I've spent the past 25 years in Los Angeles writing for television and film. Three years ago, a friend talked about teaching in a low-residency M.F.A. for writers, and I thought to myself, "Stephens could do that." I pitched the idea to President Dianne Lynch, who embraced it and offered me the brilliant suggestion to make the program a satellite campus in Hollywood. With the help and support of the Stephens administration and staff, and particularly the film faculty, this program launched in

the fall. Our mission is clear: To increase the number of women writing for television and film. And because of this mission, women television and screenwriters have been eager to join the cause as faculty, guest speakers and mentors.

The program is organized around two 10-day workshops each year: one in August and the other in January. Students work online the rest of the academic year, with one mentor on a screenplay and another on a television script. They also take an online History of Screenwriting course, taught by Dr. Rosanne Welch. Like all of our faculty members, she is a working writer; I felt students should be taught by members of the Writers Guild, which is a marker of professional success.

Our first workshop featured presentations by writers such as Alexa Junge (Emmy nominee for *The West Wing* and *Friends*), Winnie Holzman (creator of *My So-Called Life*), Kirsten Smith (*12 Things I Hate About You* and *Legally Blonde*), Carol Barbee (*Jericho*), Frank Renzulli (*The Sopranos*), Nancy Miller (*Any Day Now*), my brother Philip LaZebnik (*Prince of Egypt* and *Pocahontas*), and William Rabkin (*Monk* and *Psych*). We took field trips to Fox and visited *The Simpsons* writers; we traveled to Universal and discussed how *Grimm* gets written with the show's creators and writing staff. We spent time at the Writers Guild Foundation Library, and we closed with the first Victoria Riskin Lecture at a Malibu restaurant. **Stephens**

alumna Victoria Riskin—a wonderful writer whose adaptation of "My Antonia" is a personal favorite of mine—spoke about the biography she's writing about her father, Robert Riskin, who wrote Frank Capra's great film works such as *Mr. Deeds Goes to Town* and *It Happened One Night*; and her mother, actress Faye Wray.

Beyond presenting models of individual success in film and television to our students, I firmly believe that screenwriting education matters in a much more global sense. The scripts we launch out into the world enrich our cultural life. As human beings, we are affected by our intake: What we eat impacts our health, and what we see and hear fills our psyches and our souls with material. The stories we tell each other affect how we think about the world. Muriel Rukeyser famously wrote: "The universe is made of stories, not atoms." An authentic story about the human condition—whether wrapped in a present-day reality, the distant past or science fiction—can turn on a light in some young woman somewhere and give her those things that art has always carried to the human spirit: An understanding that we are not alone, that our life has value, and that hope has a place in the world. I am proud that Stephens College is carrying this torch forward.

Ken LaZebnik
Director
M.F.A. in TV and Screenwriting Program



Photo courtesy: Limea Bullion



A Stephens SNAPSHOT



Last fall, when racial unrest around the nation and state first spread to Columbia, Stephens women felt the tension. At a Vespers service, they took their uneasiness to Stephens President Dianne Lynch. In a safe, intimate setting, she listened to their concerns and promised follow-up action before leading the group in silent meditation. Out of that, Diversity Week—a week of celebration and conversation—was born.

Kitiara McGuire '16 shares that as an example of the importance of Vespers. She says many students don't get to express themselves, especially about sensitive issues, to their college presidents.

"It's nice to know the president of my college is there and saying, 'I hear you,'" McGuire says. "Vespers provides a perfect setting for that type of dialogue."

Vespers always has allowed time to reflect and share. **Susan Story Lord '52** remembers conversations and prayers for those serving in the Korean War.

"The country was in an uprising," she says. "I remember Vespers being a place where you were able to gather yourself together. You didn't have to think about the world or studies or anything else. It was nice to have that little bit of respite."

Donna Ensign Marshall '58, a former Stephens trustee, remembers Vespers being held in the venerable old Senior Auditorium next to Historic Senior Hall. She says Dean Harry Philpott spoke at

those meetings and was described in her yearbook as a man "whose familiar, soft voice invited us in September to sleep at Vespers if we needed rest, and then continued with such pertinent philosophic comments on college living, that, in spite of yourself, you listened, and loved him."

"Our lives then, even without technology, were in constant motion and we needed that time of shared meditation," Marshall says. "I realize we were sitting where thousands of Stephens women before us had gathered in the same restorative quiet, and I'm so glad the young women on campus today are continuing to connect with each other and care for themselves in that important tradition."

Vespers began as part of programming Jessie Burrall Eubank introduced when she served as director of religious life from 1921 to 1928. Vespers continued through the mid-1980s. Lynch later resurrected the services when she became president in 2009. Today, Vespers is held several times each semester and is voluntary.

"They're often planned during busy times, so I'm extra sure to go because I need to be told to stop and breathe," **Emily Cross '16** says. "Any time the service focuses on stopping and checking in with ourselves, I end up crying."

Cross recalls one Vespers when she says she had been so caught up in intellectual pursuits that she was unknowingly disconnecting from her compassionate side.

"I hadn't realized that until Vespers gave me a moment to stop and check in with myself," she says.

Quiet meditation is also a staple at Vespers. It's as important as ever for young people to take a few minutes to stop, meditate and clear their thoughts, Lynch says.

"Young people today are so connected digitally that sometimes they don't know how to just be alone in silence," she says. "There are layers and layers of social networking happening in their lives. It's important for them to experience silence."

Students agree putting their phones away for an hour isn't easy—for many, the gadgets are their primary connection to family and friends. But they also admit that disconnecting is rewarding.

"This gives me a reason to put my phone down and focus on the people around me," McGuire says of the experience. "I've learned that taking time to clear your mind is really important."

Shelly Romero '17 recalls her first meditation time at Stephens felt like forever, but says the break is needed. She also likes knowing that generations of women have experienced Vespers.

"There's a sense of history and community," she says, "linking back not just to students at Stephens now, but to Stephens women who have gone before me."



College-to-Career PROGRAM

Driven to Succeed

New College-to-Career Program prepares students for success in the workforce.

Stephens has always been a college that strives to prepare women for the lives that await them—and in today’s landscape, that means earning an academic degree *and* understanding how to succeed in the professional marketplace.

That’s why the College is now requiring all undergraduate students to receive career services.

Starting with this year’s incoming class, every Stephens student will have to complete the College-to-Career Program, fulfilling a certain number of professional development requirements each semester during her college career. The plan will ensure that students meet with career counselors, review their resumes and complete mock interviews. Additionally, students must attend workshops on topics such as protecting one’s image online, job search strategies and building professional networks. All students will be asked to complete a StrengthsQuest assessment and will have the opportunity to have professional headshots taken. Attending an etiquette dinner also will be required.

While most colleges provide career services, Stephens is one of few around the country to make professional development a graduation requirement.

“The workforce is demanding it,” says Amanda Wooden, executive director of the Center for Career and Professional Development at Stephens. “Employers are saying students aren’t as prepared for work environments as they should be coming out

of college. We’re ready to respond to those concerns and make sure our young women are learning what they need to land that dream job and be successful when they get it.”

As part of the new center, the College is investing in additional career readiness resources.

Last year, career services became the Center for Career and Professional Development (CCPD) under the Office of Institutional Advancement and Initiatives. Doing so moved the career center to Lela Raney Wood Hall, where staff offices have been renovated to accommodate career counseling and meetings. There are rooms for students to practice mock interviews and Skype rooms, where students may conduct interviews via video conference with employers outside of the area.

The renovated center includes a new suit closet that allows students to borrow suits to wear to internship and job interviews. The suits, sponsored with gifts from alumnae, faculty and staff, come in an assortment of colors and sizes that can be checked out free of charge. The French Laundry and Alterations, a Columbia business, is donating dry cleaning services.

“It’s just another way we can support our students in their endeavors,” Wooden said. “We know it’s difficult to afford a nice suit when you don’t have a job, but it’s also hard to attract an employer’s attention if you’re not dressed appropriately.”

Stephens has a robust internship program. Students this past summer interned at companies such as Kentucky Horse Park, the Television Academy Foundation and Jacob’s Pillow Dance.

Stephanie Sherga Kearns '03, a vice president at The New York Foundling, one of the city’s oldest child welfare service agencies, has had several interns from Stephens.

“Extraordinarily successful students come from Stephens,” she says. “They are heads above other interns we get, even those from Ivy League schools, in terms of social engagement and



in terms of creativity and manners. For me, it's a source of pride when I bring in a student from my alma mater."

It's praise Maureen Bernath hears on a regular basis. Bernath is the director of internships and career events at Stephens and asks supervisors for feedback when students complete internships.

"Employers are often very impressed with our students," she says. "We hear that they're hard working; they take initiative and are motivated. Supervisors sometimes provide constructive criticism, as well, and let our students know if they need to improve skills such as time management. It's a very valuable experience and process."

This past summer, **Tobie Roberts '18** snagged the prestigious internship with The New York Foundling. As an administrative assistant, Roberts learned about nonprofit management, working with politicians and how to navigate New York on her own.

Roberts says she might not have received that experience without the help of the CCPD. Wooden helped her craft a professional resume and met with her several times about her goals, connecting her with Kearns after learning Roberts is interested in nonprofit work.

"The center helps a lot with developing yourself not only as a professional but also personally," Roberts says.

Emily Csengody '16 took an internship class taught by CCPD staff last spring.

"I was really able to perfect my resume," she says. "And I learned how to write cover letters that are tailored to the company and the job I want."

Csengody especially appreciated conducting a mock interview with a professional from the retailer Buckle. The critique and feedback were beneficial when it came time for Csengody to conduct a real interview via Skype with Calvin Klein in New York. She snagged the position at Calvin Klein Fashion Office—saying it was like winning the lottery.

"At least that's what it feels like to me," she says. "I cannot thank Stephens enough for the preparation for my internship. I think it's great that new students will be getting professional development right off the bat."



New suit closet located in the Center for Career and Professional Development in Lela Raney Wood Hall.

New Yorker helps students with a place to call home

Stephanie Sherga Kearns '03 remembers when she first began seeking employment in New York City after graduating from Stephens.

