HOMECOMING

SAVE THE DATE
SATURDAY, SEPT. 29

Last fall we set Homecoming attendance records with our first night game, Tailgate Alley gala, and fireworks show. So we're doing it again... only this time it'll be even better. Don't miss it!
Indulge me for a moment: In June I became a grandfather for the first time, when my daughter, Lara, gave birth to a baby girl.

Of course, you don’t have to be a parent or a grandparent to leave a legacy.

That’s what we do at Robert Morris University. It’s what we’ve done for 90 years. Everyone who has studied here, or taught here, or provided the services and resources that run our university has contributed to that legacy. RMU is a great place because our students make it a great place. Because our alumni who carry our name into the world make it a great place. Because the faculty and staff who touch their lives make it a great place.

We see our legacy manifested in myriad ways. We see it in the success of our alumni, who work hard to build influential careers and make their communities better places. We recognize this each year with our Heritage Award, which we give to alumni whose distinguished service and accomplishments bring honor to them and to RMU. You’ll read on page 26 about our 2011 recipient, John Bartling ’82, who not only has achieved tremendous professional success but who has changed the lives of those less fortunate than himself.

We presented the Heritage Award, as we do each year, at our President’s Council Dinner, an event where we thank those donors who have contributed $1,000 or more during the previous year. We invite several of our best students to attend that dinner, because we want members of our President’s Council to see exactly how their gifts get put to use.

Our donors’ legacy, like ours, is the students who benefit from all our supporters’ generosity. So it is fitting that at our President’s Council Dinner we present a graduating senior with our Rising Star Award in recognition of his or her achievements at RMU and potential for professional success.

This year’s winner, Briana Smith, happens to be the daughter of alumnus Alvin Smith ’86. The Smiths and others are featured in an article on page 12 about alumni who have given RMU the ultimate endorsement – entrusting us with the education of their children. Naturally, we call these students “legacies.” But it’s a fitting name for all our students, and I hope you are as proud of them as I am.

Sincerely,

GREGORY G. DELL’OMO, PH.D.  
PRESIDENT
The New Convergence

The university hosted a research conference in November examining the intersection of communication and information systems in organizations and academia. The conference, "Playing in the Intersection: Revisiting the ‘New Convergence,’" was sponsored by the university’s doctoral program in information systems and communication (D.Sc.) and its Alumni Research Group.

President Gregory G. Dell’Omo, Ph.D., contributed $500 for two best-of-conference paper awards. Third-year students Mary Beth Lang and Steven King won the Debons Award for Best Applied Paper for “Federated Searching: Turning Metadata into Information;” and John Lawson, Ph.D., associate professor of English studies, earned the President’s Award for Best Theoretical Paper for “Narrative Frames of Keynesian Economic Commentators.” The conference also featured a keynote talk by Fred Kohun, Ph.D., founder of the D.Sc. program and university professor of computer and information systems.

The Inn Crowd

With undergraduate enrollment, residential enrollment, and student retention all at historic levels this year, the university purchased the Holiday Inn Pittsburgh Airport to help accommodate the influx of students. The hotel, less than a mile from campus on University Boulevard, currently houses some 144 students on floors separate from hotel guests.

In August the university opened its 13th residence hall, Peter Salem Hall, which houses 190 students. Including the students at the Holiday Inn, nearly 1,700 students live in campus housing, approximately half of all full-time undergraduates and an 86 percent increase since 2000. RMU plans to continue to operate the Holiday Inn as a hotel through at least 2012, dedicating some floors to student housing, to be called Yorktown Hall. The hotel ultimately will provide space to house 500 students.

Not Too Shabby

RMU’s online degree programs are getting rave reviews. U.S. News & World Report put the master’s degree programs – competitive intelligence systems and Internet information systems – in its “Top Online Graduate Computer Information Technology Programs.” The bachelor’s degree in health services administration was included in The Best Colleges’ “Top 10 Bachelor of Health Management and Health Administration Degree Programs.” And SuperScholar, an online education and career information website, designated Robert Morris University a “Smart Choice” among the top 25 online nursing degree programs. (Read more about online degrees on page 20.)
> **It’s Gold, Baby!**

The university chapter of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars received the Gold Star Award at the society’s annual convention in Puerto Rico. The honors organization for high-achieving freshmen and sophomores has more than 300 student-run chapters at universities across the country.

