

PROSPECT

INSTRUMENTAL

Fred '71 and Dinah Gretsch lead a company that's inspired generations of musicians to pursue their passion



CLASS NOTES



1910 The Elmhurst faculty deemed American football too dangerous, so the College fielded two soccer teams instead.



1967 The Speech Clinic gave students the opportunity to test their skills while providing therapy.



1969 The College's first Black Arts Festival, sponsored by the Concerned Black Students, featured a jazz quintet, a string ensemble, discussions and a fashion show.

1950S & 1960S

Andrew McKillop '59 received the Honorary Lifetime Membership Award from the Florida Health Care Association (FHCA) in recognition of his 59 years in health services and his outstanding dedication to the profession. The recipient of many FHCA awards, McKillop also served as co-chair of the health subcommittee of the White House Conference on Aging.

Darrell Raber '59 was one of five recipients of the 2019 Living Award, sponsored by the Methodist Healthcare Foundation in Memphis, Tenn. He served as a pharmacist at Methodist Central (now Methodist University Hospital) for his entire 49-year career.

Carolyn (Willey) Thomsen '64 placed third in the Ms. Arkansas Senior America pageant in June 2019.

Alexander Rassogianis '69 is the author of *Short Stories of Life, Love, and Remembrance* (Outskirts Press, April 2019), which features characters grappling with the beauty and tragedy of everyday life. Rassogianis is currently working on *Clouds Over the Aegean*, a novel about international intrigue and conspiracy centered on the Greek island of Naxos.

1970S & 1980S

Richard Shaw '70 is the author of *A Tapestry: Of Life's Journeys* (Outskirts

Press, June 2017), a book of 10 short stories. The book is available on Amazon and Barnes & Noble's website.

Bert Leveille '71 presented a solo art exhibit this spring at The Art Center Highland Park (TAC). The exhibit, *Streaming Reflections*, included large, abstract pieces of life-size beings colored with changing LED lighting to give viewers an immersive experience.



Karen (Maisch) Gray '77 published her first book, *Gentle Journeys*, on Amazon (January 2019). She is currently working on a second book.

Janet Bryant '80 received the 2020 Award for Volunteer Service from the American Chemical Society (ACS). An ACS member for more than 20 years, Bryant recently retired after 38 years with the U.S. Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL). Bryant will deliver the keynote address at the ChemLuminary Awards ceremony during the fall 2020 ACS National Meeting & Exposition in San Francisco.

Beth Reissenweber '81 was named vice president of finance and administration at Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Texas. She previously served as vice president for finance and

CLASS NOTES



ON THE FLIP SIDE

Beloved radio personality **Terri Hemmert '70** has stepped back from her post as a midday host on WXRT-FM in Chicago. She remains busy with her Sunday morning show, *Breakfast with the Beatles*, and still occasionally fills in on-air. Hemmert received an Alumni Merit Award from the College in 1984 and an honorary doctoral degree in 2017, and she was inducted into the National Radio Hall of Fame in 2010. "After 45 years at WXRT, I'm going to figure out how to turn the record over and see what plays on the other side," she wrote to her colleagues in June.

superintendent of finance/CSBO at Arbor Park SD 145 in Oak Forest, Ill., for the past six years.

Raymond Lawson '97 published a book, *As Luscious as Giraffes at Midnight* (August 2019). The book is available on Amazon.

Tony Tranchita '00 recently joined AVI Systems as a unified communications specialist. He and his wife are expecting a baby in January 2020.

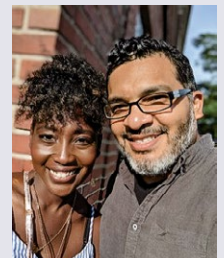
Aaron Schirmer '01 published an article about the behavioral and ecological effects of artificial nighttime light on wildlife. The article was featured on WGN-AM, WBEZ-FM and WTTW. Schirmer is an associate professor in the Department of Biology at Northeastern Illinois University.



Christina (Rizzo) Alonzo '02 and her husband, Scott, welcomed a baby boy, Gabriel Scott, on May 31, 2019. Gabriel is the little brother of Dominic and Scarlett.