"I knew New York was my destiny, and there were wonderful alumnae to help me, but I could not find housing," she says.

One of the first things Kearns did when she got settled was open her apartment to a fellow Stephens woman in a similar bind. Years later, now that she's married with a family living in a three-story house in Brooklyn, Kearns offers up her garden-level apartment every summer to Stephens students who want to intern in New York, renting the fully-furnished apartment at well below market costs.

"It's an easy way to give back to Stephens," she says about her creative way of staying connected to the College. "Even if you can't give money, that doesn't mean you can't give in other ways that are central to the Stephens mission."

New Stephens Faculty

SARAH AKER

Staff Artist, Lighting Design

Sarah Aker has professional experience as a lighting designer for both theatre and dance, has experience as a master electrician and also teaching experience in higher education. Aker has an M.F.A. with a major in Lighting Design from Florida State University. Her B.A. is from Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Ind., with a double major in theatre and psychology. Her teaching experience includes work as a teaching assistant at Florida State in the College of Visual Arts, Theatre and Dance as well as guest lectures at the University of Illinois and Beloit College. Her lighting designs for more than 50 productions range from contemporary works to classics. Honors and awards include the Saint Mary's College Theatre Service Award and the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Region 3 Lighting Design Projects Competition where she was a finalist.

What attracted her to Stephens: "I attended an all-women's college, so I am very excited about the opportunity to work at an all-women's college," she says. "The thriving arts faculty and students are a welcoming community that I am eager to join."



This fall, Stephens welcomed several new professors and guest artists to campus. Faculty members are the heart of the institution, and their commitment to academic excellence is unparalleled. Welcome to the following seven individuals.

Read about our new Dean of the School of Health Sciences, Dr. Susan Muller, on page 14, and Eric Johnson, Director of the Master of Physician Assistant Studies program, on page 12.

BRANDI COLEMAN

Visiting Guest Artist, Dance

Brandi Coleman's professional credits include performances and guest appearances in varied venues. She has taught as an adjunct lecturer at both Carthage College in Kenosha, Wis., and Northwestern University. Coleman has completed residencies as a guest artist at numerous universities. She has active professional memberships in both the National Dance Educators Organization and the Dance Films Association. In addition, she has received awards for her graduate thesis and an Emmy Award for Outstanding Individual Performance in the PBS documentary *Jump Rhythm Jazz Project: Getting There*. Coleman recently completed her M.F.A. in Dance from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

What attracted her to Stephens: "I fell in love with Stephens during my first residency as a World Dance guest artist in 2012," she says. "I was instantly drawn to the community of artists, teachers and students in the School of Performing Arts and find the environment to be artistically nurturing and creatively inspiring."



JULIE DOUGLASS

Visiting Guest Artist, Costume Design

Julie Douglass has an M.F.A. in Costume Design and Technology from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and has extensive professional and teaching experience. Her costume teaching experience includes instruction at her most recent institution, Millikin University, as well as a graduate teaching assistantship at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Awards for her designs include a certificate of merit from the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival and Project Runway Design Competition 2013. She has worked with both the Nebraska Repertory Theatre and University of Missouri Repertory Theatre.

What attracted her to Stephens: "Nearly every person I spoke to about my job prospects was familiar with Stephens and frequently knew someone who attended the school."

“Stephens College has an excellent reputation.”

LEE HEINZ

Assistant Professor, Musical Theatre

Lee Heinz is an experienced actor, director and teacher of musical theatre, Shakespeare, acting, voice and movement. She has performed on Broadway and had recurring roles on *Guiding Light* and *One Life to Live*. Heinz has taught at TVI Studios, Wayne State University and Chautauqua Institution. Heinz has also been a private acting, voice and auditioning coach. She has an M.F.A. from the Academy of Classical Acting, an M.A. from Wayne State University and a B.A. from Vassar College.

What attracted her to Stephens: "I thought both the faculty and the students were welcoming, talented and interesting," she says. "I'm also interested in helping young women develop into leaders in the arts and elsewhere."

**ELMORE JAMES**

Visiting Guest Artist, Acting

Elmore James is an award-winning director, actor, opera singer, musical performer, writer-poet, composer/lyricist and educator. His versatile career spans 40 years in professional theater, with 35 years in arts education in the U.S. and Europe. He is a veteran of five Broadway shows and has performed at Carnegie Hall in *South Pacific* with Reba McEntire and Alec Baldwin, at the Kennedy Center, at Lincoln Center and with the Metropolitan Opera. James now dedicates his time to teaching young performers. He has taught at institutions, including NYU, SUNY Purchase and the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama in Scotland.

What attracted him to Stephens: The opportunity to work with Dean Gail Humphries Mardirosian and the desire to empower women in the arts."

**DR. CRINA SILASI-MANSAT**

Assistant Professor, Psychology

Dr. Crina Silasi-Mansat has a specialization in cognitive psychology. She recently finished her Ph.D. at Texas A&M University, College Station, and has an M.A. in Cognitive Psychology from the University of Central Oklahoma. She has a B.A. in Law from Babes-Bolyai University (Romania).

“I was attracted by the emphasis on women’s education and all of the advantages of a small college.”

DR. GIORGI TOPOURIA

Associate Professor, Communications

Dr. Giorgi Topouria teaches strategic communications at Stephens. He has extensive experience in global marketing, entrepreneurial and business leadership and cultural understanding. Most recently, Topouria developed the Digital Global Studies certificate for undergraduate students and engaged students in research-based projects at the University of Missouri. He has a B.S. in Mathematics from Tbilis State University and his M.A. in Journalism and Mass Communications from the Missouri School of Journalism. He is currently ABD in his Ph.D. studies at the University of Missouri.

What attracted him to Stephens: "Stephens is a great place," he says. "My wife works here, so I am familiar with Stephens; it is a fantastic place. Being a part of it is an honor."



Growing the Sciences

From tradition to today
science remains core at Stephens.



When Sampson Hall (*pictured above*) reopens next fall, it will serve as a modern and stately gateway into the Stephens campus—and will stand as a reminder that Stephens College is a school dedicated to the creative arts and health sciences. The hall, built in 1947 on land purchased from the Sampson family, is currently being renovated into a three-story complex and will house the Stephens College Center for Health Sciences. It will feature state-of-the-art classrooms, laboratories, multi-use learning spaces and faculty offices, as well as a third-floor anatomy lab.

In this special section of *Beyond Stephens*, we are excited to share how Stephens is investing in the health sciences, a rapidly growing industry. Read about our: Proposed new Master of Physician Assistant Studies program (page 12); Stephens' legacy of excellence in the sciences (page 14); and Stephens alumnae who have made significant impacts on genetics, informatics, neuroscience and cancer research, as well as our young alumnae just starting their journeys in the medical and veterinary medical fields (page 16).

In High Demand

PA Program would be the first of its kind in Mid-Missouri.



Eric Johnson stood amidst the rubble, dust permeating through his surgical mask.

He'd been a paramedic for more than 10 years and on this day—Sept. 12, 2001—he knew he'd had enough.

Johnson was part of a search and rescue task force sent to New York to assist following the World Trade Center attacks. That morning, while waiting as fellow crew members located possible victims, he confided in a surgeon also waiting to provide medical attention.

"I was lamenting my life, saying 'I need to do something else; I'm done with this,'" he says.

Johnson told the surgeon he felt too old to attend medical school. The surgeon dismissed that notion but also told him about his physician assistant.

"I decided right there at Ground Zero that I would go to PA school," Johnson says.

It proved to be a fateful decision that could have a lasting impact on Stephens College.

Today, Johnson is director of the Master of Physician Assistant Studies program and is currently navigating the accreditation process. The accrediting body will decide in March whether the program can move forward. If so, Johnson hopes to welcome the first cohort of students next August.

"I believe Stephens is the right place for a PA program," he says. "The school is dedicated to it. I feel called to be part of this significant moment."

The Rise of the Physician Assistant

Physician assistant is among the fastest-growing professions in the country, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, and it's growing even more rapidly than other professions within the medical field.

It's also a high-paying job. PAs can earn as much as \$130,620 a year with the median annual salary hovering around \$93,000.

Contrary to the title, PAs are more than assistants. They are trained to conduct many of the duties carried out by primary care physicians, including prescribing most medications, completing exams and interpreting medical data. The main difference is that PAs do not practice alone without having a supervisory physician.

For many students wanting to pursue positions in healthcare, the idea of working in primary care—and in many cases still earning a six-figure salary—without having to invest in eight to 10 years of medical school makes PA programs an attractive option.

Katie Lamkie '19 is watching Stephens' accreditation process with keen interest—she hopes to one day apply to the PA program here. The daughter of a longtime nurse in the St. Louis area, Lamkie came to Stephens to pursue a similar path. She'd considered other medical professions before learning about the PA option.

"I've always known I wanted to be in the medical field. I've considered medical school, pharmaceuticals and dermatology. But now I'm pretty determined to get into

a PA program," she says, adding that she's already shared her goals with President Dianne Lynch.

Having PAs on medical teams benefits everyone, studies show. Clinics and hospitals are more efficient and can see a greater number of patients. For patients, having a PA around means a shorter hospital stay.

That was the case in his experiences as a PA at Boone Hospital and University of Missouri Health Care, Johnson says. In his six years at the university, he saw the number of PAs working there double.

Currently, no PA program exists in Mid-Missouri, making Stephens an ideal location, Johnson says. It would fill a void in the center of the state while also complementing Columbia's already booming medical industry. Upon accreditation, Stephens would work with the city's major hospitals, as well as Capital Region Medical Center in Jefferson City, to provide PA students with a variety of clinical experience options.

Columbia is also attractive to graduate students because of its reasonable cost of living and high quality of life. The city is routinely ranked among the top places to live for its arts and culture, parks and trail system and vibrant downtown.

The fact that Stephens is not tied to healthcare facilities would have advantages, Johnson says.

"Some of the top PA schools in the country are smaller, private schools that have partnered with good medical centers or clinical sites," he says. "While our students would work alongside medical residents during their clinicals, their classroom and lab experiences would be solely focused on physician assistant studies. They would not be competing with medical or nursing students for faculty time and college resources. This program would be all about them."