> **They Are Our Heroes, Too**

The Bayer Center for Nonprofit Management received the Community Hero Award from UCP/Class, United Cerebral Palsy’s community service entity, at the organization’s 19th annual Community Heroes awards dinner.

> **Cracking the Case**

CSI has come to RMU. In the fall, the university launched a bachelor of science in cyber forensics and information security. The program, which trains students in information security and the basics of criminal investigation, is the first of its kind in western Pennsylvania.

Cyber forensics involves recovering evidence from computers or other digital storage devices. Such evidence isn’t limited to crimes committed with computers, such as hacking personal data; for instance, the notorious BTK serial killer was caught because of data gleaned from a floppy disk he sent anonymously to police. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects 20 to 50 percent job growth in the field over the next eight years, with entry-level salaries averaging from $45,000 to $85,000 annually.

> **Some Familiar Initials**

RMU, meet RMUTT. The university has signed a memorandum of understanding with Rajamangala University of Technology Thanyaburi, an institution in Thailand. Under the agreement, RMU and RMUTT will create student and faculty exchanges and explore other ways for international collaboration.

The university also has renewed its partnership with the Universidad Politecnica de Nicaragua (UPOLI), a highlight of which is the twice-yearly trips nursing students and faculty make to provide medical care to poor residents in the Central American country.

> **Déjà Vu All Over Again**

The Actuarial Foundation has awarded its annual Actuarial Diversity Scholarship to sophomore Philippe Rigaud. He joins 30 other students nationwide recognized with this prestigious scholarship. This is the second year in a row that Rigaud has received this award.

> **As Good as it Gets**

The Joint Review Committee on Education Programs in Nuclear Medicine Technology has extended the accreditation for the university’s nuclear medicine technology program for the maximum two years.

> **The Envelope, Please**

"RMU Live," the university’s student-produced television newscast, has won its second Bronze Telly Award of Excellence. The newscast was produced by Kevin Williams ’11, now a news producer at KDKA-TV. Weatherman Channing Frampton ’11 is now a weatherman and reporter at TV3 (ABC) in Winchester, Va. Watch samples of the award-winning episodes at Foundations Online.

> **WATCH SAMPLES OF THE TELLY AWARD-WINNING EPISODES AT FOUNDATIONS ONLINE.**

> **From Central Lines to Central Casting**

It sounds like something from an episode of "Seinfeld" – actors portraying patients to help student nurses learn how to diagnose illness. But it’s serious work, so much so that The Hearst Foundations designated part of a $100,000 grant to the medical simulation center at Robert Morris University to fund its standardized patient program. The grant allowed Colonial Theatre director Ken Gargaro, Ph.D., to train student actors to take on the roles of patients for student nurses, who gain experience diagnosing disease as well as interacting with patients and their family members.

The bulk of The Hearst Foundations grant, $75,000, allowed the university’s Regional Research and Innovations in Simulation Education (RISE) Center to purchase another computer-controlled mannequin for its simulation laboratory. The center is developing partnerships with local health care facilities, including St. Clair Hospital in Mt. Lebanon, to allow medical workers to advance their training.

> **It Hardly Feels Like Work Most Days**

The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette named Robert Morris University as one of the 15 Top Workplaces in the region among companies and nonprofits with more than 500 employees. The newspaper ranking is based on email surveys of employees.

> WATCH SAMPLES OF THE TELLY AWARD-WINNING EPISODES AT FOUNDATIONS ONLINE.
Scholar, Teacher, Mentor

Ben Campbell, Ph.D., assistant professor of engineering, spoke at the Westinghouse Science Honors Institute to more than 300 high school juniors from western Pennsylvania. Campbell, who has been invited to speak to the group five times, discussed his research in laser technology and described his education, background, and career path.