Brandi (Blume) Warnock '04, M.A. '06, graduated from nursing school in May 2019 and is working as a registered nurse on the general medicine care unit at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital.

Lewis Webb '03 and **Erica Polanco Webb '08** celebrated five years of marriage in July. They met on campus in 2005, when Lewis was helping his



fraternity brothers with Homecoming festivities and Erica stopped by with a friend. They got married in Hammer-schmidt Memorial Chapel in 2014 and have an amazing blended family of five kids. Erica blogs about parenting and writes for *Chicago Parent* magazine.



CAR TALK

As a student at Elmhurst, **Keith Reed '74** commuted to campus in his late father's 1970 Dodge Monaco. Today, the car has all its original parts and just 59,000 miles on the odometer—and several vintage Elmhurst College parking stickers. "The Dodge and I have always had a special bond," Reed says.

📖 Read more at elmhurst.edu/Dodge.

administration at Augsburg University in Minneapolis and as vice president for finance and treasurer at Aurora University in Aurora, Ill.

Sean McGinnis '88 has accepted a new role as president of the online retailer Kellyco Metal Detectors and Metal-Detectors.com. His family is relocating from Salt Lake City to Knoxville, Tenn.

1990s & 2000s

Brian O'Keeffe '92 earned his doctorate in educational leadership from Western Illinois University in May. His dissertation was titled *The Perceptions of a Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support Program in a Midwestern Middle School*. O'Keeffe has served as assistant

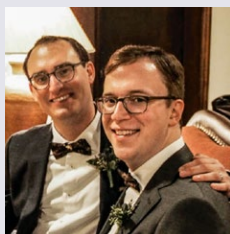
Heather (Finn) Teliga '05 and Justin Teliga '04 welcomed their second son, Declan Daniel, on May 21, 2019. Declan joins his big brother, Liam Richard, who recently turned 3.



Alexander Pappas '06 was named a 2019 *Illinois Rising Star* by Super Lawyers. Pappas is an attorney

with Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP, where his practice focuses on real estate transactions, commercial leasing, asset-backed financing, joint ventures and land development. Pappas received his Juris Doctor from Chicago-Kent College of Law and serves as a mentor and presenting sponsor for Chicago-Kent's Solo & Small Practice Incubator.

Erin (Bufton) Fecske '07 graduated with honors from Duke University with a doctorate in nursing practice.



Brian Chenoweth '08 married his husband, Dan, on Oct. 27, 2018, at the Unitarian Church of Hinsdale, Ill.

Heather Forster Jensen '08 organized a musical instrument listening zoo for the Indian Prairie Public Library, where she works in youth services. Featuring six current Elmhurst College music education students and other musicians, the event gave children and their families a close-up introduction to a variety of musical instruments.

Susan Martin '08 and her partner, Wendy, welcomed a son, Emery Joe Martin Montgomery, on April 30, 2019. Emery joins 4-year-old sister, Raegan, who is over the moon to have a baby brother.

Jonathan Porter '10, MBA '17 welcomed his first child, Daniella Rae Porter, with



Greg Luscombe '80 joined the musicians' union at the age of 17 and spent his college weekends playing trombone for traveling shows like the Ice Capades and the Ringling Bros. Circus. He had doubts about the practicality of a career in music, so he majored in business administration and worked in insurance after graduation. After a few years, though, he quit to take a chance on music. Now, Luscombe is celebrating 30 years as principal trombonist of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra. "Originally I chose a route that would lead to a job," he says. "But you've got to follow your dreams."

his wife, Meg, on Aug. 7, 2019. Baby and mom are healthy and doing well.

Jennifer Rodriguez '10 wrote and illustrated an e-book on Amazon, *How Mama Says Goodbye: A Story About Love and Readiness for Loss* (April 2019). It ranked No. 1 in new releases in its genre.

Taylor Okey '13 is in the national touring cast of *Bandstand*, the Tony-winning Broadway musical. The tour launched in October and will travel to more than 75 cities nationwide. Director of education at Trinity Music Center in Villa Park, Okey works throughout the Chicago area as an actor, director and choreographer.