Stephens has pursued the idea of a PA program before. In 1975, the College introduced a post-graduating training program for physician assistants as part of a number of allied health programs rolled out that decade.

Administrators decided to try to resurrect the program because of the rapidly growing industry need. The demand for PAs will continue to rise as the population ages and more Americans are able to access health insurance.

Stephens applied for accreditation in the nick of time—the accrediting body that oversees PA education, the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant, is no longer accepting applications for new programs.

"They have an important job and that's to ensure programs meet certain standards," Johnson says. "They're not accepting any more applications, so Stephens got in right under the deadline."

Already, the program is seeing much interest from potential applications.

Students would matriculate and graduate in just over two years. The duration, however, is no indication of rigor. It is every bit as difficult to get into a PA program as medical school, Johnson says, and once in the program, students cram three-fourths of medical school curriculum into two years.

Qualified applicants can have a bachelor's degree in any field, so long as they have taken certain prerequisite science classes. They also must have at least 500 hours of patient contact.

With so many healthcare facilities in the area—where the majority of employees are not doctors—Johnson sees no shortage of qualifying students.

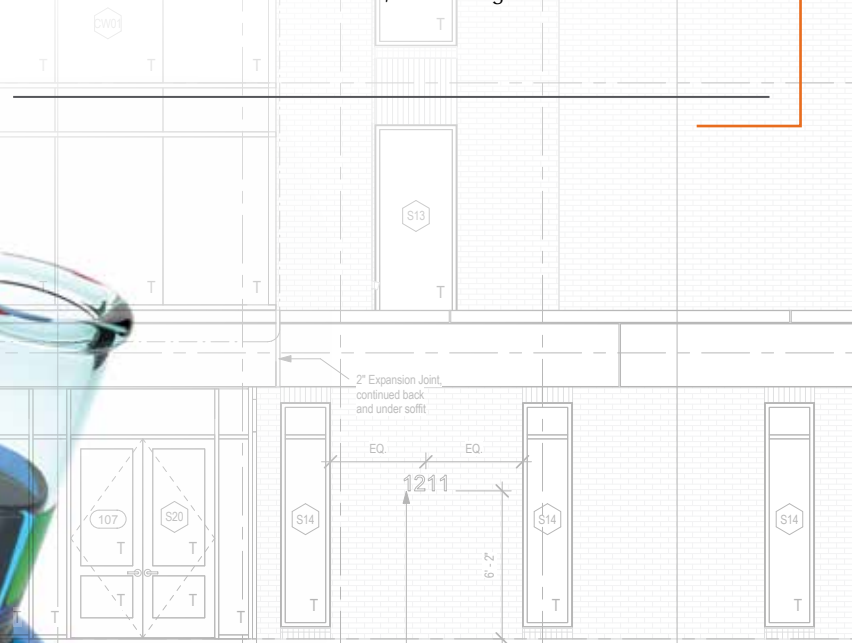
"Students are smart, and they see the writing on the wall," Johnson says. "They know where the trends are. They're interested in medicine and saying 'This looks like a pretty satisfying career.'"

Johnson is optimistic about the future.

"In an ideal scenario, in five years we would be producing very skilled, well-rounded PAs and future PAs with strong relationships in the community," he says. "We would be strengthening Stephens College while helping people. This program is right for PAs, and it's right for Mid-Missouri."



Campson Hall



Building Address
Signage, Pin-Mounted
1/2" Thick Aluminum
Signage, White Finish,
8" Tall, Flush Mount.

Rooted in Tradition

Stephens has been providing young women with hands-on science curriculum since 1833.

Brittany Lucas '19 peers through a microscope in her general biology class. On this day, she's observing that the fundamental differences between prokaryotes and eukaryotes are defined by cellular structure.

Lucas is in her element. The first-year Stephens biology major says she loves the hands-on experiences she's already receiving in the labs.

Lucas is one of the College's new students who is majoring in science—the most popular program among this fall's incoming class. Biology, pre-medical, pre-veterinary and health science students outnumber those in any other discipline on campus.

It's the result of the College's commitment two years ago to a focused mission of excellence in the creative arts and health sciences.

"We're thrilled to see so many young women interested in pursuing careers in science and medicine," President Dianne Lynch says. "And the emphasis on health science aligns perfectly with our historical mission of preparing women for careers that correspond to what the job market is looking for. Healthcare is the most rapidly growing industry in the country: Jobs will be there when our students graduate."

While it's getting more attention today than it has in the past few years, science has been a part of Stephens College since her founding in 1833.

In the 1930s, H. Bentley Glass—who would go on to be considered one of the nation's top geneticists—was on faculty here. Throughout that decade, archives show, the College hosted numerous lectures, bringing in noted scientists who talked about environmental issues, cancer control and the health risks of smoking—issues well ahead of the times. While wars shifted attention to social sciences such as foreign affairs and diplomacy starting in the 1940s, natural science remained a staple at Stephens.

In the late 1960s and 1970s, the College experimented with healthcare training such as nursing, allied health and physician assistant programming. Although they did not catch on at that time, biology and natural science survived a major degree shuffle in the early 1980s that focused academic offerings on seven core study areas.

"We have a great foundation with biology and chemistry, and we have basic health science curriculum," says Dr. Susan Muller, dean of the School of Health Sciences. "A lot of our resources could be realigned to create additional programs that leverage the body of knowledge, amazing faculty and physical resources such as lab space that we already have. That would allow us to bring in more students and continue to grow the school in a smart and thoughtful way."

Muller has a background in exercise science and health education. She recently served as director of





the School of Health Sciences at Clarion University of Pennsylvania and started several new programs at Salisbury University, where she spent 20 years.

At Stephens, Muller hopes to bring back courses such as nutrition—a class popular in the 1940s—as part of general education requirements. She has other ideas, too. Exercise science, athletic training, a cardiovascular track—the possibilities for future programming are vast, she says.

Students in the School of Health Sciences share similar reasons for opting to study science here. Small classes, individual attention and early exposure to labs are common refrains. Lucas is so inspired by the opportunities she's already had, she has signed up to work alongside Donna Clinton, the science lab coordinator at Stephens.

"I've realized how hard it is to prepare solutions and to keep the equipment organized," Lucas says, adding that she's come up with her own system for arranging beakers.

Lucas, who is just 17, is considering a career in either genetic research or orthopedic medicine. She chose Stephens because she found the science faculty members to be knowledgeable and friendly. The all-women environment factored in, too: In class, Lucas says she's not afraid to ask questions.

"I love it here," she says. "I can focus on my education."

Caitlin Havens '19 was first attracted to Stephens because of its pet-friendly campus.

"I got a letter from the College in the mail and saw animals," she says. "I'm pre-vet, so that definitely caught my eye. I came to visit and loved it."

Havens' schedule this semester includes biology, chemistry and algebra—and she can't wait to take even more challenging courses in the coming years.

"I was looking at the coursework pre-vet majors take during their four years, and I got excited just reading about them," she says.

Science courses at Stephens are more challenging than **Alexandra Garcia '18** expected when she started last year. But faculty, she said, are eager to help.

"They help you outside of class, holding study sessions and meeting with you one-on-one," she says. "It's fantastic."

Lynch expects health science programs to remain popular choices among incoming students.

"We're investing in this field of study because it's the right thing to do," she says. "Our society depends on people who are trained to provide medical services. And we're the right institution to prepare those professionals. We have a long history of excellence in the sciences, and we're proud to continue that legacy."



Under the Microscope

Stephens women succeed in the sciences.

Dr. Joyce Mitchell '72 held long career in genetics.

When **Dr. Joyce Mitchell '72** was in high school in Wyoming, a guidance counselor told her she could be one of three things: a teacher, a nurse or a secretary.

"I didn't like that advice very much," the retired geneticist says.

By the time she earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Stephens, Mitchell's employment options were wide open.

"When I was getting ready to graduate, recruiters were coming to me from major weapons companies," she says. "It was the middle of the Vietnam War, and military contractors were happy to give me a job and would have paid for graduate school. But I didn't like the idea of working for companies that were focused on military purposes."

Instead, Mitchell wanted to help people. So, upon encouragement from her advisers at Stephens, she pursued and completed a Ph.D. in Population Genetics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

"I had a class touching on genetics in junior high and a class at Stephens; it really interested me," she says. "I liked that genetics was really challenging and fast-paced."

Mitchell went on to enjoy a 25-year career at the University of Missouri School of Medicine, where she worked as the chief information officer for MU Health Care, as a medical geneticist and as the division leader of health informatics.

During her tenure at MU, she took a sabbatical year at the U.S. National Library of Medicine, where she developed the Genetics Home Reference, a resource still online today that allows consumers to learn about genetic conditions and the genes or chromosomes related to those conditions.

The University of Utah recruited Mitchell to serve as chair of its Department of Biomedical Informatics in 2005.

"Utah has the most established program in the U.S.—possibly in the world," she says. "It's the oldest department in the world and has a Ph.D. program. So, yes, it was nice to be recruited as chair. I had a wonderful base to build on for the future."

At Utah, Mitchell revamped curriculum, created an inter-professional education/research program and developed a program for inclusion, mentoring and funding for the Biomedical Informatics graduate pro-

gram, which included a partnership with the University of Texas, Brownsville. She also served as associate vice president for Health Sciences IT.

Mitchell served on the Council of Councils for the National Institute of Health and co-directed the National Library of Medicine's course in Biomedical Informatics, which is held annually at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Massachusetts. In addition, she was elected president of the American College of Medical Informatics, a national organization composed of individuals selected for the national impact of their work.

It's a career she says started at Stephens.

"Stephens did several things," she says. "It provided me the opportunity to go to college out of state and experience a brand new world. It was exciting and academically challenging. Teachers and professors encouraged me to go on. It was such a different attitude from a high school counselor saying I could be one of three things. Stephens said I could do anything I wanted to; the sky's the limit. That's enormously uplifting and gave me the confidence I needed to go forward."

Dr. Kate Henry '78 taught neurology, helped migraine patients.

Dr. Kate Henry '78 has some advice for young women navigating the workplace.

"Never sell yourself short because the guys are asking for a lot more," she says.