Campbell also gave a presentation at the National Conference of Governor’s Schools in Fargo, N.D., about efforts being made to restore Pennsylvania’s Governor’s Schools since their budget was eliminated in 2009. He is one of two Pennsylvania representatives on the board of directors for the National Conference of Governor’s Schools.

> FIND US ON FACEBOOK

Movers & Shakers

Denise Ramponi, D.N.P., assistant professor of nursing, published an article on shoulder bone and muscle anatomy for the article.

Abi Ibrahim, assistant professor of learning resources, presented a paper titled “Whither Evidence-Based Librarianship: A Comparative Reflection on the Practices in Some University Libraries in Nigeria, UK, and USA” at the Evidence-Based Library and Information Practice conference in Manchester, England.

Engineering professor Arif Sirinterlikci, Ph.D., co-authored a chapter, “Automation and Robotics in Processes,” in Instrument Engineers’ Handbook. He collaborated with Arzu Kararan of Yildiz Technical University and Oksan Imamoglu from Istanbul Technical University, both in Turkey.

Ordinary People Extraordinary Planet, the fifth book by Shellie Hipsky, Ed.D., associate professor of education, examines how one person’s actions can inspire others and create a chain of charitable acts. The book is a companion to a radio show of the same name hosted by Ray Leonard on KMR-Media in Grand Rapids, Mich.

> Getting Down to Business

Three faculty members participated recently at the Middle Atlantic Association of Colleges of Business Administration’s annual conference. Darcy Tannenhall, Ed.D., vice president of online and off-campus programs, and assistant vice president Anthony Petrey, D.M., gave a presentation titled “Academic Integrity and the Assessment of Online Programs.” Darlene Motley, Ph.D., associate dean of the School of Business, took part in a panel discussion about M.B.A. students.

> Upward and Onward

The university named Derya Jacobs, Ph.D., its new vice provost for research and graduate study. Formerly dean of the School of Business, Jacobs brings 21 years of experience in academia to her new role, including extensive experience as a teacher, researcher, and academic administrator. Under her leadership, the School of Business earned accreditation by AACSB International, the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, joining only 5 percent of business schools worldwide to carry this prestigious recognition. Jacobs succeeds university professor Fred Kohun, Ph.D., who returns to the faculty in the School of Communications and Information Systems.

> A Major Minor

School of Engineering, Mathematics and Science faculty members Tony Kerzmann, Ph.D.; Gavin Buxton, Ph.D.; and Maria Kaleyvitch, Ph.D., wrote an article about the development of the university’s new minor in alternative energy and sustainability that was published in the proceedings of the American Society for Engineering Education’s Middle Atlantic section fall conference.

> Awards

The YWCA Greater Pittsburgh gave its Carroll Arnold Distinguished Service Award to Ann Jabro, Ph.D., university professor of communication. The award recognizes a member’s contributions to the organization and the communications profession. Jabro’s article, “The Use of Social Media in Crisis Response Strategy: A Diffusion of Innovations Analysis,” was published in the Journal of Communications Media Studies.

The Pennsylvania Communication Association gave its Carroll Arnold Distinguished Service Award to Rex Crawley, Ph.D., assistant dean of the School of Communications and Information Systems, is the co-founder and co-director of the Black Male Leadership Development Institute, a partnership between RMU and the Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh that provides leadership training to teenagers and is funded by the Heinz Endowments and the Buhl Foundation. Crawley also leads the university’s Council on Institutional Equity, which promotes inclusiveness and diversity on campus. He recently wrote a chapter about fatherhood in the book Masculinity in the Black Imagination: Politics of Communicating Race and Manhood.
With the Colonials, Banaszak has orchestrated great defenses year after year. The team has earned the Northeast Conference’s top ranking in yards allowed four times in his nine seasons, most recently in 2010, when the Colonials claimed the NEC’s inaugural berth in the Football Championship Subdivision playoffs. Eight defensive linemen under Banaszak’s tutelage have garnered All-NEC recognition, including Nolan Nearhoof, who led the Colonials with seven-and-a-half sacks last year and can break the team’s career sack record his senior season with four more.

