

Footprints

Casper College Alumni Magazine

Winter 2013



Footprints

A publication of the Casper College Alumni Association

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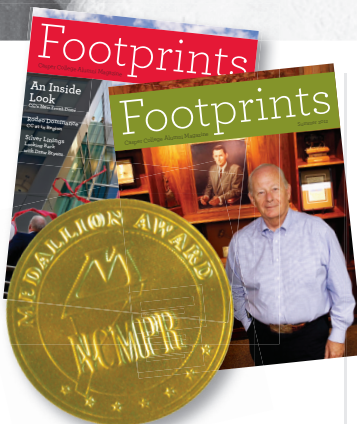


Cover Image

Tom McCarthy, Townsquare Media



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Footprints Magazine received a Gold Medallion of Excellence from Region IV of the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations at the organization's annual conference in Little Rock, Arkansas in October 2012. This marks the second consecutive year the magazine was judged to be the best in the region, which includes Arkansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Wyoming.

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Casper College Alumni Magazine



Alumni Association President Kevin Bromley ('77) visits the construction site of the Casper College Student Union and University of Wyoming/ Casper College Center.

From the Alumni Association President

Dear Friends and Fellow Alums,

This issue of Footprints was almost ready for the printer when November 30 dawned on Casper College. Even as that day was drawing to its terrible conclusion, and in the state of confusion we all shared, it was clear that this issue of the magazine would soon be about something very different.

An enormous thank you to everyone who took a moment to pause and remember all that Casper College means to us after the heartbreaking loss we suffered. Whether you were near or far from Casper and from your time here, I am sure that your heart ached for our alma mater. As offers of support and condolences streamed in from around the country and from around

the world, I again knew that our college is a very special place because of the very special people who love it. The loss of Heidi Arnold and James "Jim" Krumm diminishes our community and was especially painful in a season where we move toward hope. Casper College counseling staff, assisted by counselors from the community and student organizations such as Campus Ventures, reached out to students, faculty and staff during the weeks that followed.

Many people have asked about a way to connect with the larger college community in the face of this tragic event. If you were a student of either Jim or Heidi and you wish to share a memory about the impact they had on your life, you can do that on

the Casper College Alumni Association Facebook page. It's also a very good place to visit and share a memory of any other instructors who positively impacted your life. The Soren Kierkegaard quote, "Life can only be understood backwards, but must be lived forwards" reminds me that we often do not recognize the gifts we received from our instructors until after we've used our education. Take this opportunity and say thanks to someone who made a difference in your life.

Kevin Bromley ('77)

President
Casper College Alumni Association, 2011-13

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Let us know if you are receiving duplicate copies of Footprints.





Casper College's Darkest Day

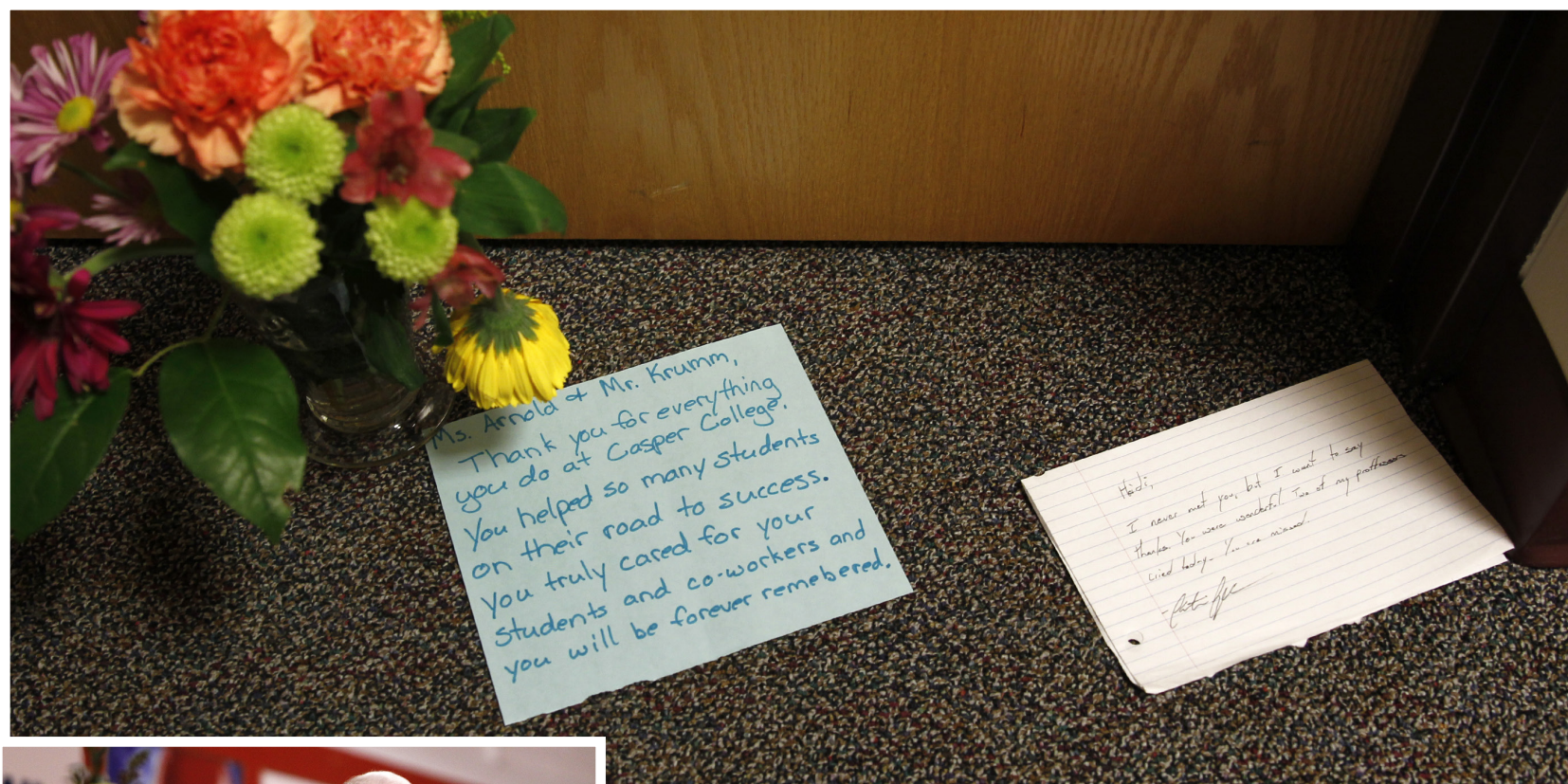
November 30, 2012 will forever be remembered as the darkest day in CC history

The lives of faculty members Jim Krumm and Heidi Arnold were taken on that morning. And the lives of many family members, students, faculty, staff and so many others were forever altered.

The incident was covered in media worldwide. No attempt will be made on

these pages to cover the particulars of the incidents that have caused so much pain in the college community. Instead, this edition of Footprints is dedicated to the memory of Jim and Heidi, as well as the Casper College community as it continues to heal.





We Move on Together...

“In the tragic moments that have brought us here today, I ask that we remember we are a college family that supports each other as students, faculty, employees, and friends. This tragedy will not define who we are ... but how we move on together from this point will demonstrate the true strength and outstanding institution that we are ... Casper College.”

*Walter H. Nolte, Ph.D.
President, Casper College*



1.



2.



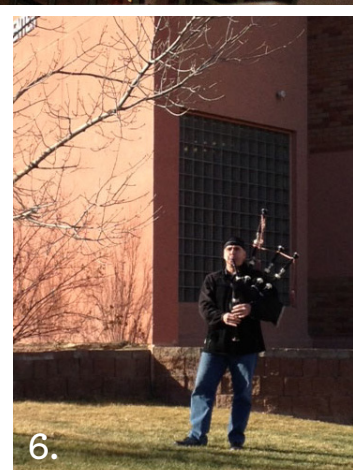
3.



4.



5.



6.

1. & 4. Students, alumni, co-workers and friends of the college submitted thoughts about and recollections of Jim and Heidi through notes left outside office doors, on posters, through the college Facebook page and other social media, via email and letters at the memorial service (4), and at an open-mic session.

2. Flowers sent to campus in memory of Jim and Heidi and photos of the couple during happy times were displayed around the college's Foucault Pendulum in the Wold Physical Science Center following the memorial service.

3. Coworkers, students and friends of Heidi and Jim gathered at a Memorial Assembly on Tuesday, Dec. 4 in Thunderbird Gymnasium.

5. 2012 Casper College graduate Daryl Andes describes the life-changing impact that Jim Krumm's friendship

and teaching had on his life. Standing with Daryl is Nicolette Hanson, Student Senate President, who presented student remarks on Heidi Arnold's impact.

6. On the Monday following the tragedy, Physics Instructor Paul Marquard played *Amazing Grace* on the bagpipes outside Wold Physical Science Center.

7. Music Department co-chair Jennifer Cowell accompanied the Casper College Collegiate Chorale, led by Dr. Pat Patton (in silhouette at left) during the Memorial Assembly.

8. Within two hours after the lockdown of campus had ended, a number of faculty, staff, and students that remained on campus gathered in the Gateway Building in a session closed to media to hear the latest information about the tragedy.



7.



8.

In Memoriam:

Heidi Arnold

Excerpts from remarks at memorial assembly by Maya Russell, political science instructor and friend of Heidi Arnold

Heidi Arnold was our friend. Our teacher. Heidi was raised in Sacramento, California. She earned mathematics degrees from the University of California, Davis and the University of Oregon. Heidi was the ultimate smart hippie chick.

She was a pacifist with a rebellious spirit. She adored John Lennon, the smart Beatle. One of Lennon's famous quotes states, "When I was 5-years-old, my mother told me that happiness was the key to life. When I went to school, they asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up. I wrote down 'happy.' They told me I didn't understand the assignment, and I told them they didn't understand life."

Heidi understood life. She lived life. Heidi constantly sought adventure. She loved to travel. Just last semester, she spent her sabbatical term exploring the shores and mountains of Hawaii.

When walking along the Platte River Parkway, she would never let us take the paved road; instead, we walked along the dirt track

that hugged the river. Heidi loved literature. While walking we pondered facts like why doesn't Casper have a Barnes & Noble? Likely Casper was too small. That wasn't sufficient for Heidi. She, in turn, wrote to Barnes & Noble and demanded an answer and informed them of the beautiful little quiet town of Casper, Wyo., and the fact that they were missing out.