It's a confidence Henry exudes in her voice as she talks about her own career in neurology. Both began at Stephens.

"Being with all other women, you learn how to be confident and be able to do things," Henry says. "I was actually very shy when I went to Stephens, and I don't think any-

body in my orbit now would say I'm quiet or shy. Going to Stephens, you learn how to express yourself, you learn how to work with other people, and you learn that anything is available to you."

For Henry, that includes a career in neurological medicine.

Henry recently retired as an associate professor of neurology at the New York University School of Medicine in New York City, where she was a mentor and career advisor for medical students and associate

chair of faculty affairs in the Department of Neurology, as well as chief of neurology at the historic Bellevue Hospital Center. During her career, she was one of the first women to serve as president of the Bellevue Medical Board, and was one of few women appointed to serve on and lead numerous hospital committees. Recognized as a leader early in her career, she held a deanship role as senior assistant dean for affiliations, managing the medical staff and financial aspects of a multimillion-dollar contract providing physicians from the medical school to Bellevue Hospital.



Dr. Joyce Mitchell '72



Dr. Kate Henry '78



Frances Dare '82



Greta Gehlbach Gribkoff '80

Henry was only 20 when she received her psychology degree from Stephens, a fact that worked against her when applying to Ph.D. programs straight out of college. Undeterred, she enrolled in the Master of Education Program in Psychological Counseling and Rehabilitation at Columbia University's Teachers College. After earning her master's degree, she worked in New York City's hospital system as a psychological rehabilitation counselor. She says the experience gave her an edge after earning her medical degree from State University of New York Downstate Medical Center College of Medicine.

"My psychology background was invaluable," she says. "When I practiced medi-

cine, it helped me understand my patients, as well as group dynamics and working with other physicians and systems. Because of my background, I was able to see things in a different way."

Henry became a national expert on migraine headaches, an interest that stemmed from seeing many patients for headaches in clinical practice. She wrote a patient education book, "100 Questions and Answers About Migraine."

"I accumulated a lot of headache patients, probably because I suffered from severe headaches myself and could empathize with their suffering," she says. "I did not do a lot of research, but instead focused on

patient care, academic teaching and administration. I enjoyed working with people and educating patients about their problems."

Henry has been keeping up with Stephens through the years, as well as coming to reunion weekend, and serving on a College capital campaign committee and the Alumnae Association Board.

"Alumnae are how you keep women's institutions alive, and I'm all about women getting an all-women's education," she says. "It's a time when nobody is saying 'you cannot do this because you are a woman.' Stephens made me able to assert myself and set the foundation for a lot of my leadership skills and successes later in life."

Frances Dare '82 leads practice for virtual health consulting.

Frances Dare '82 is excited to learn that Stephens is putting an emphasis on health-care and health sciences programming.

It's an ever-changing industry that needs innovative thinkers, she says.

"Healthcare is going to be a totally different industry in 15 years, even 10 years, than it is today," Dare says. "Tremendous transformation is already underway in healthcare, so it's exciting that Stephens women are going to be part of that change."

Dare has seen a lot of change in her own career. A business major, she says the broad Stephens education, her Stephens network

and the intangible "Stephens magic" have helped her take advantage of a number of different opportunities.

Dare got her start working in healthcare settings through classmate **Janet Kaveney '82**. Kaveney's physician father knew the public relations director at Mercy Hospital in San Diego and helped Dare secure an internship there while still in college.

Dare has drawn from that first healthcare experience to expand her roles and positions in the business of healthcare over the years. After graduating and a short stint in politics, she worked as director of marketing for a health system, then moved into op-

erational leadership roles, then into health policy work as vice president of the New Mexico Hospital Association, all in Albuquerque. She then moved to Japan for what she calls her "sabbatical year" to coach executives there about Western business practices, including executives from global pharmaceutical firms.

When Dare returned to the United States, she knew she wanted to continue to stay focused on healthcare but in new ways and roles. That's when she began her career in firms ranging from systems integration and outsourcing providers to strategy consulting firms, all focused on serving healthcare organizations.

continued on next page

Today, Dare is managing director and partner in Accenture's Clinical Service business service and lead for the Virtual Health practice. Accenture is a global strategy, management consulting and technology services company. In her current role, she consults with major health systems and governmental health programs to design and implement new care models, population health programs and patient engagement services.

"I lead a practice for virtual health consulting that includes telemedicine, telehealth

and clinical collaboration so we can 'do health' in ways that improve access, efficiency and effectiveness," she says.

As a managing director, Dare also focuses on growing the business and Accenture's market presence. She credits much of her success in her position to Stephens.

"My Stephens education allowed me to navigate the industry in different ways," she says. "It gave me contacts and opened the door for me. What a women's college does, and what Stephens does especially

well, is it gives you the confidence to go out there and seize the moment, know that you're very good at what you do and see all of the possibilities."

Having managed and worked in a variety of roles within an ever-evolving industry, she stresses the importance of a liberal arts education.

"The best thing you can get at Stephens is that well-rounded education," she says. "It gives you flexibility to do different things across your career."

Greta Gehlbach Gribkoff '80 works with worldwide researchers.

By the looks of her resume, one would think **Greta Gehlbach Gribkoff '80** had a clear career path in mind when she started at Stephens.

Gribkoff has worked at Bristol-Myers Squibb in Connecticut for over 30 years. She started in 1984 in a lab position and worked her way up to senior operations lead in 2005. She has since added the role of director of global development operations and works with Bristol-Myers Squibb researchers in 25 countries.

So, it's surprising to learn that Gribkoff was not sure what she wanted to study when she came to Stephens from Central Illinois.

"I liked math, and I liked English, but I didn't have strong feelings for science until I took a science class at Stephens," she

says. "It was general biology, and I just found it very, very interesting and fascinating how organisms work and how it all comes together."

During her years at Stephens, Gribkoff conducted an internship at a neuropharmacology lab at the Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans' Hospital in Columbia that gave her additional exposure to the lab work, and she took an African safari led by a science professor.

She credits those experiences for helping her land her first job out of college as a lab technician at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine. There, her supervisor encouraged her to enroll in a newly established graduate program, and she went on to earn a Master of Science in Neuropharmacology.

After interviewing with companies across the country, Gribkoff accepted a position with Bristol-Myers Squibb. In her current role, Gribkoff oversees operational aspects of global clinical studies. She makes sure data is being collected appropriately, deadlines are being met and supplies are adequate. Right now, she's specifically working in oncology but has also worked in neurosciences, HIV and hepatitis.

She says Stephens encouraged her to pursue her interests.

"My whole experience in the science department was great," she says. "It was a family; it was small enough that everybody knew everybody, and we were all pretty close. Going to Stephens gave me the confidence that I could do whatever I wanted to do."

Imagine Your Name on the New Center for Health Sciences

Fund a state-of-the art anatomy lab, a slate of high-tech classrooms, a lounge for inspired (and exhausted) students, a suite of faculty offices, an auditorium. Help us educate tomorrow's students to become the healthcare professionals our communities are going to need. To learn more about opportunities to be part of our future, contact Meichele Foster, Vice President for Institutional Advancement and Initiatives, at (573) 876-7110 or mfoster@stephens.edu.



Katie Sharp '15

"I've been incredibly inspired by many female scientists at Stephens."

Katie Sharp '15 pursues doctoral degree in chemistry.

Katie Sharp '15 knew from a young age that she wanted to be an equine veterinarian. Until, that is, she took a genetics class at Stephens.

"It was by far my favorite course and it was in this course my interest in biochemistry was triggered," she says. "I loved genetics so much my professor suggested that I consider biochemistry graduate programs. The chemical products that are a result of DNA seem infinite, and I'm fascinated how those interact with other proteins. Whenever I think of all the chemical reactions that occur within my cells just to keep me alive, I'm filled with awe."

Sharp is pursuing a Ph.D. in chemistry with a concentration in biochemistry at the University of Oklahoma. She is a graduate teaching assistant, teaching general chemistry to two sections of about 25 students each. When she's not in class, Sharp is in the lab learning about innovative research from other graduate students—an educational strategy she learned at Stephens.

Stephens' small classroom environment, and the fact she was surrounded by other women, promoted dialogue not only between professors and students, but also between classmates, she said.

"Being able to learn from my peers was a huge advantage as I could learn a concept, but from a different perspective," Sharp says. "I tell my students that their peers can be some of the best teachers."

Sharp hopes to conduct government or industry research after earning her Ph.D. before returning to an environment such as Stephens.

"My dream job is to eventually teach at a women's college," she says. "To say that my experience at Stephens was empowering is a definite understatement. I've been incredibly inspired by many female scientists at Stephens, and I have become very passionate about promoting women in science. I am proud to be a Stephens woman scientist."



Kristen McCurdy '15

"That's why a Stephens education is important, because it not only teaches you about your field but gives you the connections and experiences outside of your field . . ."

Kristen McCurdy '15 starts strong in vet school.

When **Kristen McCurdy '15** had lectures on histology during her first semester in veterinary school at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland, classmates struggled. Not McCurdy.

"I was able to take a histology class my senior year at Stephens, which ended up being a really big asset during my first exam," she says. "Veterinary school is hard and there's a lot of information given to you at once. We only had two lectures over histology, which covered probably the first quarter of the Stephens course I took. While it was an area a lot of my friends struggled with, I only had to review it."

McCurdy quipped that she could write an entire book about her Stephens experiences and how they've helped her in vet school, but she narrowed it down to a few highlights.

The Stephens Equestrian Center was an asset, she says, because of faculty members such as **Sara Linde Patel '02**.

"She not only cares so much about her students and their future, but also teaches outside of the

classroom," McCurdy says. "She stayed an important mentor through graduation, and I still talk to her. Through the relationship I have with her, I was able to make strong connections and get experiences at the University of Missouri's veterinary school."

A study abroad trip to South Africa, where she worked for a wildlife veterinarian, also proved invaluable.

"The experience truly solidified my desire to apply myself to pursue such a hard career," she says. "That's why a Stephens education is important, because it not only teaches you about your field but gives you the connections and experiences outside of your field that prepare you for graduation."

McCurdy remains interested in wildlife medicine and specifically rhinoceros conservation.