Walton, who started RMU’s football program in 1994, signed a two-year contract extension last fall that will give him 20 seasons with the team. He said the Colonials will be in good hands when Banaszak succeeds him. “He’s a good football coach, and he’s a good leader,” Walton said. “I’m very confident that the success our program has had in the past will continue with him as head coach in the future.”

“Banaszak’s Bunch” can get their old banners out of the attic. The big defensive lineman from the Super Steelers of the ‘70s has been named coach-in-waiting of the Robert Morris Colonials. John Banaszak, now assistant head coach, will succeed head coach Joe Walton after the 2013 season.

“I understand very clearly that Coach Walton is still my boss,” Banaszak said at a January news conference. “But our relationship goes much deeper than that. He’s a friend and a mentor. What he’s accomplished in building this program is immeasurable, and I hope to continue the tradition of success that he created here.”

Banaszak got his first of three championship rings with the Steelers his rookie season as a special teams player. The Eastern Michigan grad went on to earn two more as the team’s starring defensive end. His highlight performance was Super Bowl XIII, a thrilling rematch against the Dallas Cowboys in which Banaszak sacked Roger Staubach twice and recovered a fumble, earning the honor of Defensive Player of the Game. Before coming to RMU in 2003, Banaszak was head coach at Washington and Jefferson College, leading the Division III team to a 38-9 record. The Presidents’ Athletic Conference, made up of mostly small western Pennsylvania colleges, named Banaszak Coach of the Year each of his four seasons at Washington and Jefferson.

With the Colonials, Banaszak has orchestrated great defenses year after year. The team has earned the Northeast Conference’s top ranking in yards allowed four times in his nine seasons, most recently in 2010, when the Colonials claimed the NEC’s inaugural berth in the Football Championship Subdivision playoffs. Eight defensive linemen under Banaszak’s tutelage have garnered All-NEC recognition, including Nolan Nearhoof, who led the Colonials with seven-and-a-half sacks last year and can break the team’s career sack record his senior season with four more.

Walton, who started RMU’s football program in 1994, signed a two-year contract extension last fall that will give him 20 seasons with the team. He said the Colonials will be in good hands when Banaszak succeeds him. “He’s a good football coach, and he’s a good leader,” Walton said. “I’m very confident that the success our program has had in the past will continue with him as head coach in the future.”

PHOTOGRAPHY PROVIDED BY THE PITTSBURGH STEELERS & RMU ATHLETICS
SPRING SPORTS PREVIEW

BASKETBALL

Both the men's and women's teams cracked the College Insider Mid-Major Top 25 this season, boosting the growing national reputation of RMU basketball. The Big Dance beckons, but first the Colonials will have to take care of business in the NEC championships.

MEN'S AHA QUARTERFINALS
FRI., MARCH 2-3

WOMEN'S
FRI., MARCH 9-11

Afternoon of it!

to your friends and family
in the stands. Make an
show off your sports smarts

So while you're cheering for

give you the inside skinny.

We pick some of the big

games this season. And we

> CHECK RMUCOLONIALS.COM FOR THE LATEST ON GAME TIMES, VENUES, AND SCORES.

MEN'S HOCKEY

Next year RMU hosts the NCAA Frozen Four here in Pittsburgh. This year the Colonials can focus on just getting in the tournament.
Almost 5,000 cheering fans watched the Colonials take No. 4 Ohio State to the wire in December at the Consol Energy Center, a highlight in another big season. Now the Colonials are vying to host an Atlantic Hockey quarterfinal on their Neville Island ice, with the winner heading to Rochester, N.Y., to play for the conference title and NCAA bid.

MEN'S AHA QUARTERFINALS
FRI., MARCH 2-3

WOMEN'S NEC QUARTERFINALS
SAT., MARCH 3

THE BIG GAMES: MARCH 1-11
MEN'S AHA QUARTERFINALS
THURS., MARCH 1

THE BIG GAMES: MARCH 4
SEMIFINALS: MARCH 6
FINAL: MARCH 7

THE BIG GAMES: MARCH 3
SEMIFINALS: MARCH 6
FINAL: MARCH 11

MEN'S LACROSSE

The super-octane Colonials offense has led the NCAA in scoring for two years running – a feat last achieved by Virginia 15 years ago. The team also knocked off its first nationally-ranked opponent last year when it beat Bucknell. New coach Andrew McMinn, the former offensive coordinator, will have to figure out how to adjust schemes for players like star midfielder and NEC Scholar-Athlete of the Year Kiel Matisz now that the three leading scorers have moved on.