Kayla Siota '16 participated in Miami University's Earth Expeditions global field course in the Amazon, studying avian and tropical ecology.

Grace Bellino '17 graduated with a master of science in library and information sciences from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.

Emilio Davalos '18 and **Nina Burns '18** got married in Hammerschmidt Memorial Chapel and had their reception in the Frick Center Café. Davalos is clerking in a law office and heading to law school to do immigration law.



As a teenager, **Christine Thomas '18** was hospitalized with complications from a ruptured appendix. She credits her recovery to the compassionate care she received at the hospital, and she drew on that experience to write a paper about the impact of patient-centered care on health disparities. In May, Thomas' work was published in *Intersect: The Stanford Journal of Science, Technology, and Society*. "The level of patient care that someone receives—and the amount of compassion that's put into that care—can really help a person heal," says Thomas, who's pursuing a graduate degree and working as a patient care tech.

IN MEMORIAM



A LOYAL FRIEND

Edwin E. Sprandel '50, a U.S. Navy veteran who served in World War II and the Korean War, died on Oct. 15, 2018, at the age of 92. Sprandel was an active member of the Elmhurst College community who devoted himself to philanthropy and volunteer work. In 2006, he established an endowed scholarship fund in honor of his late wife, Susan Sprandel '50. In recognition of Sprandel's longtime support of his alma mater, the College awarded Sprandel the Alumni Merit Award in 2008 and the Founders Medal in 2015.

FAMILY LEGACY

Alice Stratemeyer '53, daughter of longtime Elmhurst College dean Theophil Mueller, passed away on Aug. 22, 2019, at age 88. Stratemeyer was also the great-granddaughter of the College's third president, Johann Peter Goebel. A teacher and school librarian for most of her career, she was deeply involved in her church and her community, volunteering with Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Will County Community Health Center, where she read to children. Her father served as dean of students from 1925 to 1947.



Margaret Glass '36

June 26, 2019, Indianapolis

Rev. Dr. Raymond W. Bizer '42

May 15, 2019, New Braunfels, Texas

Rev. Eugene Bickel '44

Oct. 3, 2018, Evansville, Ind.

Helen E. Holt '45

Oct. 2018, Stockton, Calif.

Virginia M. Lithgow '45

July 11, 2018, Petersburg, Va.

Dorothy M. Schemmer '46

June 6, 2019, Albuquerque, N.M.

Rev. Dr. Harley A. Krieger '48

June 5, 2019, O'Fallon, Mo.

Mary L. Corn '49

Aug. 13, 2019, Downers Grove, Ill.

Hugo A. Lorenz '49

May 26, 2019, Chicago

Robert G. Nugent '49

Dec. 30, 2018, New Hope, Minn.

Aileen M. Dohm '50

July 6, 2019, Springfield, Mo.

Margit V. Erickson '50

June 23, 2019, Walworth, Wis.

Rev. Donald C. Vogel '50

Jan. 21, 2019, Mount Morris, N.Y.

Richard G. Pearce '52

July 26, 2019, Indianapolis

Richard C. Bowman '53

Oct. 24, 2018, Schaumburg, Ill.

LuEllen Schmitt '53

Feb. 28, 2019, Marshalltown, Iowa

Rev. Robert S. Elkin '54

July 19, 2019, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Lee W. Truax '55

Sept. 17, 2018, Farmington, N.M.

Diane (Davis) Williams '55

Jan. 4, 2019, Tampa, Fla.

Lorene V. Ellerbrake '57

June 12, 2019, Lincoln, Neb.

Arnold F. Sufalko '57

April 28, 2019, Elgin, Ill.

Russell H. Fox '58

March 18, 2019, Las Cruces, N.M.

Bernice E. Schendel '58

July 30, 2019, Northfield, Minn.

Robert G. Carter Sr. '59

June 20, 2019, Elmhurst, Ill.

Alfred W. Diedrich '59

Feb. 8, 2019, Marshall, Okla.

William L. Lenhart '59

Oct. 21, 2018, Hot Springs Village, Ark.