"I would love to spend time in Africa working in the field," she says. "But my dream goal would be to work for Disney's Animal Kingdom and travel in times of need."

WELCOME HOME



In September, Stephens College welcomed hundreds of visitors to campus at our first-ever Welcome Home Family and Friends Weekend.

The three-day event allowed parents, siblings and other loved ones to experience life at Stephens firsthand while giving alumnae the opportunity to relive it.

Guests attended classes on Friday, ate in the dining hall and enjoyed spending time in the residence halls throughout the weekend.

One highlight of this year's event was a new spirit rally and parade. The rally began on the Residence Quad in front of Tower Hall, where the Starlets—the competitive dance team—led cheers and chants. Following a pep talk from President Dianne Lynch, the crowd—headed by **Paitra Babb '18** as the College's official Star mascot—paraded across the pedestrian bridges to the President's Home for a reception.



Mortar Board, a national senior honor society dedicated to leadership and scholarship, won a float contest with its float honoring Stephens academics and female leaders.

Welcome Home also included panels, an all-campus barbecue and several sporting events. Watch the video at youtube.com/stephenscollege.



WELCOME HOME

CLASS NOTES

'40s

Mary Ann Ritter Arnold '45 was inducted into the inaugural Arkansas Women's Hall of Fame class this fall. She is one of 12 women, including Hillary Rodham Clinton, to be inducted. Mary was president of E. Ritter & Co. from 1976 to 1992. In 2013, she was elected mayor of Marked Tree, becoming the first woman to serve as mayor there. She was re-elected in 2014. Mary is active on several boards and community organizations.

Patricia Thorne '47 earned a rave review for her book, "The Untold Story of the Teddy Bear," in the Summer 2015 issue of *Doll News*, the journal of the United Federation of Doll Clubs. Praised as "outstanding," the story is a tribute to her grandfather, Albion Parris Thorne. She documents him as the first to purchase the Steiff Company of Germany's original toy bear in 1903 as an international buyer for Carson Pirie Scott & Company in Chicago. Patricia spent 15 years on research for the book. After Stephens, she earned a B.F.A. from Ohio University. She is a writer, photographer and graphic artist who began



Stephens-trained pilot **Gloria Smith Reagan '48** consults charts in front of her airplane in 1948.

her business career in advertising in Chicago in 1952.

Gloria Smith Reagan '48 spoke at Jacksonville University's College of Aviation's Women in Aviation series. Nearly 70 years after being a flight student herself, Gloria shared highlights of her Stephens experience with interested flight students and faculty. While working on her associate's degree at Stephens, Gloria earned her

private pilot's license, a commercial pilot's license, and a commercial flight instructor rating. After Stephens, she was a flight instructor, had an air taxi service, was offered a job with a barnstorming troupe, and played professional basketball (half-court) for Trans World Airlines. Gloria made her last flight in the early 1990s to spend more time with family. She recently was nominated for the Women in Aviation Hall of Fame.

REMEMBRANCES

'30s

Helen Froelich Holt '32 of Boca Raton, Fla.; July 12, 2015. **Gertrude Farrar Lowell '32** of St. Simons, Ga.; May 9, 2015. **Georgian Parkert Cordes '34** of Lincoln, Neb.; April 21, 2015. **Helen Picking Neff '35** of Bucyrus, Ohio; July 12, 2015. **Olivia Cole Briggs '39** of Moab, Utah; May 18, 2015. **Margaret Colvin Moore '39** of Liberal, Kan.; Feb. 7, 2015. **Grace Brant Spindler '39** of Creston, Iowa; Aug. 24, 2015.

'40s

Lillian Cooke Andrus '40 of Nashville, Tenn.; Feb. 6, 2015. **Jane Rhodes Beste '40** of Breckenridge, Texas; Jan. 13, 2015.

LaVerne Menk Hess '40 of Ruston, La.; Oct. 22, 2014. **Maryon Dooley Hoffman '40** of Carlsbad, Calif.; July 6, 2015. **Barbara Thompson Johnson '40** of North Muskegon, Mich.; April 25, 2015. **Ruth Webb Sigerson '40** of Sterling, Va.; May 31, 2015. **Jane Kiplinger Wilson '40** of Richardson, Texas; Feb. 18, 2015. **Mary Holke Jenkins '41** of Wenatchee, Wash.; May 27, 2015. **Peggy Donnelly McConnell '41** of Fort Worth, Texas; July 6, 2015. **Shirley Hall Moore '41** of Plainville, Ga.; April 21, 2015. **Barbara Cheney Roberts '41** of Baton Rouge, La.; May 13, 2014. **Marjorie Beall Briggs '42** of Portland, Ore.; June 23, 2015. **Virginia Harris Dillon '42** of Alexandria, Va.; March 17, 2015. **Mary Lauck Knightley '42** of Wichita, Kan.; June 24, 2015. **Harriet Sneed**

Schmitt '42 of Hamilton, Ohio; May 14, 2015. **Virginia Kilpatrick Shehee '42** of Shreveport, La.; July 6, 2015. **Dorothy Jaques Taylor '42** of Jacksonville, Fla.; April 24, 2010. **Martha Jones Bedsole '43** of Mobile, Ala.; June 10, 2014. **Irine Petroff Davidson '43** of Nanuet, N.Y.; May 27, 2015. **Shirley Neeld Degges '43** of Huntingtown, Md.; April 26, 2015. **Betty Beeks Eure '43** of Richmond, Va.; Feb. 2, 2015. **Miriam Johnston Hallman '43** of Aiken, S.C.; Dec. 10, 2014. **Edith McDougall Kerr '43** of Campbell, Calif.; June 3, 2015. **Evelyn Haesemeyer Opheim '43** of Clear Lake, Iowa; July 18, 2015. **LaVonne Young '43** of Bismarck, N.D.; March 25, 2015. **Mardelle Corson Cufaude '44** of Mason City, Ill.; March 22, 2015. **Elizabeth McComas D'Ignazio '44** of Media, Pa.; May 29, 2015. **Ridgely Mason**

continued on next page

Lucille Koski Burns '49 is a first-time great-grandmother to Trey Luis Ponce, who was born in Oxford, U.K., on May 2, 2015, just two hours after Princess Charlotte. Lucille writes: "She may be a princess, but he's a prince!"

Sue Hilborn Clark '49, a professional writer and consultant, has been the owner of SJ Clark Literary Specialties, LLC for the past 39 years. For her work, she was recognized by Continental Who's Who as a 2015 Prominent Professional in the field of publishing. With nearly three decades of experience, Sue is an award-winning book doctor, tutor, writing consultant and memoirist. She previously worked as a continuity director for radio and television. Sue is a former owner of two newspapers and has been published in magazines, journals and anthologies.

'50s

Eileen Kyle Well-Rice '50 retired from teaching after 32 years and married Bill Rice in 2002. She has six grandchildren and six great-granddaughters. They live in Florida and spend their summers at the family home in Ohio. She would like to hear from classmates. Contact her at ewquilter@comcast.net.

Sally Sweet Fionte '55 was named a life member of the Chinese Shar-Pei Club of America. She is very involved in Shar-Pei rescue, and participates in showing her pug, CH Charchen's Cowboy Casanova. Sally is a retired animal science teacher.

Mary Ann Harmon Johnson '54 grew up in Coronado, Calif., and heard about Stephens through an older friend in high school. She finished her studies at Washington State University in 1957. Her daughter, **Pamela Johnson Thomas '85**, and granddaughter, **Margaret Thomas '17**, a junior Strategic Communications

major, followed in her footsteps. Margaret says that when her grandmother attended Stephens many of the girls arrived on the same Stephens train. She writes, "Each state along the way would add a car. It took a week to pick up all the girls." When Pamela attended Stephens to study English, she had never visited campus and arrived with four suitcases and no coat. Margaret writes: "I've grown up listening to [my mom and grandmother] and their friends share memories and describe how Stephens prepared them for adulthood. And they would sing the Stephens song. I always knew I wanted to attend Stephens.



Three generations of Stephens women (pictured, L-to-R): Mary Ann Harmon Johnson '54, Pamela Johnson Thomas '85 and Margaret Thomas '17.

REMEMBRANCES

Dieter '44 of Cleveland; March 3, 2015. **Nan Waldo Gunter '44** of Atlanta; July 18, 2015. **Betty Ketcherside Haldiman '44** of Phoenix; June 8, 2015. **Rebecca Wilhite Krieg '44** of Grand Prairie, Texas; March 28, 2015. **Donna Glorvick Mickle '44** of Davis, Calif.; Jan. 7, 2015. **Carol Burkert Phelon '44** of Naples, Fla.; Aug. 10, 2015. **Mary Holloman Phillips '44** of Houston; March 6, 2015. **Eleanor Sue Parker Shamburg '44** of Tulsa, Okla.; March 18, 2015. **Eleanor Reich Weinstein '44** of Henrico, Va.; Feb. 21, 2015. **Mary Walton Cooper '45** of Prairie Village, Kan.; Jan. 25, 2015. **Evaline Fisher '45** of Urbandale, Iowa; Feb. 14, 2015. **Charlotte Montague Fleisch '45** of Constantia, N.Y.; Aug. 18, 2015. **Mignon Phillips Frame '45** of Rochester, N.Y.; Feb. 2, 2015. **Joan Giese Hix '45** of Fairfax, Va.; Oct.