MEN'S HOCKEY

As an assistant coach, Paul Colontino helped Mercyhurst qualify for the NCAA tournament each of his five years there, including two Frozen Fours. Now that he's taken the reins at RMU, can he take the Colonials past the Lakers? New assistant coach and Team USA goalie Bri McLaughlin, whose banner hangs in the Clearview Arena, figures to play an inspirational role too.

THE BIG GAMES: MARCH 1
THE BIG GAMES: MARCH 4
SEMIFINALS: MARCH 6
FINAL: MARCH 11

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

The super-octane Colonials offense has led the NCAA in scoring for two years running – a feat last achieved by Virginia 15 years ago. The team also knocked off its first nationally-ranked opponent last year when it beat Bucknell. New coach Andrew McMinn, the former offensive coordinator, will have to figure out how to adjust schemes for players like star midfielder and NEC Scholar-Athlete of the Year Kiel Matisz now that the three leading scorers have moved on.

MEN'S HOCKEY

As an assistant coach, Paul Colontino helped Mercyhurst qualify for the NCAA tournament each of his five years there, including two Frozen Fours. Now that he's taken the reins at RMU, can he take the Colonials past the Lakers? New assistant coach and Team USA goalie Bri McLaughlin, whose banner hangs in the Clearview Arena, figures to play an inspirational role too.

THE BIG GAMES: MARCH 1
THE BIG GAMES: MARCH 4
SEMIFINALS: MARCH 6
FINAL: MARCH 11

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

The super-octane Colonials offense has led the NCAA in scoring for two years running – a feat last achieved by Virginia 15 years ago. The team also knocked off its first nationally-ranked opponent last year when it beat Bucknell. New coach Andrew McMinn, the former offensive coordinator, will have to figure out how to adjust schemes for players like star midfielder and NEC Scholar-Athlete of the Year Kiel Matisz now that the three leading scorers have moved on.

MEN'S HOCKEY

As an assistant coach, Paul Colontino helped Mercyhurst qualify for the NCAA tournament each of his five years there, including two Frozen Fours. Now that he's taken the reins at RMU, can he take the Colonials past the Lakers? New assistant coach and Team USA goalie Bri McLaughlin, whose banner hangs in the Clearview Arena, figures to play an inspirational role too.

THE BIG GAMES: MARCH 1
THE BIG GAMES: MARCH 4
SEMIFINALS: MARCH 6
FINAL: MARCH 11

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

The super-octane Colonials offense has led the NCAA in scoring for two years running – a feat last achieved by Virginia 15 years ago. The team also knocked off its first nationally-ranked opponent last year when it beat Bucknell. New coach Andrew McMinn, the former offensive coordinator, will have to figure out how to adjust schemes for players like star midfielder and NEC Scholar-Athlete of the Year Kiel Matisz now that the three leading scorers have moved on.

MEN'S HOCKEY

As an assistant coach, Paul Colontino helped Mercyhurst qualify for the NCAA tournament each of his five years there, including two Frozen Fours. Now that he's taken the reins at RMU, can he take the Colonials past the Lakers? New assistant coach and Team USA goalie Bri McLaughlin, whose banner hangs in the Clearview Arena, figures to play an inspirational role too.

THE BIG GAMES: MARCH 1
THE BIG GAMES: MARCH 4
SEMIFINALS: MARCH 6
FINAL: MARCH 11

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

The super-octane Colonials offense has led the NCAA in scoring for two years running – a feat last achieved by Virginia 15 years ago. The team also knocked off its first nationally-ranked opponent last year when it beat Bucknell. New coach Andrew McMinn, the former offensive coordinator, will have to figure out how to adjust schemes for players like star midfielder and NEC Scholar-Athlete of the Year Kiel Matisz now that the three leading scorers have moved on.