Jim was the rock that Heidi had been searching for all those years. He was kind, gentle. He adored Heidi. Even though Jim was unable to travel to Hawaii with Heidi, she knew he would be at home eagerly awaiting her return. Because Casper was home.

What Heidi loved most, besides Jim of course, was music. It was common for Jim and Heidi to invite friends over to BBQ and hang out in their beautiful backyard. You should note that Heidi could grill lamb better than any Australian I've ever met – which is a heck of a compliment. Heidi and Jim invited their friends to get out their guitars and join them in music and song. Heidi had a beautiful voice.

Here at Casper College, we are blessed. We are lucky. Casper College cares. The teachers like teaching. Heidi loved teaching. She cared deeply for her students. She somehow managed to make mathematics enjoyable and understandable.

So students – here is Heidi's final homework assignment for your winter break:

1. Read a great book;
2. Get outside and find a winter outdoor activity that you love;
3. Listen to and discover your favorite Beatles song.

On a sunny day in Casper, Jim and Heidi could be found sailing their boat out at Alcova (Lake) with friends. When I picture Heidi, I can smile. I see her relaxing and sunning herself on the deck of Jim's boat, guitar in hand, strumming a tune and singing aloud "All we are saying is give peace a chance."



1970-2012

Heidi Arnold was a mathematics instructor at Casper College. She began working at Casper College on August 18, 2003. Prior to that she was a graduate teaching fellow in the University of Oregon mathematics department.

A California native, Heidi earned a bachelor of science in mathematics from the University of California, Davis, and a master of science in mathematics from the University of Oregon in 2003.

Her stated objective in her curriculum vitae was, "To have the opportunity to teach mathematics to students of all backgrounds, learning styles, and abilities; to help them to overcome math anxiety; and to help develop the problem-solving skills necessary for their college careers."

Locally, Heidi volunteered for the Boys and Girls Club, Seton House, and Meals on Wheels, and in her spare time she enjoyed backpacking,

hiking, skiing, bicycling, playing the guitar, and musical theatre.

*When all mankind has ceased to fight
I'll raise my head in thanks each night
For this rich Earth and all it means
For golden days and peaceful dreams*

Excerpt from Heidi's favorite song,
If I Were Free, by Peter, Paul & Mary

In Memoriam:

James “Jim” Krumm (’01)

Excerpts from remarks at memorial assembly by Jared Bowden, physics instructor and friend of Jim Krumm

Today, I have the honor of giving you a brief look into the life of Mr. James Krumm. Jim, as he was known to most of us, had many attributes that made him a special person to each and every one of us. Whether it was his dedication to making all of his students feel unique, the belief he showed in his fellow man, or even just seeing him after he had returned from a sailing excursion in Florida, unshaven for the past month, looking like a tanned, computer savvy Santa Claus, Jim will be remembered by all of us in many different ways. Today, we are here to celebrate his life.

He was an individual who was easy to know, but almost impossible to know well. I had the pleasure working with Jim in the school of science. I served on committees with him, co-advised students and attended

conference meetings with Jim across the state. I had hiked mountains, sailed the day away, and even sang a Simon and Garfunkle duet with Jim at one of his house parties. Jim gave his all in his personal and professional life, and I am proud to have called him my friend.

Jim was a special individual, one who always believed in the good of other people, whether it be his students, his peers, or his family. He wanted others to enjoy their time on Earth as much as he did, not focusing on the negatives that usually drag us down. I would like to share the comments of Andrew Young, a colleague of Jim’s in the school of science:

“We all have stories about Jim. Climbing a mountain to just feel a sense of awe at our world. Or sailing with Jim on his sailboat,

where the trivial matters of the world melt away, allowing us to focus on the positives in our lives. Or even just sitting with Jim, in his classroom, as he explained with tireless detail the nuances of the newest Windows release that we may or may not have initially cared about, but sitting there with him, his passion unbounded, we started to care. That was Jim.

“Jim, unfortunately, has been taken from us too soon. But he would want us to move forward, looking for the good that is in all of us; to not look at the negatives but to look at the positives of all of his great adventures in life. Jim, I hope as you are sailing to your next port of call, it brings you to adventures you had never imagined. You will be missed, but you will be in our hearts always. Thank you for the times we shared.”



1956-2012

Jim Krumm was Casper College’s department head of computer science. He began working at Casper College on August 19, 2002. Prior to that he was a computer science and math teacher at Natrona County High School.

Jim was born north of London, and also spent part of his childhood in Germany. He earned a bachelor of science in secondary science and a master of business administration from the University of Wyoming and a master of computer science degree from Colorado State

University. He also earned an associate of science degree from Casper College.

Accolades for Jim’s teaching abilities have been common for many years. In October, 2011, Jim was named the Phi Theta Kappa TLC (Terrific Learning Coach) for the month. At the May 2012 graduation ceremonies, Jim was named as the 2011-2012 TLC of the year. The TLC is selected monthly during the fall and spring semesters by members of the college’s Phi Theta Kappa organization. An honors

organization, PTK members submit names and vote on the instructor from submitted names.

Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn’t do than by the ones that you did. So throw off the bowlines, sail away from the safe harbor, catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.

Jim’s favorite quote, commonly attributed to Mark Twain. This quote was displayed outside Jim’s office.

Alumni News

Tell Us Who's Really Special

The Casper College Alumni Association Board of Directors is seeking nominees for the Distinguished Alumnus Award and for the Commitment to Excellence Award. Past Distinguished Alumni honorees include: former Vice President Dick Cheney, pediatric A.I.D.S. researcher Stephen W. Nicholas, M.D., and Casper businessman, Henry (Hank) True. Nominees for Distinguished Alumnus must have contributed extensively to his or her professional, philanthropic, or humanitarian work.

A second award, the Commitment to Excellence Award honors those who have given exemplary service to and

have made a significant difference in the growth and development of Casper College. Past recipients include former Casper College faculty and staff members, as well as community members who have served the college.

To nominate someone for either of these awards, please submit a nomination letter to: Casper College Alumni Association, 125 College Drive, Casper, WY 82601 or alumni@caspercollege.edu. Visit caspercollege.edu/alumni for a listing of past recipients. The deadline for nominations is March 11, 2013, and nominees for both awards must be living at the time of nomination.



Highlights from the 2012 Autumn Gala

1. Hank True ('63), 2013 Distinguished Alumnus and Paul Hallock ('65), 2013 Commitment to Excellence winner.
2. Kevin Bromley, alumni board president checks out the "Mystery Bags."
3. Lea Schoenewald ('72), alumni board member and Paulann Doane, foundation executive director.
4. Scott Wells and Thea True-Wells get ready for the balloon pop.
5. Pat Patton and the Casper College Men's Choir entertain gala attendees.



Alumni Board Supports Campus Projects

For a second year, the Casper College Alumni Board designated a portion of its funds to support campus grants. Piloted in 2011, the board gave Casper College President Walter Nolte \$5,000 to be used for projects that fell outside of the college's innovative grant program, but were still worthy of funding. The board doubled the funds to \$10,000 in 2012. The funds have paid for frames to display photographs of all the Casper College nursing classes and also for prize money for the Casper College Speaks competition, an event where students presented their own original research and writing, developed in response to a class assignment or

presentation. Other initiatives supported by the grant funds include faculty foreign exchange opportunities, professional development support, and the costs associated with restoring a 1950 Chevrolet Pan Van featuring a custom CC paint job. The alumni board also affirmed its commitment to support the Vision... Campus... Community Campaign. Thanks to the generosity of Dick and Linda Wheeler, contributions will be doubled, dollar for dollar, up to \$1,000,000. Funds that are raised through alumni contributions to this campaign will result in a naming opportunity that recognizes the commitment alumni have to Casper College.



Alumni Association Announces Scholarship Winners

The Casper College Alumni Association has announced the recipients for the 2012-2013 Outstanding Student Scholarship. Two nontraditional-aged students were each awarded \$3,000 to be divided equally between the fall and spring semesters.



Alan Corey, an engineering major at Casper College, received his engineering degree in December 2012 and will earn a degree in physics in May 2013. Corey plans "to transfer



to the University of North Dakota to finish my bachelor's degree. At that point once I have taken any required test in order to become an official civil engineer, my plan is to pursue my master's degree at Colorado State University and maybe even my doctorate." Corey is a graduate of Natrona County High School in Casper.

Zechariah Thornton is a computer science major, and would "also like to graduate with a mathematics degree (from

Casper College). After I graduate I (hope) to attend the University of Wyoming and earn a bachelor's degree in computer science along with a degree for computer networking." A graduate of Roosevelt High School in Casper, Thornton noted that he would like "to work in the computer science field within Wyoming, if possible, upon completion of my education."

The Alumni Association Outstanding Student Scholarship recognizes high academic achievement, leadership qualities, and community involvement, with academic achievement the highest selection criterion for the scholarship. Financial need is also taken into consideration.

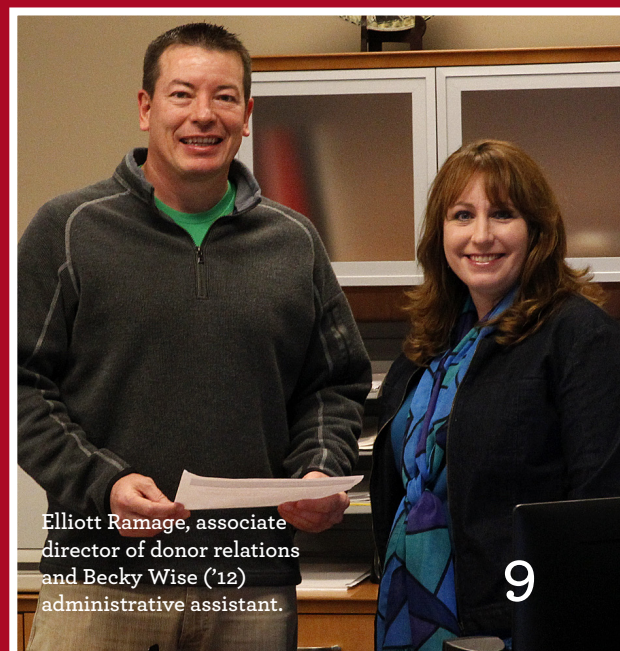
Fresh Faces in the Foundation Office

There are two new faces in the Casper College Foundation Office. **Elliott Ramage** joined the staff on September 5, 2012 as associate director of donor relations, after serving as a Casper College admissions representative. Before joining Casper College, Ramage worked in marketing at both Casper television stations, KCWY and KTWO and for AT&T Media Services. He is also very active with the Platte River Parkway Trust and many other local organizations.