29, 2013. **Leland Page Jackson '45** of Durham, N.H.; Dec. 12, 2014. **Dorothy Perkins King '45** of Austin, Texas; July 8, 2015. **Helen Sporry Kuehn '45** of Ann Arbor, Mich.; Feb. 5, 2015. **Beverly Hubinger Lore '45** of New Orleans; June 23, 2015. **Gloria Matthews Nixon '45** of Jonesboro, Ark.; May 6, 2015. **JoAnne Grisso Pratt '45** of Indianapolis; July 3, 2015. **Barbara Crane Siple '45** of McLean, Va.; July 16, 2015. **Janice Ascherman Torrington '45** of Snohomish, Wash.; Aug. 1, 2014. **Beverly Bishop Casebeer '46** of Coupeville, Wash.; Nov. 29, 2014. **Evelyn Chatfield '46** of Dallas; Feb. 22, 2015. **Compton Taylor Currin '46** of Charlottesville, Va.; June 11, 2015. **Mildred Greis Lee '46** of Durham, N.C.; June 12, 2015. **Patricia Ziemer Lyon '46** of Rancho Palos Verdes,

Calif.; June 5, 2015. **Frances Hale Musick '46** of Murphy, Texas; Sept. 20, 2012. **Susanne Ramsey Ankeny '47** of Bloomfield, Mich.; Dec. 16, 2015. **Margery Burns Carlson '47** of Bloomfield, Conn.; May 28, 2015. **Nan Snodgrass Chapman '47** of Irvine, Calif.; April 12, 2015. **Jane Haugh Edgerton '47** of Old Saybrook, Conn.; March 6, 2015. **Bonnybel Mosier Harris '47** of Marietta, Ga.; June 22, 2015. **Elaine Disosway King '47** of Warrensburg, Mo.; May 1, 2015. **Mary Christensen Lewis '47** of Cut Bank, Mont.; July 31, 2015. **Barbara Hannum Reese '47** of Indianapolis; April 27, 2015. **Mary Barnum Riley '47** of Akron, Ohio; July 30, 2015. **Jacqueline Oliff Rogin '47** of Evanston, Ill.; Dec. 13, 2014. **Sue Kelly Thurgate '47** of Leawood, Kan.; May 15, 2015. **Patricia**

The first time I visited I was just a sophomore in high school, and I was ready to move in!"

'60s

Christine Babcock Payne '63 is the author of 10 best-selling historical novels set in England, before, during and after World War II. Three of her books are now in audio format. Christine writes under the creative name Mary Christian Payne. She hopes to add some new Stephens alumnae fans.

Dr. Mabry Ward Miller O'Donnell '65 received the John Shields Award for Outstanding Contributions to Pi Kappa Delta, making her the only person to be named twice in a lifetime. She is McCoy Professor Emerita of Communication and Hillyer Professor Emerita in English Literature, Rhetoric and Oratory at Marietta College. She received every Marietta teaching award, including the Outstanding Faculty Award (three times), the McCoy Professorship, the Harness Fellowship (twice), and the Outstanding Faculty in Continuing Education Award. Mabry also received the Ohio Forensics Association Educator of the Year Award and two Pi Kappa Delta awards. *Ohio Magazine* named her one of

Ohio's top educators in December 2003. She has been a facilitator and consultant for Cleveland Area Board of Realtors, American Cyanamid, GE Plastics and Thermo-Forma.

'70s

Sandi Pillsbury '72 recently had her paintings featured in the exhibition "Elemental Realms" at Agora Gallery in New York City. She paints nature scenery, focusing on the landmarks and flora around Lake Superior, where she spends much of her time. Sandi has been a professional artist for over 40 years, and she describes her style as "realistic impressionism."

Mindy Tatz Chernoff '78 is the founder of The Resonant Horse, which offers workshops and retreats with horses that are used as tools for change and transformation. In October, she gave a TEDx TALK titled "How Horses Heal, Transform and Empower" in Wilmington, Del. Mindy

facilitates leadership training for executives and CEOs, and also travels for public-speaking engagements with a variety of audiences.

'80s

Kay Leslie Blackwelder '83 works as a therapist at Village Behavioral Health, where she recently celebrated 21 years of employment. After Stephens, she earned her M.S. in Counseling Psychology from Capella University in 2007.



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Sheffield Wilkins '47 of Richardson, Texas; April 13, 2015. **Rita Haner Blaine '48** of Green Valley, Ariz.; April 6, 2015. **Constance Carlson Erickson '48** of Los Angeles; April 18, 2015. **Ruth Scharlack Gurwitz '48** of San Antonio; June 4, 2015. **Barbara Popwell Hawkins '48** of Mountain Brook, Ga.; May 12, 2015. **Alma Evans Neese '48** of Breckenridge, Texas; May 23, 2015. **Jean Staebler Williams '48** of Midland, Mich.; Feb. 6, 2015. **Ruth Bergevin Wright '48** of Winfield, Kan.; Dec. 27, 2014. **Mary Gallatin Bass '49** of San Antonio; July 27, 2015. **Babette Margulis Marcus '49** of Houston; July 21, 2011. **Janie Hackworth Rhodes '49** of Florence, Ala.; Jan. 3, 2015.

'50s

Betty Koplal Bennett '50 of St. Louis; June 13, 2007. **Janet Parker Benz '50** of St. Croix Falls, Wis.; May 23, 2015. **Dorothy Chevalier '50** of San Leandro, Calif.; Oct. 22, 2014. **Patricia Wilson Clothier '50** of Prairie Village, Kan.; Aug. 9, 2015. **Mary Walton Johnson Dudley '50** of Huntsville, Ala.; June 16, 2015. **Patricia Goodman Dworkin '50** of Peoria, Ariz.; July 20, 2015. **Danae McArthur Fendler '50** of Ellisville, Mo.; April 1, 2015. **Elizabeth Wetherell Glenn '50** of Columbia, Mo.; July 27, 2015. **Rhea Ingle Harrison '50** of Oklahoma City; April 29, 2015. **Mary Ronan Hechtlinger '50** of Phoenix; May 5, 2015. **Joan Colladay Holtz '50** of San Diego; April 10, 2015. **Shirley Keller Odebrecht '50**

of Columbus, Ohio; May 17, 2015. **Peggy Leonhardt Wallerstedt '50** of Chesterfield, Mo.; May 12, 2015. **Beverly Sanders Whitney '50** of Peoria, Ariz.; Aug. 1, 2015. **Patricia Wallace Wilkerson '50** of Lexington, Ky.; Aug. 15, 2015. **Jeanne Gover Cahill '51** of St. Louis; Feb. 18, 2015. **Melba Welsh Chatham '51** of San Antonio; Jan. 18, 2015. **Elizabeth Weiss LaFavre '51** of Cedar Falls, Iowa; March 6, 2015. **Joann Young Menke '51** of Redlands, Calif.; Dec. 27, 2014. **Beverly Bartlett Morgan '51** of Boone, N.C.; Dec. 8, 2014. **Roberta Lee Ashour Stafford '51** of Lee's Summit, Mo.; June 1, 2015. **Elaine Johnson Thomas '51** of Westerville, Ohio; April 29, 2014. **Jane Hollingsworth Watts '51** of Knoxville, Tenn.; March 28, 2015. **Emily Dixon Bristol '52** of Rocky Hill, Conn.; April

continued on next page

Kellie Wingate Campbell '84 has been appointed as a federal administrative law judge. In June, she began work in the Social Security Administration's Columbia (Mo.) Office of Disability Adjudication and Review. After Stephens, she graduated from the University of Missouri School of Law. Kellie is a former Lafayette County prosecuting attorney with over 25 years of experience and has litigated more than 60 jury trials.

Julie Appleton Campbell '85 received the 2015 Linden Heck Howell Outstanding Teaching of Texas History Award from Humanities Texas. She is a teacher in the Eanes Independent School District.

'90s

Rajah Maples-Wallace '97 recently was honored by the Iowa Broadcast News Association with second place in overall excellence in reporting and second and third place in general reporting at the Iowa Broadcast News Association Convention in Johnston, Iowa. Rajah is an anchor, producer and television broadcast journalist for KHQA, a CBS/ABC affiliate in Quincy, Ill.

Kimber Trower Nation '98 changed careers from elementary school teacher and principal (for 13 years) to a financial educator (for five years). She is a registered representative for Ozark National Life and N.I.S. Financial Services. Kimber writes that she has a "wonderful husband and beautiful daughter." She loves serving in her small, rural community of Vandalia, Mo., as her church's VBS director and as a school board member.

'00s

Yvonne Chamberlain '01 recently started Social Butterfly Originals, which is an original, custom and re-design firm that specializes in fashion, jewelry and other home goods. She also has created the Sisters in Support affinity alumnae club, which is a support and networking group for Stephens women of color. Contact Yvonne at stephenscomograd01@gmail.com if you are interested in helping with the advancement of underserved female populations.

Nel Shelby '01 premiered her film *PS DANCE!* about dance education in New York City public schools on WNET/Channel

13 in New York City. She writes that over 18,000 people watched the film, which aims to bring dance into public schools around the nation. It continues to be streamed at www.thirteen.org/specials. The film's host is **Stephens alumna Paula Zahn** and **Jessica Ray '11** also worked on the film. Nel continues to run her company, Nel Shelby Productions, where she specializes in filming dance performances. She is married and has two children.

Rachael Heffner '07 received her certification in hypnosis last April and then started Heffner Hypnosis. She writes: "The graphic design degree I received at Stephens is helping me to create all of my own materials, including my website [HeffnerHypnosis.com]!" Rachael gives presentations on hypnosis and plans to teach self-hypnosis classes.

ShaRhonda Lashaun Brown Hunter '09 married William Hunter on May 15, 2015, in St. Louis. She is an associate designer at Caleres Inc. while he recently graduated from the University of Missouri School of Law and works for the Dickman Law office in St. Louis. **Joi Andrea Richards Barnes '09** served as ShaRhonda's matron

REMEMBRANCES

17, 2015. **Dorothy McBride Duchek '52** of Palm Harbor, Fla.; April 5, 2015. **Joan Hoiles Voorhees '52** of Mount Dora, Fla.; Sept. 1, 2013. **Patricia Smith Wallner '52** of Annandale, Va.; Feb. 23, 2011. **Mary Allison Champion '53** of Sterrett, Ala.; April 1, 2015. **Michelle Weir Davy '53** of Newport Beach, Calif.; Feb. 9, 2015. **Jeanne Cross DeCelles '53** of South Bend, Ind.; April 17, 2015. **Audrey Myers Hunter '53** of Port Orange, Fla.; March 27, 2015. **Mary Koller Semans '53** of Bethesda, Md.; March 8, 2015. **Barbara McClure Spencer '53** of Greenwood, Ind.; April 10, 2015. **Nancy Hayden Waters '53** of Cincinnati; Nov. 4, 2014. **Dawn Adams Bachofer '54** of Oley, Pa.; June 21, 2015. **Elaine Heaney Buddemeyer '54** of Columbia, Mo.; Nov. 11, 2013. **Ann Embury Gouinlock '54** of Alexander, N.Y.; Oct. 29, 2014. **Cynthia Moore '54** of Baytown, Texas; Dec. 6, 2008.