MEN'S HOCKEY

As an assistant coach, Paul Colontino helped Mercyhurst qualify for the NCAA tournament each of his five years there, including two Frozen Fours. Now that he's taken the reins at RMU, can he take the Colonials past the Lakers? New assistant coach and Team USA goalie Bri McLaughlin, whose banner hangs in the Clearview Arena, figures to play an inspirational role too.

THE BIG GAMES: MARCH 1
THE BIG GAMES: MARCH 4
SEMIFINALS: MARCH 6
FINAL: MARCH 11

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

The super-octane Colonials offense has led the NCAA in scoring for two years running – a feat last achieved by Virginia 15 years ago. The team also knocked off its first nationally-ranked opponent last year when it beat Bucknell. New coach Andrew McMinn, the former offensive coordinator, will have to figure out how to adjust schemes for players like star midfielder and NEC Scholar-Athlete of the Year Kiel Matisz now that the three leading scorers have moved on.

MEN'S HOCKEY

As an assistant coach, Paul Colontino helped Mercyhurst qualify for the NCAA tournament each of his five years there, including two Frozen Fours. Now that he's taken the reins at RMU, can he take the Colonials past the Lakers? New assistant coach and Team USA goalie Bri McLaughlin, whose banner hangs in the Clearview Arena, figures to play an inspirational role too.

THE BIG GAMES: MARCH 1
THE BIG GAMES: MARCH 4
SEMIFINALS: MARCH 6
FINAL: MARCH 11

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

The super-octane Colonials offense has led the NCAA in scoring for two years running – a feat last achieved by Virginia 15 years ago. The team also knocked off its first nationally-ranked opponent last year when it beat Bucknell. New coach Andrew McMinn, the former offensive coordinator, will have to figure out how to adjust schemes for players like star midfielder and NEC Scholar-Athlete of the Year Kiel Matisz now that the three leading scorers have moved on.

MEN'S HOCKEY

As an assistant coach, Paul Colontino helped Mercyhurst qualify for the NCAA tournament each of his five years there, including two Frozen Fours. Now that he's taken the reins at RMU, can he take the Colonials past the Lakers? New assistant coach and Team USA goalie Bri McLaughlin, whose banner hangs in the Clearview Arena, figures to play an inspirational role too.

THE BIG GAMES: MARCH 1
THE BIG GAMES: MARCH 4
SEMIFINALS: MARCH 6
FINAL: MARCH 11

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

The super-octane Colonials offense has led the NCAA in scoring for two years running – a feat last achieved by Virginia 15 years ago. The team also knocked off its first nationally-ranked opponent last year when it beat Bucknell. New coach Andrew McMinn, the former offensive coordinator, will have to figure out how to adjust schemes for players like star midfielder and NEC Scholar-Athlete of the Year Kiel Matisz now that the three leading scorers have moved on.

MEN'S HOCKEY

As an assistant coach, Paul Colontino helped Mercyhurst qualify for the NCAA tournament each of his five years there, including two Frozen Fours. Now that he's taken the reins at RMU, can he take the Colonials past the Lakers? New assistant coach and Team USA goalie Bri McLaughlin, whose banner hangs in the Clearview Arena, figures to play an inspirational role too.

THE BIG GAMES: MARCH 1
THE BIG GAMES: MARCH 4
SEMIFINALS: MARCH 6
FINAL: MARCH 11

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

The super-octane Colonials offense has led the NCAA in scoring for two years running – a feat last achieved by Virginia 15 years ago. The team also knocked off its first nationally-ranked opponent last year when it beat Bucknell. New coach Andrew McMinn, the former offensive coordinator, will have to figure out how to adjust schemes for players like star midfielder and NEC Scholar-Athlete of the Year Kiel Matisz now that the three leading scorers have moved on.

MEN'S HOCKEY

As an assistant coach, Paul Colontino helped Mercyhurst qualify for the NCAA tournament each of his five years there, including two Frozen Fours. Now that he's taken the reins at RMU, can he take the Colonials past the Lakers? New assistant coach and Team USA goalie Bri McLaughlin, whose banner hangs in the Clearview Arena, figures to play an inspirational role too.