Becky Wise ('12) is the new administrative assistant. Wise graduated from Casper College this past spring with a degree in office management with a certificate in software support, and brings a very up-to-date skill set to the foundation team. She was an

electronic commerce specialist for OfficeMax in Casper for many years with extensive experience in customer service and training. She replaces Jan Dalgarno ('81), who left her position as executive assistant to the foundation and is now executive assistant to college President Walter Nolte.

"I'm delighted to have the enthusiasm and new perspectives that Becky and Elliott each offer. I really appreciate Jan Dalgarno's years of service to the foundation and know that she will continue to serve the college well," said Paulann Doane, executive director of the foundation. The two other members of the foundation staff are Denise Bressler ('84), chief financial officer and Linda Nix, associate director of alumni relations.



Elliott Ramage, associate director of donor relations and **Becky Wise** ('12) administrative assistant.

Campus News

CC Student Recognized with \$10,000 Cash Award



Casper College geology major **Annette Hein** was awarded a third prize in the New Frontiers in Astronomy and Cosmology International Grant and Essay Competition. One of five third prize winners, Hein received a cash award of \$10,000 and an invitation to participate, all expenses paid, in both an awards ceremony and the Conference of Award Winners at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia this past October. Her winning essay was entitled: "The Observer's Eye: Human Attitudes are the Other Side of Complexity."

"College students were invited to submit essays addressing the question 'What is the origin of the complexity in the universe,'" said Julia Brazas, program coordinator for the New Cosmic Frontiers International Science Essay Competition on the Nature of Our Universe and its Habitats. "The competition awarded over \$4 million in research grants to 20 scientists and

over \$200K to 21 student essayists worldwide," noted Brazas.

Hein, the only community college student to be awarded, was joined by scientists and other students at the joint conference in Philadelphia to present their winning proposals and essays. "A lot of the presentations were way over my head, but it was fun anyway," said Hein.

"The unique thing about (this conference) was bringing together the scientists who won grant awards through a joint competition with the student essay winners. They spent two days together and really did mingle and talk with each other – it was quite amazing," noted Brazas.

Hein, who is president of the Casper College Geology Club and secretary of the college's Phi Theta Kappa chapter, plans to transfer to the University of Wyoming following graduation.

Annette Hein, center, is joined by Nobel Prize Winner Charles Townes (emeritus professor of physics, University of California, Berkeley) on the left and Dr. John M. Templeton, Jr. (president and chairman of the John Templeton Foundation) on the right. Hein wears a mask due to sensitivities to indoor air contaminants. (Photo Credit: Michael Branscom)

CC Health Science School Awarded \$2 Million Plus Grant to be used to create a high-fidelity simulation lab

The Casper College School of Health Science has been awarded \$2,305,079 by the United States Department of Labor.

The money, spread over a three-year period, will be used to create a multi-discipline simulation lab that will allow students and instructors from all eight health science programs in the school to participate. "The new lab will have four simulation beds and will be set up to resemble an actual hospital setting," said Tammy Frankland, school of health science dean.

Each bed will contain a mannequin-based simulator. "In the past, due to cost restrictions, the school of health science has only been able to purchase basic simulation mannequins. With this grant we will now be able to purchase mannequins that not only simulate breathing sounds, heart sounds, and pulses, but nearly anything that might occur in a real patient including blinking, eye dilation, and

life-threatening occurrences such as heart attacks, severe allergic reactions, breathing difficulties, drug interactions (the mannequins will be able to be given more than 200 different drugs), and more," Frankland noted.

The mannequins provide an important learning opportunity for students, and they can provide important training previously only available with an actual patient. "The ability to simulate a variety of health situations, including serious health complications, will provide students with a learning experience that can not only be discipline specific, but will also allow for interdisciplinary teams of students to work together," noted Frankland.

The interdisciplinary focus is unique, and there are few, if any, community colleges providing an interdisciplinary opportunity to students in the health sciences.

Lab completion is set for the 2014 spring semester.



Students work on a simulator mannequin.

College Receives \$1 Million Match Pledge

The Casper College Foundation has received a \$1 million match pledge from Dick and Linda Wheeler of Casper. The pledge is focused on attracting matching gifts from professionals and businesses that haven't yet participated.

The Wheelers, long-time supporters of college development projects, hope to encourage businesses who have benefited from hiring Casper College graduates to join them in supporting the current Vision...Campus...Community Capital Campaign.

"The Wheelers and the foundation board are especially hopeful that those whose businesses have benefited from Casper College will help us in this endeavor. Wyoming Machinery, a company that Mr. Wheeler was once president and CEO of, took advantage of the work professions taught up here," said Paulann Doane, executive director of the foundation.

Indeed, Casper College provides the community, state, and region with well-trained students who are able to step into the workforce upon graduation into a variety of fields including business, health, pre-professional careers, (law, medicine, dentistry, etc.), and industry. A sampling of three Casper College programs reveals that many program graduates are able to find gainful employment in their chosen field in the Casper market.

Ninety-five percent of the college's electronics majors go into the workforce right out of the two-year program, while five percent go on to a four-year college. One hundred percent of the robotics technology majors go to work upon graduation, with all graduates working for companies based out of Casper.

The School of Health Science at Casper College provides some of the largest numbers of graduates finding jobs not only in Casper, but statewide as well. In a nine-month survey conducted by the Casper College Nursing Department in 2010, 32 of 43 graduates responded, and all were employed in nursing. A conservative estimate puts the number of nursing graduates working in Casper at between 80 and 85 percent, with the others working in other Wyoming towns and a few leaving to work in other states.

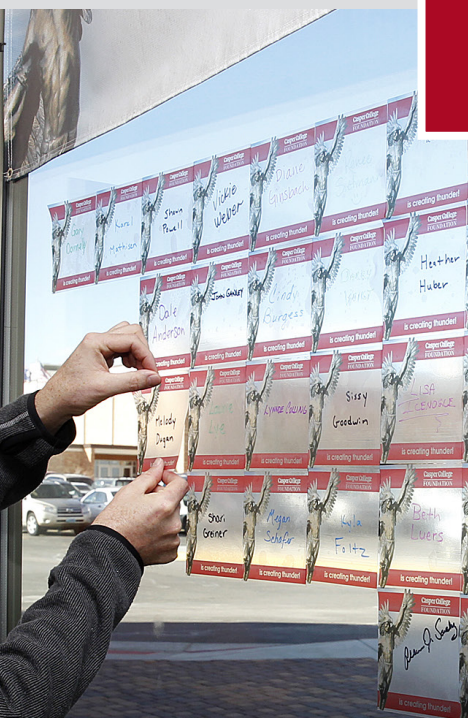
An interesting corollary to the nursing department figures is the fact that 31 of the 32 respondents, or 97 percent, said that they were pursuing advanced degrees. It is realistic to assume that the majority of these nurses are working in Casper and are pursuing their education through distance education.

"The Casper College Foundation has been asked to assist with raising the remaining funding necessary to complete the first phase

of the college's master plan. Our board of directors has set a goal of \$10 million to be raised through private fundraising efforts. More than \$7 million has been raised, and with the success of this generous matching challenge presented by the Wheelers, we hope to raise another \$2 million toward our \$10 million goal," said Doane.



Elliott Ramage, foundation associate director of donor relations, hangs donor acknowledgments in the Gateway Building.



To participate in the match challenge contact Paulann Doane at 307-268-2684 or pdoane@caspercollege.edu.





Tangney Gray-Dockham, D.V.M. ('06)

She still remembers the day the family's six-month-old puppy was taken to Popish Vet Clinic in Casper. She was five years old. The puppy had become paralyzed. "He must have been born with a birth defect," she recalls. "But at that time there was nothing that could be done to save him. I so badly wished that there was more that we could do."

As she grew older, she began to understand that what had happened that day at the vet clinic had kindled within her a desire to help animals. "I have loved animals all my life, but I began to develop an interest in the medical and scientific aspect of animal care. Every day is challenging, like putting together a puzzle, because the animals don't talk," says Dr. Tangney (tang-knee) Gray-Dockham.

Small Animal G.P., with a Side of Birds





Today Gray-Dockham is part owner of Altitude Veterinary Hospital, formerly Popish Vet Clinic. It was just 10 years ago that she first volunteered to help out at the vet clinic during the summer of 2003. She had just graduated from Natrona County High School at the top of her class and was going to begin her college career at Casper College that fall.

Gray-Dockham's parents had always been clients at Popish, so she was familiar with the clinic and Dr. Steve Popish, who accepted her offer to volunteer at the clinic. While volunteering two days a week at the clinic, she also continued to work at Aquatics and Critters, (at the time a pet store in Casper), where she had first started working approximately four years earlier. During that first summer she helped clean the clinic and also watched and became familiar with animal handling. After about a year Popish offered her a job as a veterinary assistant. "I took it, left Aquatics and Critters, and worked 25 to 30 hours a week at the clinic while attending Casper College fulltime.

Gray-Dockham admits the biggest reason she chose to attend Casper College was because of the location. "I wasn't ready to leave home and the Casper area. But I also knew that because of the smaller class sizes there would be a better student to instructor ratio. The education I got at Casper College really was quality," she notes. "Classes were adequately in depth and detail to prepare me for a professional veterinary program. The people in the biology department knew me, and Jim Milek and Will Robinson were very helpful. But truly I didn't have a bad instructor at CC, that's for sure." She graduated from Casper College in May of 2006 with an associate's in biology. "I took the pre-vet track," she explains.

Gray-Dockham knew that she did not have to have a bachelor's degree to get into veterinary school, but also knew that it would be harder to get in without one. So she had a back-up plan: "I wanted to get into vet

school as soon as I could, so I applied to get in, (to Colorado State University's College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences), with the idea that if I didn't get in I could work on my bachelor's through the University of Wyoming/Casper College Center." Indeed, Gray-Dockham did take a number of UW/CC Center classes while attending Casper College.

Happily, though, she was one of three students without a bachelor's degree to be accepted into the CSU veterinary program for the fall of 2006. That year 1500 applied, while only about 130 were accepted into the program.