Jane Barton Patrick '54 of Greenville, S.C.; June 21, 2015. **Dorothy Niemann Smith '54** of Florissant, Mo.; Jan. 22, 2015. **Edna McCue Valter '54** of Ridgway, Ill.; Nov. 27, 2014. **Carmen Gates Birkby '55** of Tucson, Ariz.; May 17, 2015. **Gayle Wolff Ford '55** of Encinitas, Calif.; July 10, 2015. **Judith Jewett Barratt '56** of Chicago; April 20, 2015. **Linda Brautigam Ballinger '57** of Naples, Fla.; Feb. 22, 2011. **Barbara Conn Hagen '57** of Miami Beach, Fla.; July 2, 2015. **Lee Lewis-Wu '57** of Scottsdale, Ariz.; April 29, 2015. **Patricia Shoemaker Goolsby '58** of Waco, Texas; April 8, 2015. **Judith Monsen '58** of Miami; July 22, 2010. **Martha Harral Schymik '58** of Hilton Head, S.C.; Nov. 17, 2011. **Susan Tilbrook Sheap '58** of Pittsburgh; Feb. 20, 2015. **Judith Harreld Taylor '58** of Dover, Del.; May 23, 2015. **Sharon Lierheimer Castle '59** of Williamsport, Pa.; May 15, 2015. **Joanne**

Kinney Hodde '59 of Cincinnati; Aug. 6, 2014. **Gretchen Stoltz Steffani '59** of Lodi, Calif.; Jan. 24, 2015.

'60s

Claudia Brooks Harman '60 of Columbus, Ga.; June 22, 2015. **Carol Spaulding Jackson '60** of Placida, Fla.; March 16, 2015. **Sara Lucinda Eggleston Rohrs '60** of Columbia, Mo.; June 24, 2015. **Mary Gann Hudson '61** of Redding, Calif.; July 19, 2012. **Linda King '61** of Lyndhurst, Ohio; April 29, 2015. **Sandra Benz '62** of Fort Wayne, Ind.; July 1, 2015. **Ginger Prince '62** of Brooklyn, N.Y.; May 23, 2015. **Patricia O'Meara Santini '62** of Pacific Grove, Calif.; Aug. 4, 2015. **Christine Webber '62** of Denver; June 8, 2013. **Shirley Shea DeJarnette '63** of Keswick, Va.; Oct. 2, 2015. **Peggy Muckenthaler Albert '64** of Fullerton,

of honor and fellow alumnae **Tina Marie Smith** and **Cassandra Bolden** also attended.

Rachel Henderson '09, a Creative Writing graduate, and **Stephens alumna Elizabeth Elston Shirey**, who earned a theatre degree, co-wrote a two-woman show called *Brene Told Us To*. Rachel and Elizabeth performed the show in June at the Greenhouse Theater Center in Chicago.

'10s

Jessica Church '10 reports that **Joni Ahern '10** has published "Pawn," the first book in The Strategy Series. The pair met at

Stephens as fellow Creative Writing majors and remained friends after Jessica changed her major to graphic design. Jessica writes: "When Joni contacted me to help her with the cover design, internal layout and ebook creation, I couldn't have been happier to help." The book is available on Amazon.

Ann Pfeiffer Wasman '12 married Spencer Wasman on Jan. 10, 2015, in Buffalo, Mo. Ann remembered her grandmother **Elsie Marie Seybt Harrington '44**, who passed away in 2008, by wearing a floral crown that she had worn on her own wedding day. In attendance were **Lauren Maslanik '11**,

Contessa Deffenderfer '11, **Lindsay Iverson '12** and **Victoria Gregerson '12**.

Performing Arts

Stephens alumnus Jay Doolittle appeared this fall as "Candy" in John Steinbeck's *Of Mice And Men* at the Clarence Brown Theatre's Carousel Theatre on the University of Tennessee campus.



Calif.; March 2, 2015. **Bette Pearl Blumenthal '64** of Mountain Brook, Ala.; Feb. 5, 2015. **Carole O'Brien Walega '64** of Ocean Pines, Md.; Feb. 25, 2015. **Melinda Meyer Daniel '65** of Cincinnati; Feb. 1, 2012. **Joan Fotiades '65** of New Orleans; March 6, 2015. **Barbara Babcock Pelc '65** of Nokomis, Fla.; June 10, 2015. **Jane Kutler '67** of Flemingsburg, Ky.; Oct. 22, 2011. **Kay Blitzer Olson '68** of San Francisco; April 29, 2015.

'70s

Nancy Sulcer Kennedy '72 of Mineral City, Ohio; April 4, 2015. **Patricia Smith Ivey '76** of St. Louis; Nov. 8, 2011. **Anne Wakeman Lang '77** of Baton Rouge, La.; July 6, 2015. **Margaret Guran '78** of Harrison Township, Mich.; June 20, 2015. **Anne Bonner Mosley '78** of Fayetteville, Ark.; April 5, 2015.

'80s

Susan Schlegel Gordon '81 of Bardstown, Ky.; July 25, 2015. **JoEllen Keyes '83** of Park City, Utah; Aug. 12, 2015. **Anne Harter '86** of Red Oak, Iowa; May 12, 2015. **Christine Bauer Zucco '89** Sullivan, Mo.; March 16, 2015.

Former Employees of the College

Anne Simrall Bass of Amelia Island, Fla., faculty member; July 19, 2015. **Jayne B. Grant** of Madison, Wis., counselor; June 12, 2015. **William McLeod Newman** of Havertown, Pa., artist-in-residence; May 27, 2015. **Betty Jean Province** of Oak Brook, Ill., secretary to the director of horsemanship; Feb. 22, 2015. **Paul Quinn Topper** of Greenville, N.C., music faculty member; March 8, 2015.

SHARE YOUR NEWS WITH US!

Share whatever is new in your life, whether it's a career move, a new bundle of joy in your family, a special anniversary or recognition of your work. We also want to hear the latest happenings in your local alumnae club or network. High resolution photos (300 dpi) are welcome as well.

Submit your news:

Complete our form (www.stephens.edu/alumnae), email us (alumnae@stephens.edu) or send us a letter (Office of Institutional Advancement and Initiatives, 1200 E. Broadway, Columbia, MO 65215).

**Spring/Summer 2016 issue deadline:
Jan. 15, 2016**

In Memory

Shirley Shea DeJarnette '63

Shirley Shea DeJarnette '63 of Keswick, Va., passed away on Oct. 2, 2015, at the age of 72.

After earning an associate's degree from Stephens, DeJarnette earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Missouri, where she worked as treasurer and chief investment officer for 18 years. During her long career in financial management, DeJarnette also worked for Boatman's Bank, Kraft, Mead Corp. and Chase Manhattan Bank.

DeJarnette was an active alumna. She served as chair of the Stephens College Endowment Foundation, the organization that manages the College's investments. She also served on the Stephens Board of Trustees, chairing the investment subcommittee and serving on the finance committee. DeJarnette was vice chair of the North Central Region Major Gifts Committee for the *Smart, Strong, Savvy ... Stephens* campaign. She also served for one year as secretary of the Northern Chicago Alumnae Club.

DeJarnette was a life member of St. James's Episcopal Church in Richmond and the Country Club of Virginia. She is survived by one daughter.

Helen Froelich Holt '32

Helen Froelich Holt '32 of Boca Raton, Fla., the first woman to hold statewide office in West Virginia, passed away on July 12, 2015, at the age of 101.

After completing her associate's degree at Stephens, Holt went on to earn bachelor's and master's degrees in zoology from Northwestern University. Holt taught biology at National Park College in Maryland before marrying former U.S. Sen. Rush D. Holt and starting a family. When her husband passed away at the age of 49, Holt finished his term in West Virginia's House of Delegates. She was then appointed Secretary of State. In that position, she attracted the attention of President Dwight Eisenhower, who later appointed her to a new Federal Housing Administration program to set standards for long-term care facilities. She would go on to be re-appointed by six U.S. presidents.

Holt remained connected to Stephens over the years, earning the Alumnae Achievement Award in 1959. Most recently, she was involved in restoration of the historic President's Home on campus. Holt was featured in the Spring/Summer 2015 issue of *Beyond Stephens* magazine.

She is survived by son Rush Holt and his wife, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Virginia Ruth Kilpatrick Shehee '42

Virginia Ruth Kilpatrick Shehee '42, the first woman elected to the Louisiana State Senate, passed away on July 6, 2015, at the age of 91.

After attending Stephens, Shehee earned a bachelor's degree from Centenary College of Louisiana, where she later served as a trustee.

After World War II, Shehee spent time in Germany, where she worked for the American Red Cross. She returned to Shreveport, and she and her husband led Kilpatrick Life Insurance Company. After serving in the state senate, Shehee remained active in the community. *The Shreveport Times* dubbed her the "matriarch" of Shreveport.

She is survived by four children and four grandchildren.

Tributes

Memorials to the Stephens Fund in the name of **Shirley Shea DeJarnette '63, Helen Froelich Holt '32** or **Virginia Ruth Kilpatrick Shehee '42** may be made to: Stephens College Office of Institutional Advancement and Initiatives, 1200 E. Broadway, Columbia, MO, 65215.

Correction

In the Spring/Summer 2015 *Beyond Stephens*, the story on longtime faculty member Brett Prentiss included the incorrect date in which the Macklanburg Playhouse burned down. The Playhouse burned in 1980 and reopened in 1984. We apologize for the error.

Club Notes

Denver Area Alumnae

Kathy Stolte Sherrod '71 and her husband, Robert, hosted lemonade and cookies at their home in Estes Park, Colo., before Colorado-area students **Ella Shirk '19** and **Ayanna Smith '19** departed for campus in August.

Pictured front row (L-to-R): Melita Smith, mother of Ayanna Smith '19; Deborah Conard Baldwin '77; Ella Shirk '19; Esla Miner, mother of Ella Shirk '19.