THE BIG GAMES: MARCH 1
THE BIG GAMES: MARCH 4
SEMIFINALS: MARCH 6
FINAL: MARCH 11

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

The super-octane Colonials offense has led the NCAA in scoring for two years running – a feat last achieved by Virginia 15 years ago. The team also knocked off its first nationally-ranked opponent last year when it beat Bucknell. New coach Andrew McMinn, the former offensive coordinator, will have to figure out how to adjust schemes for players like star midfielder and NEC Scholar-Athlete of the Year Kiel Matisz now that the three leading scorers have moved on.

MEN'S HOCKEY

As an assistant coach, Paul Colontino helped Mercyhurst qualify for the NCAA tournament each of his five years there, including two Frozen Fours. Now that he's taken the reins at RMU, can he take the Colonials past the Lakers? New assistant coach and Team USA goalie Bri McLaughlin, whose banner hangs in the Clearview Arena, figures to play an inspirational role too.

THE BIG GAMES: MARCH 1
THE BIG GAMES: MARCH 4
SEMIFINALS: MARCH 6
FINAL: MARCH 11

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

The super-octane Colonials offense has led the NCAA in scoring for two years running – a feat last achieved by Virginia 15 years ago. The team also knocked off its first nationally-ranked opponent last year when it beat Bucknell. New coach Andrew McMinn, the former offensive coordinator, will have to figure out how to adjust schemes for players like star midfielder and NEC Scholar-Athlete of the Year Kiel Matisz now that the three leading scorers have moved on.
For most college students, having their father go to the same school and attend classes with them would be a nightmare. But not sophomore accounting student Caitlynn Albright. When her stepfather, John Hillen, was forced to change careers and wanted to study accounting, Caitlynn let him know he only had one choice.

"I forced him to go here," she says. "I actually got mad when I heard he was considering other schools. I told him that if he wanted to do accounting, RMU was his only choice."

Last year Caitlynn and John took managerial accounting together. On the first day of class, Caitlynn and her friends sat up front and John sat way in the back row. Caitlynn didn’t approve. "I told him, ‘Dad! Get up here!’" she says. Turns out that dad was just trying to give his daughter some space. "I didn’t want to bother her or ruin her college experience," says John, who’s in his junior year and considering RMU’s integrated M.B.A. "He’s like my little brother," she says. "When I got my tattoo, he got his tattoo. When I said I was going to get into accounting, he said, ‘That sounds like fun!’ We joke about it, so it’s all good."

A retired Air Force aircraft mechanic, John was injured while in service and reaggravated the injury working as an auto mechanic. "My doctor told me to get a new vocation," he says. Around that time he got letter in the mail from the VA about the Post-911 G.I. Bill, which enables qualified veterans to attend college free of charge. "I was a little nervous about going back to school after 15 years," he says. It wasn’t long, however, before John found his groove. "They really work with you here," he says. "Heather Jericho and Dan Rota in the veterans office have been especially helpful. They’ll give you anything you need. The students have accepted him as one of their own, too. ‘They call me Pops. I have a blast with them.’"

Caitlynn also suffers from an injury – reflex neurovascular dystrophy, a condition caused by a slip on the ice when she was 13. Her muscles sometimes contract suddenly, pulling bones apart and causing her hip to dislocate. It happens about once a week, and she often needs to use crutches. She plays E-flat clarinet in the band, but instead of marching, Caitlynn is the announcer introducing the band when it’s on the field. As for traversing campus, Caitlynn says she deals with it. "I’m late a lot, but the teachers are all understanding."

Her goal is to get her C.P.A. license, then maybe an M.B.A. from Robert Morris. "My dad wants to be more on the auditing side of things," she says. "So I’ll do the work, and he can check it."

Fathers and daughters share a special bond. And when they end up attending the same university, that bond grows even stronger. The following are three tales of fathers and their daughters, and their common connection to Robert Morris University. In two of these stories, the connection spans generations; in the other, the story’s still being written. For each of these Colonials, RMU is truly a family affair.
W hen he first found out his daughter would be attending his alma mater, Alvin Smith ’86 was overjoyed. “I’m dating myself here,” he says, “but I was like Gene Kelly in ‘Singin’ in the Rain,’ dance steps and all.”