"I went to CSU with no specialization in mind. I decided on the general program, because I liked everything and wanted to work on everything," she says, adding, "Casper is not big enough to support a specialization." Gray-Dockham did take a track with small animals, but not as a specialty. "I thought that all my rotations were cool, and since I stayed general I could do a little bit of everything." She did, however, take electives that specialized in birds and other exotics. It was during her time at the pet store that she developed her interest in birds. "I'm a small animal general practitioner who sees birds," she says with a smile.

During her time at CSU, Gray-Dockham would work at Popish over the holidays, and in general "hang out there. It was a good balance to see hands on what I was learning at school, and I liked the atmosphere there." Obviously Popish liked having her "hang out" at the clinic and during her first year of vet school offered her a job as a veterinarian at the clinic after she graduated from CSU. "That took a lot of stress off my senior year – I didn't have to think about looking for a job and could concentrate on passing the boards,

which was my biggest concern. I always wanted to come back to Casper," she adds.

In May of 2010, Gray-Dockham graduated from CSU cum laude.

After two and a half years at Altitude Veterinary Hospital Gray-Dockham still thinks everything is "really cool. I especially like soft-tissue surgery and interesting cases."

She points to her "proudest case" a basset hound that had septic peritonitis and bladder stones, and also turned out to be infected with MRSA. "There was a little bit of panic when I found out that, in addition to her other problems, she was infected with MRSA. We had to get intense with bio-security measures, which took the case to a whole other level of care." The dog ended

up in critical care for a week. "I saw her recently, nine months out, and she has no stones, clear urine. We were able to pull her through a MRSA infection in her kidneys," she says proudly. The case is also a perfect example of why

Gray-Dockham probably won't specialize – "everything is still so interesting to me," she notes.

In addition to her busy professional life, she has a busy home life. In 2008, halfway through vet school, Gray-Dockham married her ninth-grade sweetheart, Kodi Dockham. The two live west of Casper with their five German shorthaired pointers, a Burmese cat, and two parrots – a citron cockatoo and a blue and gold macaw. Dockham is employed as a meat cutter at Smith's and is also the owner of Sundowner taxidermy, which he purchased last year.

Everyday at the hospital brings Gray-Dockham new challenges and laughter. "It seems like we are laughing all the time. I really like it here, and will probably be here for the rest of my life."

"The education I got at Casper College really was quality."



Desert to Desert (and Everything In Between!)

Looking Back

by Toni Redman ('85)

I never planned to be a teacher. Like many of my friends, we all dreamed we'd be the next Oscar or Tony Award winner, and that our fantasies of becoming performers would take us all over the world. I am incredibly blessed, because my dreams have come true. I was an actress and model in New York and Los Angeles for years, and then started working in casting for theatre in New York City, and directing plays. I am now the drama instructor at the American International School of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. And I credit my amazing teachers at Casper College, especially Tom Empey and Jean Tichenor, for giving me the basics and the encouragement to follow my passion.

Life in Saudi is an adventure. For example, what is so normal in the U.S., grocery stores having our desired products in stock all the time and actually being able to shop during the full hours of a business schedule, is less normal and more unpredictable here. The five daily prayer call times change daily so it's never absolutely certain just how much time you will have to buy groceries before everything shuts down and you are stuck in the store until they reopen.



Women are not allowed to drive, so we must always have a chauffeur. The Saudis believe in segregation of the sexes at all times. Women must always be accompanied by a male member of her family – or a male stranger who has been hired from another country and paid to drive women around, often Filipino or Indian or Pakistani men, since the Saudis consider them of lower status. It is a very strange concept for Westerners.

My life here is really very good. I was asked by the U.S. Ambassador to help with the first ever Walk for the Cure. The big deal? Women are never allowed to walk anywhere here in public, it's a cultural no-no, especially walking uncovered without the abaya, which is the black "robe" women in Saudi must always wear over their clothing whenever they are out in public. All women must also cover their hair, and many Riyadh women also wear a nikab, the full face covering, as well as gloves! It's not a religious necessity in Islam, but a social custom of many conservatives in Riyadh. The women all look like Ninjas, but the men, their husbands, all walk around in Western clothing, often shorts or jeans, T-shirts and open-toed sandals. The explanation we hear is the beauty of the woman is for her husband's eyes only. So the women walk into walls with black veils covering their eyes, but their husband can stare at women who are not as fully covered and wearing the abaya but not the facemask. And it is hot here, in the 80's in March, and in the summer it gets up near 120 degrees, which makes it especially uncomfortable being covered head to toe in black in public.

But I have been mesmerized by the opportunities available to me here as a Westerner. I ran into a lady I met years ago when I was modeling and we introduced ourselves. She owns a boutique here in Riyadh, and we kept in touch. When I called her to tell her I was visiting my husband here and would love to see her, she said, "Perfect timing! I am doing a huge fashion show here for women and children, and could really use your help." So I ended up directing a week of runway shows. The models are all young women and girls in Saudi who dream of modeling, but don't get many opportunities here. That was an eye-opener as well. Girls here are incredibly modest, and never walk publicly without completely covering themselves. So for many of them, when the Today Show of Riyadh came to tape the fashion show, they scattered like mice and refused to be seen in their long gowns because their faces were being shown publicly

and many of them had bare arms with their long evening gowns.

About that time I was asked if I would consider directing community theatre. I agreed, and last spring I directed the comedy *Over the River and Through the Woods* by the Tony Award winning writer Joe DiPietro. The cast, as written, were supposed to be Italian immigrants in New Jersey, but the company here had already cast the play with international people from Syria, Lebanon, California, Texas, Ireland, and England – not a single Italian in the bunch. The artistic producer was a Muslim, and had only ever worked with actors in Syria, so he had no experience with American humor or American ideals. Try explaining *The Three Stooges* or *All in the Family* or *Married With Children* to anyone who has never seen U.S. programming, and you'll see how much is lost in translation. Thanks to Google and iTunes, I could always pull something up for them to watch to understand just what I was trying to convey to them on stage. Challenging, but educational in a new way!

This led to the American International School of Riyadh contacting me about a drama instructor position. I'd never taught school before, other than CCD classes at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Casper, and yoga classes in California, so I was skeptical and completely honest in my interview. But here I am. Loving it. There are students from almost every country in the world at my school, as well as members of the Saudi royal family in my classes. Many speak and read English very well, but many are still learning. I am learning how difficult teaching can be and how much respect teachers deserve for caring as much as they do all day every day.

This past fall, I directed the comedy *BOEING, BOEING* for the U.S. Embassy to Saudi Arabia. In essence, the lead character is living in Paris, engaged to three different flight attendants from three different airlines. None of them know about the other, until, of course, the weekend when a dear old college chum shows up in Paris for a long over-due visit. This was an interesting comedic choice for the expatriate community of Riyadh, considering Muslims are allowed four wives at the same time. The six-person cast of characters included Americans as well as British, German, Italian, and French – talented actors from all different countries with flawless accents!

BOEING, BOEING sold out for every performance. The arts are illegal in Saudi Arabia, so people here are in desperate need

of escapism, especially comedy. No public performances are supported by the king or the monarchy. Opposite sexes are not allowed to mingle in public, although mingling is allowed at the embassies of foreign countries. Thanks to our ambassadors from the U.S., James and Janet Smith, audiences have enjoyed the opportunity to see Western entertainment in a safe environment, although the space allowed for us to perform is outside, and everywhere we look we are surrounded by razor wire. Safety is a huge concern, and taken very seriously. This spring I will direct *Peter Pan* for the American International School of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The challenges of teaching drama here include the limitations of having no live performances or live entertainment for our students' education. There are no movie theatres, due to the ban on live entertainment. These students are privileged children, and many have seen productions in the West End theatres in London as well as Broadway plays, however many aren't allowed to see live entertainment at all. Like children all over the world, they love reading fairy tales and seeing animated children's stories.

I never expected to stay here and work. I simply came for a three-week visit with my husband, who has lived and worked here most of his life. It just goes to show, "never say never!" Now I am teaching what I learned at CC. It all comes around, and in such a wonderful way. Most important to me, is that I am able to share the education I got as a Casper girl at Saint Anthony's, East Junior High, Kelly Walsh High School, and Casper College. All those dedicated educators who taught me to value where I come from and to trust I could take those values with me forward into the world, are helping the students I teach every day to know that the world, like Wyoming, is a good place. The stories we tell are the stories the world wants to hear, and that's what connects us forever. I tell everyone how proud I am of the education I received at Casper College in the theatre and music departments.



Five Questions

Mike Stepp ('80)



About Mike

Mike Stepp, ('80), is the owner of Donells Candies, located in downtown Casper. Mike is also vice president of the Casper College Alumni Association.

The Stepp family's candy-making history goes back to 1948 when Mike's dad, Don Stepp, was discharged from the U.S. Navy. Don moved to Greeley Colo., where he married Elma Ross, his high school sweetheart from their hometown of Hays, Kan. Don and Elma opened Stepp's Candy in Colorado Springs, Colo. and a few years later welcomed Mike into the world.

Soon after Mike's birth they sold their thriving little shop and moved to Casper and opened a new enterprise in the newly built Hilltop Shopping Center. They named the new store Donells. Mike says many of his earliest memories are of that shop, and his mom and dad working hard late into the night.

Mike started helping make candy "just for something to do and for fun" when he was about 7 years old. By age 12 he was the dishwasher and by 13 he was making candied popcorn and hand dipping chocolates. He also had stints as a bookkeeper and tax accountant after his mother had a stroke. He says, "In a family business sometimes you learn things at a young age that most people would only learn in college."



Q : Why did you enroll at Casper College?
ONE

A : I spent so much time in the family business, I actually thought I wanted to do something else, but didn't know what. My parents were always positive in encouraging me to think about college and they were very supportive of CC. We had a couple of financial setbacks and I was offered a vocal performance scholarship by Ed Pennington, so CC seemed like a good low cost way to get a good education. I also got very strong recommendations for Casper College from our neighbors, our dear family friend Charlotte Babcock, and Jack Romanek who was director of student activities.

A : After a couple of tries at different majors and a marriage as well, I realized I actually liked what I was already doing in candy making and started down that path in earnest. It wasn't long before I realized I needed to know more about running a business and CC beckoned again. This time I was a retailing major, determined to study and succeed.

Q : Did you always know that you'd take over the candy business from your parents?

TWO

Q : What wisdom did you glean at Casper College that helps you in your business life?