Peter A. Stewart '59

April 28, 2019, Newark, Ohio

Paula (Boesch) Swortfiguer '59

June 7, 2019, St. Louis

Mary Elsa (Pflug) Abele '60

July 1, 2019, Concord, N.H.

Dianne (Blagburn) Rogots '60

Sept. 4, 2019, Las Vegas

Barbara (Latsch) Searight '60

Sept. 4, 2019, Anthony, Fla.

Nancy Zochert '60

Dec. 16, 2018, Winfield, Ill.

Helen (Hubbard) Hasselbacher '61

Aug. 2, 2019, Longmont, Colo.

Barbara (Allen) Kamradt '61

Sept. 10, 2019, Hanover Park, Ill.

Conrad Marvin Lang '61

March 23, 2019, Stevens Point, Wis.

Judith A. Riedel '61

April 7, 2019, Muskegon, Mich.

Barbara Shingu '61

Jan. 10, 2019, South Gate, Calif.

Robert I. Nuernberger '62

May 23, 2019, Edwardsville, Ill.

Howard Christensen '64

Sept. 2, 2019, Elk Grove Village, Ill.

Thomas B. Kuepers '64

July 15, 2019, Estes Park, Colo.

Rhetis Rosenberg '64

July 9, 2019, Ceylon, Minn.

Annette N. Baynard '66

June 17, 2019, Munster, Ind.

Rev. Dr. Joseph William Fraccaro '66

Sept. 13, 2018, Evansville, Ind.

Irene Marianek '67

Nov. 13, 2018, Muskego, Wis.

Jean Marie (Jackson) Hanz '68

Aug. 26, 2019, Kingsport, Tenn.

Judy M. Betz '70

Feb. 6, 2019, Millstadt, Ill.

James J. Hartigan '70

Oct. 27, 2018, Danville, Calif.

Kathleen Woolsey-Borden '71

Sept. 20, 2018, Pekin, Ill.

John E. Hilbert '72

June 20, 2019, Glen Ellyn, Ill.

Alix Metcalfe '72

July 10, 2018, Homewood, Ill.

Leland Sizemore '73

July 17, 2019, Elmhurst, Ill.

John A. Urbelis '73

July 30, 2019, Geneva, Ill.

Barbara A. Bermea '75

July 28, 2019, Villa Park, Ill.

William T. Boyd '76

May 19, 2019, Winter Haven, Fla.

Alan C. Havlicek '76

July 5, 2019, Lisle, Ill.

Susan M. Howard '76

Jan. 4, 2019, Elmhurst, Ill.

Eva A. Natonek '78

July 26, 2018, Crest Hill, Ill.

James F. Gervais '79

June 8, 2019, Olathe, Kan.

Gregory C. Addy '81

March 5, 2019, Elgin, Ill.

John E. "Jack" Ryder '82

Aug. 1, 2019, La Grange Park, Ill.

Ralph D. Stiles '82

March 2, 2019, Sioux Falls, S.D.

Colette M. Rigden '85

May 6, 2019, Wheaton, Ill.

Harold J. Saving III '85

March 20, 2019, New Lenox, Ill.

Jeffrey C. Cole '96

May 1, 2019, Elmhurst, Ill.

Hemanshu Singh '98

Jan. 19, 2019, Oakbrook Terrace, Ill.

Eileen (Hill) Manusos '99

May 10, 2019, Birnamwood, Wis.

A TREE TO REMEMBER

On Oct. 11, the College dedicated a tree near Memorial Hall in memory of beloved nursing professor **C. Dawn Zibricky**, who passed away in June. The winner of numerous teaching awards, Zibricky also taught in the Elmhurst Learning and Success Academy (ELSA) and conducted research about the impact of social justice on health.



**STAR
ATHLETE**

On Oct. 19, the College rededicated its weight room in memory of **Thomas Roberts '84**, who died in June 2018. A four-year letter winner in both football and track and field at Elmhurst, Roberts is remembered by teammates as “a quiet leader, intense competitor and loyal teammate.” The newly christened Thomas Roberts Family Weight Room in R.A. Faganel Hall features upgraded machines and equipment, as well as a plaque in Roberts’ honor.