Pictured back row (L-to-R): Kathy Stolte Sherrod '71, Stephens alumna Jaye McPherson, Ayanna Smith '19, Claire Futter Beesley '67, Wardlee Smith Meyer '62.



LA Women for Stephens

LA Women for Stephens has focused on recruiting young Stephens graduates who arrive in L.A. and want to meet other alumnae.

Jennifer Nitzband Flaks '03 has kept communication flowing with regular posts—from news about networking opportunities, job postings and small social gatherings—on the group's Facebook page. Jennifer and **Shelley Blessing Bay '80** also are reaching out to local interns from the College.

Several club members supported the kick-off of the new Stephens M.F.A. in TV and Screenwriting program by joining the 2015 Society "angels" to provide funding for activities during the intensive 10-day first session in August.

In other news, the group is proud of member **Toni Leach Reinis '67**, who received the 2015 Stephens Alumnae Achievement Award at *Celebrate Stephens* in April.

"We celebrate and thank you for your lifetime of community service," says **Jane Cunningham Bensussen '65**, club coordinator.

Pictured top right (L-to-R): Jane Cunningham Bensussen '65 and Toni Leach Reinis '67.

Pictured bottom right (L-to-R): Shelley Blessing Bay '80, Andrea Genteman '05, Andrea Rutherford '04.



New California Network

Stephens alumnae in the San Francisco Bay area are launching a new alumnae network. For information about **Silicon Valley Women for Stephens**, please contact **Billie Jones Moffit '72** at (650) 322-3225 or moffb@earthlink.net, or **Karen Deiwert Jason '73** at (650) 224-3123 or kwina@aol.com.

Join your local group!

Find the group nearest you, or register your own group, on our new alumnae website, www.stephens.edu/alumnae. Click on "Alumnae Groups."

Cincinnati Area Alumnae

Cincinnati Area alumnae attended a reception in the penthouse home of **Mady Hirsch Gordon '65** in early June. Stephens alumnae enjoyed cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and reminiscing together. Chris Rigby, director of philanthropy at Stephens, also gave an update on the College.

Pictured (L-to-R): Carol Stevens Trainor '72, Jan Frankel '72, Margi Bobrink Hardigg '63, Pam Gordon Thomas '73, Carol O'Reilly '72, Mady Hirsch Gordon '65.



Dallas Alumnae Club

The Stephens College Dallas Alumnae Club continues to hold monthly "lunch bunch" meetings, which keep members connected. In March, Stephens alumnae toured the new Parkland Hospital before it officially opened, an opportunity made possible by **Marti Howe '91**. They saw firsthand the amazing technology the hospital has installed. Later in the spring, the club enjoyed a presentation by Dallas-based fragrance designer Niven Morgan. His good friend, Royal Chef Darren McGrady, author of the "Eating Royally" cookbook, catered their lunch. Club President **Susan Schmidt '67** says, "He regaled us with lots of behind-the-scenes royal stories," as he was Princess Diana's personal chef.

In May, **Susan Erickson Ingram '80** welcomed Stephens alumnae to her design studio and workroom. Her company, Helena & Harry IV Co., designs and makes children's clothing. Stephens alumnae received a first look at the ensemble that Susan is sending to baby Princess Charlotte in England. At their June luncheon, guest speaker Doug Box, the son of the original owner of the Southfork Ranch—where the popular television series *Dallas* was filmed—showed videos and told stories about growing up on the ranch and the filming of the show.

Pictured (L-to-R): Dallas alumnae toured the new Parkland Hospital before its opening in August.



“Our lunch bunch meets each month, which keeps us connected with each other, and this year, several alumnae have joined us who we haven't seen for a while!”

—Susan Schmidt '67

Alumnae Club of Greater Washington

In March, during the 150th anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's assassination, members of the Stephens College Alumnae Club of Greater Washington ventured to southern Maryland for a tour of the plantation of Dr. Samuel Mudd, the doctor who set John Wilkes Booth's broken leg after the shooting at Ford's Theater. The question continues to remain as to whether Mudd was part of a larger conspiracy to kill the president. Following the presentation, the group dined on a Civil War era-inspired fare at nearby Truman's Place. In May, Stephens alumnae gathered at the Virginia home of **Meghan Thomas Stone '92** for their bi-annual silent auction, which included jewelry, wine, ceramics, tours of art galleries, and a child's dress, donated by the Dallas Alumnae Club. Shawn Poore, director of philanthropy at Stephens, gave a report of new programs and innovations occurring at the College.



Phoenix Alumnae

Last fall, the Phoenix alumnae group enjoyed a champagne brunch and book signing with **Stephens alumna Dawn Wells** at the Hyatt Regency Resort in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Pictured front row (L-to-R): Wendy Lindrud Bissonett '80, Georgeann Byrd Tompkins '52, Stephens alumna Dawn Wells, Connie McMillin '59.

Middle row (L-to-R): Eileen Sullivan '94, Bridget Peter '11, Lucy Logsdon Lorenzen '48, Lynn Kalabza Vogel '48, Mary Jo Morton Bobbe '50, Marlene Odegard '59, Jan Fulton Sylvia '56, Sallye Brown Schumacher '69.

Back row (L-to-R): Stephens alumnus Michael Quevli, Leanna Davies '49, Helene Wheaton Wheeler '54, Allison Wheeler O'Shea '86, Evelyn Bower Price '57, Dawna Schoeneman Wright '60.



Kansas City Clubs

In July, the Kansas City Luncheon Club and Kansas City 1833 Club partnered to throw an ice cream party for incoming Stephens students from the Kansas City area. The "Journey to Stephens Ice Cream Social" was held at the Highland Villas Club House in Leawood, Kan.

Pictured right (L-to-R): Rebecca Earp '86, Susan Story Lord '52 and Diane Hunter Robertson '86.

Pictured bottom (L-to-R): Davielle Swinson-Spears '19, Emily Hatfield '19, Shanna Buschmann '19, Joleen Rosario '19, Victoria Patrick '19, Heather Manning '18, Ashley Kennedy '19, Amber Steinwachs '19.



Columbus Area Alumnae

Columbus Area alumnae attended a reception at the home of **Cindy Mushrush '74** in Upper Arlington, Ohio, in late July. She and her husband, Randy, provided convivial surroundings and an array of refreshments for the group that included **Holly Chapman '78, Susan Kuck Fantz '73, Anne Reed Gibson '69, Leslie Ann Golan '77** and **Mary Ann Krauss '57**. Chris Rigby, director of philanthropy at Stephens, spoke to the alumnae as well.

"The reverberating theme from the attendees was that going to Stephens really prepared each and every one of us to know we could be highly successful, strong women," Cindy says. "I was blown away by how remarkable these women are."

St. Louis Alumnae Club

On May 28, the St. Louis Alumnae Club met at the Resale Shop, an organization run by the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW). The shop's manager and **Jessica Means '08** described the service work that the NCJW does locally—

everything from collecting clothing and school supplies for children to helping widowed women make their transition in life to helping women through domestic violence situations.

In addition, Chris Rigby, director of philanthropy at Stephens, gave the group of 19 attendees an update "on the latest direction that Stephens is taking to grow and stay relevant in today's world." Alumnae enjoyed sharing favorite memories of their time at Stephens and then the group shopped in the Resale Shop with a special discount.

Those in attendance (listed in order of class year): Marty Limbert O'Leary '48, Judith Kieling Martin '63, Pam Lloyd Comello '72, Rachel Perri Covington '72, Dana Holtzman Pohlman '77, Sari Chervitz Neudorf '78, Barbara Kandel Shapiro '79, Edna Burke Pearlstein '80, Betsy Barenholtz Rudolph '80, Jennifer Simms Heyl '82, Claudia Simms Riley '86, Lisa Crump Greer '87, Cara Stratman Knox '97, Beth Gummersheimer Pembrey '03, Emily Starr '03, Jessica Means '08, Leah Shepard '12, Jessica Bock '14, Megan Edwards '14.

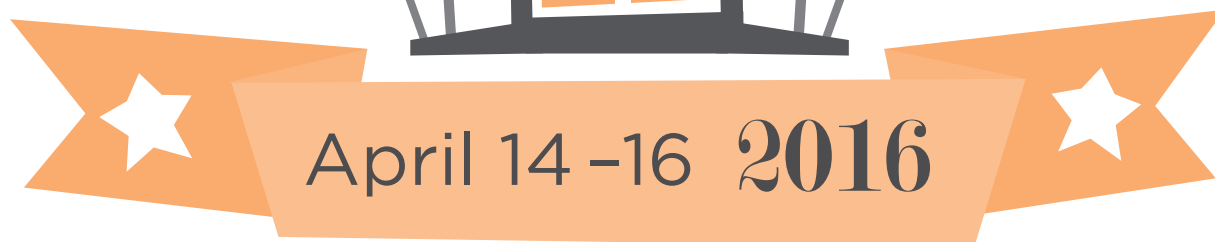
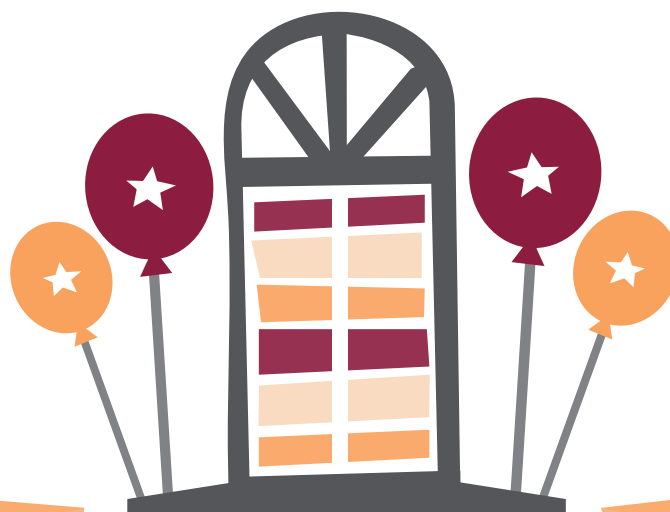
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