THREE

A : I acquired a lot of the tools a modern business person needs, like an understanding of basic management principles, accounting, economics, and marketing. But, more importantly I learned how to interact with people, how to study, and how to use my time effectively. I learned that there were people who would help me if I asked (sometimes even when I didn't!).

Q : Who are some of the people that helped you the most while you were at CC?

FOUR

A : Mrs. (Margaret) Demorest taught me how to question and research everything presented to me instead of accepting information unquestioned. Jon Brady taught me to be selective in my thinking and to make judgments based on learning instead of unfounded opinion. Dale Storey taught me so much about marketing and advertising. It still applies to everything I do. But my biggest influence had to be Dr. Leroy Strausner. At the time he was head of counseling for the students. His advice, encouragement, counsel, and frequent pep talks were the major reason I succeeded and excelled.

Q : You're plenty busy at the shop, so why are you willing to give so much time as a member of the alumni board?

FIVE

A : If it hadn't been for Casper College, I might not have had the opportunity for an education beyond high school, and that's true for my children and grandchildren as well. I have a great desire to help that legacy to continue. It always seems to me that I take away far more value in learning, friendships, and fellowship than the time I put in.

Notes from T-Bird Camp

T-Birds Honor Military

Casper College played its first basketball game during the 1945-46 school year – the year the college opened its doors on the third floor of Natrona County High School. Students assembled a team and played Scottsbluff Junior College twice, both home and away.

But the first full-fledged season of Thunderbird basketball came in 1946-47. Bolstered by the boys who had returned home from World War II, the Thunderbirds won 21 games that year. They beat some prominent

California schools, the hotbed and home of junior college sports at the time.

Those veterans helped set a tone for the T-Birds and put Casper College on the national map.

This past November, the modern-day Thunderbirds paid tribute to veterans – alumni, friends and fans alike – at a special night. Highly regarded College of Southern Idaho was in town, and fans were treated to great college basketball and an eventual Thunderbird victory.

At halftime, veterans were acknowledged and honored. One veteran who stood up was Leo Sanchez ('59), a Korean War veteran who just happened to be the first T-Bird mascot "Heyoka."

When the Thunderbirds and CSI took the floor, they were decked out in camouflage uniforms.

T-Bird Coach Joel Davidson put the game on the drawing board. He pitched it to his friend Steve Gosar, and the CSI coach (who happens to be a Wyoming native) loved the idea.

"We wanted our veterans to know how much we appreciate them," Davidson says.

There was plenty of appreciation in return, as the T-Birds racked up a Top 20 win en route to a good first half of the season.



Volleyball Hangs Fourth Banner at the 'Swede'

Back in August 2012 when Angel Sharman first gathered her volleyball team together she had to admit they put a bounce in her step.

The veteran Thunderbird coach saw some potential. Halfway through the season she wondered where her team went.

The 2012 Casper College volleyball season was like a ride at Busch Gardens – some highs, some lows, some upside downs, and more than a few surprises.

By regional tournament time Sharman's Thunderbirds flew in a perfect "V." They played inspired volleyball to win the Region IX North championship at Powell, Wyo. earning a trip to the national tournament. The T-Birds lost games to San Jacinto, Texas and Redlands, Okla. Still, the team finished 23-17 on the season.

They will hoist another championship banner at Erickson Thunderbird Gym on Homecoming night (January 26, 2013).

For Sharman, the new banner is her fourth in the past nine years. She just completed her 12th season at Casper. Quietly the Nebraska native is climbing the all-time ranks among junior college coaches. Her career mark (including her years at Colby, Kan.) stands at 474-374. Among active NJCAA volleyball coaches she is No. 4 on the list and she ranks among the top 30 all-time.

As usual, she is unassuming about all of that, choosing instead to focus on the players. She is proud of this flock – four players made the all-region team and four made the all-tournament team.

For good measure, Casper College won the team sportsmanship trophy at Powell, a little icing on the cake.



T-birds Athletics 2013 Schedule

caspercollege.edu/athletics • cctbirds.com

Women's and Men's Basketball

Feb. 6	Dawson (W/M)	Casper, WY	5:30/7:30 PM
Feb. 9	Miles (W/M)	Miles City, MT	3/5 PM
Feb. 13	Northwest (W/M)	Powell, WY	5:30/7:30 PM
Feb. 16	Little Big Horn (W/M)	Casper, WY	3/5 PM
Feb. 20	Gillette (W/M)	Gillette, WY	5:30/7:30 PM
Feb. 23	Sheridan (W/M)	Casper, WY	3/5 PM
Feb. 26	Eastern Wyoming (W/M)	Torrington, WY	5:30/7:30 PM
Mar. 2-6	Region IX Tournament (M)	TBD	TBD
Mar. 3-7	Region IX Tournament (W)	TBD	TBD
Mar. 18-23	National Tournament (W)	Salina, KS	TBD
Mar. 19-23	National Tournament (M)	Hutchinson, KS	TBD

Rodeo

TBA	Gillette	Gillette, WY
Mar. 29-31	Colorado State	Ft. Collins, CO
April 5-7	Eastern Wyoming	Torrington, WY
April 19-21	CC Ropin' and Riggins' Days	Casper, WY
May 3-5	University of Wyoming	Laramie, WY



Faculty & Staff Notes

Bill Mixer was recognized by the Wyoming Distance Education Consortium as the 2012 Master Distance Educator for Casper College. Mixer, director of the Environmental Training Center at Casper College and the department chair for the Casper College Environmental Science Department, has been with the college since 1983. He develops and teaches classroom and Internet courses in the water quality technology degree and certificate programs, and the electronic technology program.


Chelse DePaolo-Lara, GEAR UP site coordinator, and Damian Lara welcomed Auri Damian Lara into the world July 5 at 12:34 a.m. He weighed in at 7 pounds, 11 ounces.

Gretchen Wheeler, Casper College communications instructor, and retired CC instructor **Gale Alexander**, joined longtime friends Vickie Cawthra and Linda Stovel in a play they wrote together called "What Were We Talking About?" at Stage III in Casper last summer. The four first appeared together in 1990 in "Steel Magnolias" at CC and the friendship that experience sparked has continued for over 20 years. The recent production was about the stories and support  the four women have shared since first working together.

Bev Dye was recognized by the Wyoming Council for Women's Issues with its annual Woman of Distinction Award in August. Dye is the director of the Adult Learning Center at Casper College and has worked with the center for 28 years. She has received many other awards, including from the U.S. Secretary of Education, U.S. Department of Labor and Employment Administration, Literacy Volunteers of America, Wyoming Community College Commission, and Wyoming Department of Workforce Services.

Diana Quealy-Berge ('74), Ph.D., LPC, Casper College addictionology instructor, received the Human Rights Award from the Wyoming Counseling Association for her development of a course in which students learn about and discuss current and historical cultural, political, and sociological factors

 impacting substance use and abuse in the Native American population.


Justin Hayward, art instructor at Casper College, had an exhibit at the Nicolaysen Art Museum of portraits, genre paintings, and landscapes entitled "Looking Back." The pieces demonstrate how he has been inspired and influenced by the work of other artists and by his own past. Hayward received a B.A. in illustration from Brigham Young University in 2003 and an M.F.A. in 2005 from the New York Academy of Art in painting. He has also studied at the Florence Academy of Art, the Metropolitan  Museum of Art, Scottsdale Artists' School, and various private studios.



Chad Hanson published several literary essays in 2012, including pieces in Life Writing, Reed Magazine, The Chariton Review, The Nevada Review, North Dakota Quarterly, Lake Effect: A Journal of the Literary Arts, Flyway: Journal of Writing and Environment, and Teaching Sociology. He also had an article published in the National Education Association's (NEA) annual journal, Thought & Action. The title of the essay is "Why Can't a Firm be More Like a College?" and can be accessed by going to nea.org. In addition, Hanson just saw the publication of his article "The Art of Becoming Yourself" in the January-February 2013 of "Academe" a publication of the American Association of University Professors. The article can be found at: aaup.org and searching Chad Hanson.


Lance Jones, director of security and judicial review and adjunct instructor for the Casper College School of Social and Behavioral Sciences had his article "Superior Orders and Military Necessity" published in the late fall issue of World War II History magazine. Jones also taught as a guest instructor during the summer 2012 semester at the Ludwigsburg University of Education in Germany.

Nicholas Whipps, student activities coordinator, and Courtney Eisenach and were married Sept. 8, in Broomfield, Colo. Both the bride and groom graduated from the University of Northern Colorado in 2010, and the groom graduated from the University of Mississippi in 2012. After a honeymoon in Jackson Hole, they are at home in Casper.

Rick Burgin, Casper College Adult Learning Center instructor received the 2012 Award of Excellence for Wyoming from the Mountain Plains Adult Education Association. The award honors an individual who has made significant contributions to the advancement of adult education at the state or local level. Burgin has been an instructor at the Adult Learning Center since August 2001.

Mike Moline, physical education instructor at Casper College since fall 2008, became a father on October 1, 2012 when his wife Cherry Moline gave birth to their daughter Aariah who  came in at 6 pounds, 11.5 ounces.

 **Kent Sundell**, who began work as a geology instructor at Casper College in the fall of 1996, received the Wyoming Association of Community College Trustees 2011-2012 Leadership Award for Faculty of  the Year.

 **Connie Colman** ('79), Casper College Adult Learning Center instructor received the Adult Educator Award of Merit for 2012. The award is presented to an Adult Basic Education or English as a Second Language educator who has demonstrated outstanding service promoting, developing, implementing, or teaching adult education in Wyoming.

Laurie Weaver ('83), Casper College Radiography program director, along with students and faculty of the program, received a proclamation by the City of Casper for "Radiologic Technology Week." The city recognized the week of November 4-10 with the proclamation, which was presented by Casper Mayor and former Casper College employee **Kenyne Schlager**. The mayor joined the 30 plus students and faculty prior to the presentation for a celebratory breakfast.

Joseph Campbell, English instructor; **Marge Christiansen**, nursing instructor; **Shereen Mosier** ('06), executive assistant to the vice president for academic affairs; **Liz Ott**, accounting instructor; **Cammy Rowley**, early childhood education instructor; and **Claudia Stewart**, mathematics instructor have been selected as this year's National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD) award winners from Casper College.



Robinson's Research Published in Major Online Journal

A research paper written by Casper College biology instructor **Will Robinson** was recently accepted and published in PLOS ONE, an international, peer-reviewed, open-access, online journal published by PLOS, a nonprofit organization.

The article, "Migrating Giant Honey Bees (*Apis dorsata*) Congregate Annually at Stopover Site in Thailand," is based on two trips to Thailand that Robinson took in 2009 and 2010 to conduct honey bee research.

While conducting his research, Robinson discovered that "the giant bees were forming bivouacs, resting on an annual migration from lowlands to highlands. Such bivouacs had not been described before. These bivouacs were concentrated in a 100 foot-wide riverside strip about 656 feet long in and around the mango orchard." In the abstract of his paper Robinson notes, "Such consistent stopover sites likely occur throughout southern Asia and may support critical, vulnerable stages in the life history of giant honey bees that must be conserved for populations of the species to survive."

The paper, which can be accessed at <http://dx.plos.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0044976>, features Robinson's research results, discussion, methods, supporting information, (including color photos, videos, charts, and diagrams), acknowledgments, author contributions, and references. According to Robinson, the publishing of the paper is "a fairly big deal, and my most important piece of work from my Thailand research." As of this writing, Robinson's research article has been viewed 796 times on the PLOS One website.



People & Places

1940s, 50s, 60s

Janet and John Hilde Jr. ('56), celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 3, 2012. Janet L. Kammerer and John Hilde were married June 3, 1962, in Wapello, Iowa. John was employed by Bustard's Funeral Home from 1955 to 2000. Janet worked as a registered nurse at Memorial Hospital in Casper from 1961 to 1974 and as a school nurse for the Natrona County School District from 1978 to 2000. Both retired in 2000, although Janet continues to substitute part-time for NCSD. They have both been active in the lives of their children and their community, and continue to volunteer in many ways. John is a past president of the Casper College Alumni Association Board. They have four children and nine grandchildren.

The past became present for **Gary** (former CC faculty) and **Janet (Jan) Scullen** ('60) **Schicketanz** when they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 30, 2012 with a renewal of their vows at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Casper, the same church in which they were married. After completing his education, Gary taught junior high vocational classes in California and in Casper at the Work Training Center, Kelly Walsh High School and Casper College. Jan is a graduate of Natrona County High School, Casper College, and the University of Wyoming. She taught at Mills School for 25 years and part-time at Casper College and the University of Wyoming/Casper College Center. They retraced their honeymoon trip to Jackson, Yellowstone Park, Glacier Park, Seattle World's Fair and down the Pacific Coastal Highway to San Diego. They have three children, five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. They spend their winters in Mesa, Ariz., enjoying the weather.

Paul L. (retired CC faculty) and **Geraldine Randall Wolz** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 1, 2012. The couple met on a blind date and married a year later in Idaho Falls, Idaho. Paul accepted a faculty position at Casper College and Janet began teaching fifth grade in 1986 at Fairdale Elementary School.

They both retired from teaching in 2001. They are the parents of four children and have 13 grandchildren.

Ruth Anne (Smith) Atnip ('66) is enjoying retirement as a "snowbird" golfer in Arizona during the winter and is spending summers in Casper. In June 2011, she was one of the first five individuals inducted into the Trooper Drum and Bugle Corps Hall of Fame. Ruth Anne marched in the snare drum line from 1957-1966 and is a charter member of the Troopers. During the winter, she continues to enjoy drumming in a concert band in Mesa, Ariz. Before her retirement in 1999, Ruth Ann taught in the CC nursing program for 23 years. She has five children, three of whom graduated from CC: **John Atnip** ('92), **Richard Atnip** ('96) and **Stuart Atnip** ('00) and 14 grandchildren spread among Wyoming, Arizona, and California.

Larry Collins ('68) checked in from Scottsbluff, Neb. Larry is an auto tech instructor at Western Nebraska Community College. He writes, "I was awarded a scholarship from Ford Motor Co. and had to attend a college with an auto tech degree so I chose Casper. Mr. Chambers was one of the teachers who inspired me to want to teach. After working as a technician for 19 years, the local college here approached me and I became a teacher. I contacted Mr. Chambers and told him of his influence on me and that I was teaching auto tech now. This is my 26th year and I still love it. I come back to Casper periodically to just see the changes at the school and be reminded of how much I dislike the wind."

1970s

Jim Anderson ('74) was elected to serve in the Wyoming Senate from District 28. Jim resides in Casper and is retired from Wyoming Machinery. He says he now has the time to serve in the legislature.

Chris Navarro ('76) won the gold buckle for the Best of Show new artist at the 2012 Calgary Stampede Western Art Show for his western bronze sculptures.

Robert C. Ratcliff ('76) of Casper was recently elected president of the Montana and Wyoming Chapter of the American College of Surgeons at the chapter's annual meeting. Ratcliff was born and raised in Casper and attended Casper College before graduating from the University of Utah and the University of Utah Medical School. He is board certified in general surgery and colon and rectal surgery. Founded in 1913, the American College of Surgeons is an educational and scientific organization established to raise the standards of surgical practice and to improve the care of the surgical patient.

Scott Keller ('77) lives in Richland, Wash. and works for the Port of Benton, one of Washington state's economic development organizations. He's been with the Port for 23 years. He served 13 years as the assistant director/airport director and was appointed the executive director in 2002. Scott says, "It's been a great ride. I have twin daughters, Jennifer and Nicole. Jennifer is married and living in Denver. She is a Ph.D. clinical psychologist working for the Aurora School District. Nicole has a M.A. degree in hospital administration and is working for Peace Health in Bellingham, Wash. With my experience at Casper College under the coaching of Swede Erickson, it prepared me very well for the ups and downs of life in general. I needed to be toughened up and he definitely did that." Scott also earned a degree in economics from Rocky Mountain College in Billings, Mont.

1980s and 1990s

Kurt Stamm ('84) was nominated as one of five finalists for the 2011-2012 Joe A. Callaway Award for Outstanding Choreography for his production of Maltby and Shire's *Closer than Ever* produced by The York Theatre Company in association with Edward Negley, Neil Berg and Adam Friedson. The Joe A. Callaway Award is awarded annually by the Stage Directors and Choreographers Foundation and recognizes excellence in the crafts of directing and choreography. This is the only award given by professional directors and choreographers to

their peers for work on a specific production. Kurt was honored as the 2001 Distinguished Alumnus by the Casper College Alumni Association.

This past November, **Lisa Rich** ('87) and **Judy Trohkimoinen** ('85), two classically trained sopranos who studied at Casper College, performed in *Dueling Sopranos*. The concert featured the two singing both solos and duets. They have been taking voice lessons since May of last year from Jean Tichenor, retired Casper College vocal instructor. Judy and Lisa first met in Casper in the Shepherd of the Hills church choir. A highlight of their concert was an updated version of Irving Berlin's *Anything You Can Do, I Can do Better*.

Jeannie Hollister ('88) and **David Lundahl** ('95) were married Sept. 15, 2012, at Bessemer Bend in Wyoming. The bride graduated from the University of Wyoming/Casper College Center in 1992 with a degree in elementary education. She is an administrative assistant at TIC of Wyoming. The groom graduated from Eastern Wyoming College in 1990 and from Casper College in 1995 with degrees in natural science and fire science. He is a fire inspector II with the Casper Fire Department.

1. Liz (Robertson) Rubinstein ('90) and her husband, Barry, invented the GingerLead dog support and rehabilitation harness and co-founded GingerLead, LLC. Their harnesses have helped dogs and their owners across the US and in 13 other countries. She is also on the board of directors of Colorado's Helping Hands Foundation, a charity that raises money to save the lives of pets when their owners cannot afford needed, nonroutine veterinary care. Liz and Barry live in Denver with their dogs, Ginger and Wilson.

Karl and **Joan Frederiksen** (CC retiree) celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 1, 2012. Joan, retired in 1999. Their three children reside in Casper. They also have nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

2000s

Jeffrey ('00) and **Susan (Jones) Alishouse** ('01) are living in Upton, Wyo. Jeffrey is employed by Cummins Rocky Mountain, LLC as a field technician. Susan is at home with their daughter age 10 and son age 9.

Kevin Burke ('01) returned to Casper in May to appear as Prince Charming in the ballet *Cinderella* with Ballet Ariel of Denver, Colo. Fifty local dancers were also part of the performance.

Leslie Fisher ('01) and Chris Tollefson (son of former instructor the late Bruce Tollefson and Ann Tollefson of Casper) were married July 15, 2012 at Amoco Park in Casper. They live in Herndon, Va. Chris is the chief of communications for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Leslie is the office manager for Cobham Tactical Communications and Surveillance.

Vitoria Deitchler ('02) has joined Wyoming Surgical Associates. She studied x-ray technology at Casper College and worked in the healthcare field before earning her master's degree in physician assistant studies at the University of Utah. She has an undergraduate degree in nuclear medicine from Weber State University in Ogden, Utah. She and her husband and their four dogs enjoy outdoor activities in the Casper area.

Deana McGrady ('02) works for U.S. Sen. Mike Enzi in his Casper office and has been with him for the past eight years. She says that she "really enjoys working for such a great Senator, but more importantly, a great family-oriented man."

Carissa King ('03) and Christopher Davies were married May 21, 2012, at Gran Bahia Principe Resort, Runaway Bay, Jamaica. The bride graduated from Casper College in 2003, from the University of Nevada at Las Vegas in 2007, and from London Metropolitan University in 2008. She is the international visa and compliance advisor at York St. John University in York, England. The groom graduated from Sixth Form College in 1998 then served in the Royal Air Force for nine years. He is an aeronautical engineer at Perry Slingsby Systems in Yorkshire, England. The couple is at home in York, England.

Family Vision Clinic in Casper welcomed **Dr. Nathan Edwards** ('03) to its practice this past summer. Nathan is a Casper native and holds degrees from Casper College, the University of Wyoming, and Pacific University of Optometry, where he graduated in 2010. Nathan and his wife Jennifer are pleased to be back in Wyoming.

2. Matthew Loucks ('04) was elected to serve on the Casper College Board of Trustees. Matt is a measurement-while-drilling coordinator for Enseco Energy Services. Matt is joined by re-elected alum **Dr. Scott Bennion** ('68).

After graduation from CC with a fire science technology degree, **Casey McCurdy** ('04) joined the US Air Force and served for four years. He was with the USAF Honor Guard in Washington D.C. In the honor guard he was a pallbearer, carrying the caskets for funerals

Where are you, Dena?

This sweater was bought online earlier this year by Casper College Publications Coordinator Laura Lucero, who enjoys finding unusual, one-of-a-kind items. "I bought it from a lady in Oklahoma, who moved there from Casper. She said she originally bought the sweater at a thrift store in Casper, but that's all I know about it." The front pocket of the sweater bears the name Dena. The Casper College alumni directory lists seven graduates named Dena, but the whereabouts of only a few are known. So, Dena, or friends of Dena, if you're reading this and that sweater looks familiar, let us know the scoop on its history! And of course, we welcome address updates from alumni named Dena or anything else.

Please contact:

Linda Nix, associate director, alumni relations
307/268-2218 or 800-442-2963 ext. 2218
or alumni@caspercollege.edu



in Arlington National Cemetery rendering final honors to veterans and those killed in combat. Casey also worked as a Pentagon tour guide while in the honor guard, providing guided public tours of the Pentagon to school groups, military groups, VIPs and celebrities. He got out of the Air Force in 2008 and is currently attending college at the University of Colorado, Denver where he will graduate in May 2013 with a B.S. in accounting and a minor in economics. Casey was married in October 2005 in Casper. He and his wife, Christa, recently celebrated their seventh anniversary on October 15.

Jenelle M. Paulson, DDS ('04) has joined **Jessica Cassity, DDS ('96)** at the Gentle Family Dentistry practice in Casper. Jenelle was a T-Bird volleyball player for Casper College. She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Wyoming and her D.D.S. from the University of Nebraska College of Dentistry. She has a 9-year-old daughter.

McChale Aquile Gunby ('05) appeared in the third season of NBC's *The Voice*. Now appearing under the stage name Aquile, he recently made a trip back to Wyoming and appeared at Kelly Walsh High School in Casper where he attended high school. He performed the lead in the 2005 Casper College summer production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and attended Casper College that fall. He has been in California since 2009 pursuing a career in music.

Christopher M. Isaacson ('05) is a mechanical engineering intern with Engineering Design Associates of Casper. Christopher is a graduate of the University of Wyoming and Casper College. He received his B.S.E.E. with an emphasis on power and controls from UW. Prior to continuing his education, Chris repaired electronic missile guidance systems for the U.S. Army. Chris has been with EDAssociates since the spring of 2007.

Keli Saunders ('05) and Scott Johnson were married Sept. 29, 2012, in Nancy English Park in Casper. The bride earned an associate's of social science from Casper College in 2005. She is an independent provider for persons with developmental disabilities for the State of Wyoming. The groom is a system technician at Optimum. After a honeymoon to the Florida beach front, they are at home in Casper.

3. Davita Joy Hawn ('06) and Lyndon Clark Ritchie were married on August 11, 2012. Davita also recently accepted

a position at McCurdy Charter School in Espanola, N.M. Lyndon is a team member at Whole Foods in Santa Fe, N.M.

Philip Zaharas ('07) is a physician assistant with Wyoming Surgical Associates, a part of Wyoming Medical Center. While attending Casper College and then the University of Wyoming, Philip worked as a certified nursing assistant, coach, and pharmacy technician. He earned his master's of physician assistant at Rocky Mountain College, in Billings, Mont. He enjoys the outdoors, especially fly fishing and hunting.

4. Katie Rhoades ('08) moved to New York City last spring, is living in Brooklyn, and working in the city. She takes dance classes every week, and is looking forward to more auditions. After CC, Katie earned her B.F.A. in musical theatre from Sam Houston State. She then went to Denver, appearing as Sally in the regional premier of *Reefer Madness*. She worked with multiple companies in Northern Colorado appearing in *Will Rogers Follies*, *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, *The King and I*, *A Chorus Line*, *Annie Warbucks*, and *Anything Goes*. Katie is grateful for the individual attention she received at CC and the chance she had to learn her craft.

5. Rebekah Sides ('06) and Richard Strohacker were married on December 17, 2011 in Douglas, Wyo. Rebekah is an insurance agent for Security Insurance and Richard is employed as a paramedic for East Texas Medical Center. The couple resides in West, Texas.

Brent Jurgensen ('08), a freshman history teacher at Natrona County High School, was awarded a James Madison Memorial Fellowship, which he will use to earn a master's degree in political science from the University of Wyoming. The \$24,000 award, which includes a summer semester at Georgetown University, recognizes the accomplishments of promising teachers and seeks to strengthen knowledge of American constitutional government.

Heather Thompson ('09) and Jordan Grossman were married June 9, 2012 in Casper. The bride earned an associate's in radiology from Casper College in 2009. She is employed in interventional radiology at Wyoming Medical Center. The groom graduated from Indiana State University in 2005 with a bachelor's in computer hardware technology. He is a systems integrator/PLC specialist at Automation and Electronics, Inc. They are at home in Casper.

2010s

Kit (Catherine Washut) Robertson ('10) has moved to Colorado and is starting her own music studio, as well as looking for performance opportunities. Kit's degree from CC is in music performance. After CC she went to Bethany College to obtain her bachelor's in music. She's interested in connecting with other CC alums in the Colorado area. She says to connect with her through Facebook or LinkedIn.

Samantha Scherlin ('10) and Emrullah Sarac were married July 14, 2012 in Casper. The bride graduated from Casper College in 2010, and graduated this past fall from South Dakota School of Mines and Technology. The groom attended Nevsehir University where he studied hospitality management. He is assistant manager at Slider's Restaurant for Isis Hospitality in Rapid City, S.D. They are at home in Rapid City.

Amanda Barton ('11) and Julian Valdez were married on June 16, 2012, at Red Butte Ranch in Wyoming. The bride graduated from Casper College in 2011 and is employed at Wyoming Imaging Center. The groom graduated from Eagle Valley High School in 2006 and works in the oilfield. After a honeymoon to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, they are at home in Casper.

Lindley Browning ('11) and Scott Kugler were married July 28, 2012 in Casper. The bride is a 2011 graduate of Casper College and is a full-time student at the University of Wyoming/Casper College Center with an anticipated graduation in 2013. The groom works in inside sales for Power Service Inc. They are at home in Casper.

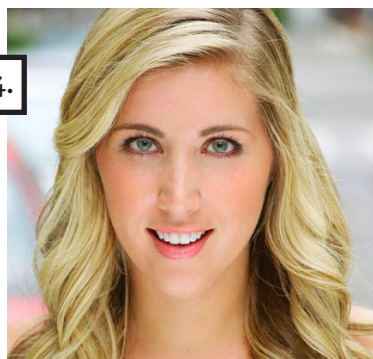
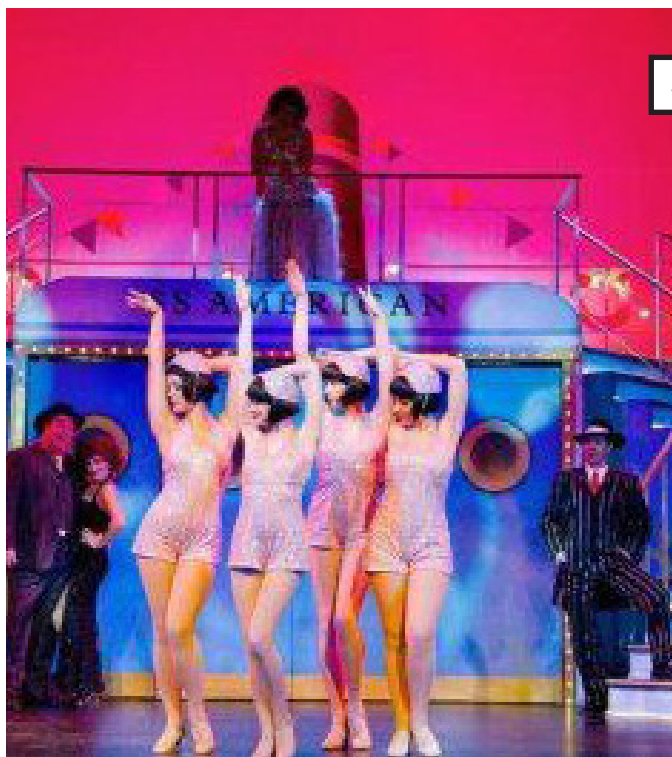
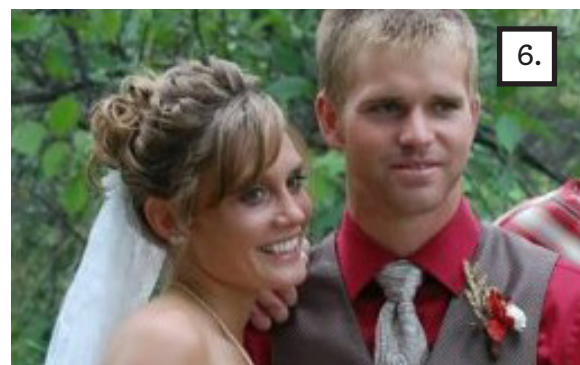
6. Trinity Holland ('12) and **Justin Lewis ('11)** were married September 1, 2012, at the Kissack Ranch near Spearfish, S.D. Both the bride and groom are Casper College graduates. Trinity is now the assistant manager for Creative Broadcast Services in Spearfish, S.D. Justin fights fires for the forest service in the Bear Lodge Mountain Range. The couple resides in Spearfish. Trinity is also a member of the Casper College Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Emily Brantz ('12) adapted and staged George Orwell's *1984*. The lead role of Winston Smith was played by another CC grad, **Sam Ivory ('04)**. Emily was in Chicago this past fall at Columbia College studying directing.

Kimberly Anne Brekke (current) married **Nathan Christopher Gulbrandson** ('12) in July 2012. Nathan graduated from Casper College with an associate's in engineering. He is currently employed at Cameco Resources. Kimberly graduated from the University of Montana-Western with a bachelor's degree in education and is currently a physical therapy student at Casper College.

Amanda Lee Barker ('12) and Skyeler Brady Meredith were married June 15, 2012 just outside Las Vegas. The bride is a Casper College honor graduate and currently in the CC nursing program. She works at Wyoming Medical Center. The groom is a journeyman with Western States Fire Protection and has been with the company for the last seven years.

Jessica E. King and **Christopher Winckler** ('12) were married Sept. 22, 2012, at Garden Creek Falls on Casper Mountain. The bride received bachelor's degrees in psychology and criminal justice at the University of Wyoming and is employed at the Community Education Center Therapeutic Community. The groom received a business degree from Casper College in 2012 and is an Apple specialist at Computer Village.



Recently married? New job? New baby? Send information to: *Mail* – Linda Nix, Associate Director, Casper College, 125 College Drive, Casper, WY 82601; *Phone* – 307-268-2218 or 800-442-2963 ext. 2218; *E-mail* – alumni@caspercollege.edu.

In Remembrance:



Neil McMurry

The Casper College community lost a good friend with the passing of Neil McMurry. Neil and his wife Doris provided endowments at Casper College, which led to the creation of the Single Parent Program and assist in the operation of the Early Childhood Learning Center.

Neil, who was 88, died July 19 at the Wyoming Medical Center in Casper surrounded by his family. He was one of Wyoming's most successful construction contractors, and also was instrumental in the development of natural gas operations in the Jonah Field and the Pinedale Anticline.

Casper College's Career Studies Center bears the name of Neil and Doris to recognize their contributions as well as Neil's leadership in numerous skilled trades. More recently, the McMurrys created a major endowment for the Early Childhood Learning Center, which is a preschool and childcare center that also serves as a laboratory school for the college's education curriculum.

The Single Parent Program established by the McMurrys offers a variety of services to assist and guide Casper College's single parents toward success. Based in the college's Gateway Building, the program offers customized academic planning and guidance, as well as financial support provided through an endowment created by the McMurrys.

Their exceptional level of support was recognized at the national level by the Council for Resource Development, which selected them as the 2002 Benefactors of the Year for all community colleges in the organization's Region VIII.

"Neil, along with Doris, helped countless numbers of Casper College students fulfill their educational goals," said Paulann Doane, executive director of the Casper College Foundation. "He believed in giving them a helping hand rather than a handout. Neil always wanted to make sure students who had the motivation, but not the resources, got the help they needed so they could complete their Casper College education."



Friends We'll Miss

Clifford Lewis Bundy ('57)
December 31, 2011

Neill R. Mayfield ('56)
January 31, 2012

Laurence Richard Abbott ('63)
June 14, 2012

Patrick "Pat" Whittle, Sr.
(Former CC employee)
June 25, 2012

Richard Craig "Rick" Thornock
('73)
July 1, 2012

W. N. "Neil" McMurry
(CC benefactor)
July 19, 2012

Kay (Carolyn) Okes ('86)
August 10, 2012

George Snodgrass ('49)
July 26, 2012

Sunny Ellen Munns
(Former CC employee)
August 19, 2012

Dale L. Wright ('52)
August 29, 2012

Wesley William Pickett ('50)
August 31, 2012

James Edwin "Jim" Ennis ('67)
September 23, 2012

Julie "Dee" (Walter) Knight ('79)
September 27, 2012

Joann Chesbro Sorenson ('51)
October 12, 2012

Ruby Ruth Boldorac ('91, '92)
October 21, 2012

Sadella Golen ('90)
October 28, 2012

Travis Dean Darling ('10)
October 29, 2012

Carol J. Foster ('84)
November 2, 2012

Ricky L. Sabin (former CC employee)
November 7, 2012

Rebecca Jo (Becky) Carpenter
('68)
November 12, 2012

Joyce Mae Peck (Former CC staff)
November 20, 2012

Wesley Dale Burgess ('85)
November 24, 2012

Everett Akam (Former CC faculty)
November 25, 2012

Heidi Arnold
(CC mathematics instructor)
November 30, 2012

James "Jim" Krumm
(CC computer science instructor)
November 30, 2012

Casper College Rocks!

You too can own a Casper College river rock and help the Casper College Alumni Association. These river rocks, engraved with the image of "The Spirit of the Thunderbird" by Chris Navarro ('76), come in two sizes. The small rock (8") sells for \$100 and has the words "Casper College" engraved on its face. The large (12") rock sells for \$150 and says "Casper College Alumni." Place your order by mailing in the form below or online, www.caspercollege.edu/alumni. Pick up your rock and avoid shipping costs. Money raised goes toward alumni scholarships and institutional grants.



Name _____
(must match credit card)

Mailing address _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____

☐ Pickup ☐ Ship

Large rock – \$150 x _____ = \$ _____

Medium rock – \$100 x _____ = \$ _____

Shipping:

Large rock – \$35 x _____ = \$ _____

Medium rock – \$25 x _____ = \$ _____

Total \$ _____

☐ Check # _____ ☐ Cash

☐ Credit card ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa

Card # _____

Expiration date _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Your Ring?

Lost (and Found?) – There's a Story Here Somewhere

Sometimes things turn up in the strangest places, especially in the dark recesses of desk drawers. Recently, a small box was discovered in a drawer in the Enrollment Services Office. In it was a class ring that someone found in O'Hare Airport and returned to Casper College requesting that it be returned to its owner. After searching records and graduation programs, the registrar's office was unable to determine the identity of the owner. All we know is that the owner graduated in 1989 with an A.S. from Casper College and their initials. If you think the ring is yours, give us a call and tell us the initials inside the ring. If you are right, we'll send the ring to you and tell the rest of the "Found" story in a subsequent issue of Footprints.

Please contact:

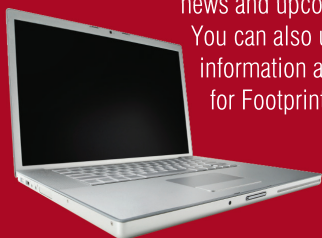
Linda Nix, associate director, alumni relations
307/268-2218 or 800-442-2963 ext. 2218
or alumni@caspercollege.edu



CC's Virtual World

Like us on Facebook. Enter "Casper College Alumni Association" and "Casper College Foundation" in the Facebook search box and there we'll be – two great places to visit and keep up with things at Casper College. We are also rebuilding our webpages, so check us out there too. caspercollege.edu/foundation/

Be among the first to learn about campus news and upcoming events. You can also update contact information and send news for Footprints.



Casper College

Department of Theatre and Dance 2013 Productions

The Power of Corruption **Richard III**

By William Shakespeare
McMurry Mainstage
Feb. 20, 22-23, 27-28, March 1-2, at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, March 3 at 2 p.m.

The Power of the Imagination **A Midsummer Night's Dream**

The Ballet by Felix Mendelssohn
Barbara and Leland Scifers Dance
Performance Theatre
April 4-6, 10-13, at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 14 at 2 p.m.

The Power of the Human Spirit **Quilters**

By Molly Newman and Barbara Damaschek
Music and Lyrics by Barbara Damaschek
Thomas H. Empey Studio Theatre
April 25-27, May 1-4, at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, May 5 at 2 p.m.

Don't Get Lost!

Help us Keep Track of You and Your Classmates!

If you move or have a significant event happen in your life, share it. Or if you know where another alum is, tell us about them so we can keep everyone connected!

Name: _____

I.D. No. on address label: _____

Years attended: _____

Address: _____

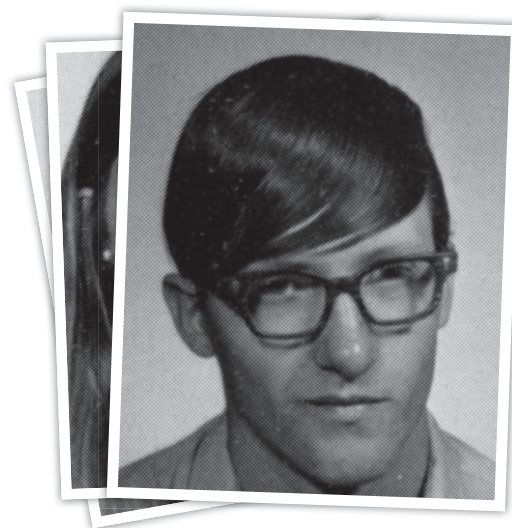
City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Current information _____



Please send information to:

Mail: Linda Nix, Associate Director
Casper College
125 College Drive
Casper, WY 82601

Phone: 307-268-2218
or 800-442-2963 ext. 2218

E-mail: alumni@caspercollege.edu

According to Charlotte...



by Charlotte Babcock ('49)

In the aftermath of the tragedy which has devastated the faculty, the staff, the students as well as the Casper community, the numbness, the shock and the tears which has had all of us in its grip will lessen over time, but the memory of it will stay with us, perhaps, forever.

I have to say – as a person who has been actively associated with Casper College (in one capacity or another going back to 1948) I would never have believed that there would be a time of such tragedy and danger that could be anticipated or prepared for at the college. And I asked myself: Is there any place where any of us could go to always be safe? Is there anything any of us could do to always feel safe? And my answers to these questions are nowhere and nothing.

We will heal, but we will remember and for those who have left us, this is my heartfelt wish:

May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind always be at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
and rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of his hand.

(An old Irish blessing)



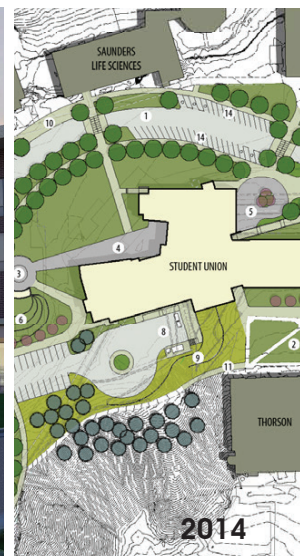
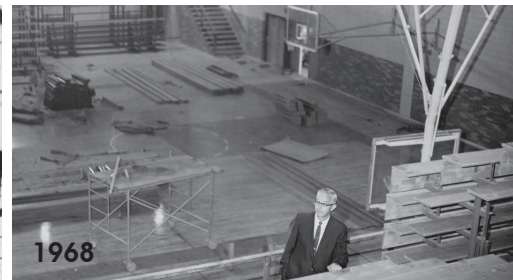
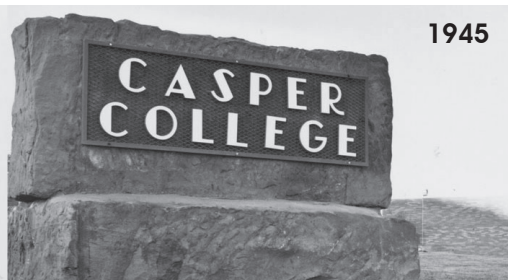


125 College Drive • Casper, Wyoming 82601

Change Service Requested

vision campus • community

A campaign to support student learning through enhanced facilities at Casper College



**Casper College
Foundation**

To discuss ways you may wish to support Casper College, please contact:

Paulann Doane, Executive Director Casper College Foundation
307-268-2684 • pdoane@caspercollege.edu • www.caspercollege.edu/foundation