Imagining how many puddles he splashed in when Briana Smith ’11 was named the 2011 recipient of RMU’s Rising Star Award. The honor is given to a graduating senior who demonstrates academic success, individuality, determination, passion, and potential. Briana graduated in December with a degree in communication and information systems, and is now a business technology analyst at PNC bank, where she had been an intern for two summers.

Briana is one of the first graduates who came to college through the Pittsburgh Promise, a scholarship program started in 2008 to help city public school students afford higher education. She was vice president of events and programming for Pittsburgh Promise students at RMU, organizing community service efforts and planning events for her cohort. Even though she has her diploma, Briana will continue helping with similar RMU events this spring. “I want to make sure those that follow know how to run things and that the program’s in good hands,” she says. An active volunteer; Briana helped raise money to provide a month’s worth of rice for 600 families in the African country of Ghana, and she also volunteered with Girls Hope in Coraopolis, which provides support to at-risk girls. “By Ghana, and she also volunteered with Girls Hope in

... much of an impact the college would have on my life,” she says. “Teaching in RMU’s business program, combined with the knowledge I gained from the teacher education program, really prepared me for the classroom – not just academically but also as a classroom manager,” she says.

Growing up on campus, I could never have known how much of an impact the college would have on my life,” she says. “Not only did I live there, receive my education there, and work there, but I also met my husband there. It’s like one-stop shopping at its best!” John Wilson ’85 studied communications management and transportation at Robert Morris. His brother, Matt Wilson ’84, studied marketing and business administration, and their mother, Margaret Wilson ’44, attended classes at the William Penn Hotel downtown.

Rita studied secretarial sciences at Robert Morris and eventually got a bachelor’s degree in business administration. She came back in 1995 to earn her teaching certificate, and today she is a creative writing and English teacher and tennis coach at West Allegheny High School. Before that, she taught marketing and communications part-time at RMU for over 12 years. “Teaching in RMU’s business program, combined with the knowledge I gained from the teacher education program, really prepared me for the classroom – not just academically but also as a classroom manager,” she says.

Rita studied secretarial sciences at Robert Morris and eventually got a bachelor’s degree in business administration. She came back in 1995 to earn her teaching certificate, and today she is a creative writing and English teacher and tennis coach at West Allegheny High School. Before that, she taught marketing and communications part-time at RMU for over 12 years. “Teaching in RMU’s business program, combined with the knowledge I gained from the teacher education program, really prepared me for the classroom – not just academically but also as a classroom manager,” she says.

Growing up on campus, I could never have known how much of an impact the college would have on my life,” she says. “Not only did I live there, receive my education there, and work there, but I also met my husband there. It’s like one-stop shopping at its best!” John Wilson ’85 studied communications management and transportation at Robert Morris. His brother, Matt Wilson ’84, studied marketing and business administration, and their mother, Margaret Wilson ’44, attended classes at the William Penn Hotel downtown.

After 22 years in management at UPS, Alvin retired as an operations business manager. He also had the opportunity to represent the company as the district loan executive for the United Way. “Robert Morris helped make it possible by making me willing to take on challenges and take chances,” he says. “Failure is 100 percent guaranteed if you never take the shot.”

“RMU genuinely pursues excellence in the development of its students to help them become the future leaders of tomorrow,” he adds. “I’m proud to see that Briana’s become part of the change here.”

W hile Ellen Langas ’79 was five years old, her family lived in a house that stood where the Sewall Center lower parking lot is today. “Back then the campus was much different,” she says. “There were stables and apple orchards and everything. It was a real country experience.”

They moved there when Robert Morris hired her father, George Langas, to be director of maintenance in 1963. “Dad came over from Greece and taught himself to speak and write English. It was impressive that he was given this opportunity.”

Once she was attending classes, having her father on campus did present some challenges. “He kept us right under his surveillance,” she says. “It was tough having this strict Greek dad and his entire crew keeping an eye on you at all times. It certainly wasn’t the typical college experience.”

“I loved growing up with the entire campus as my backyard,” says Rita Langas Wilson ’77. Ellen’s sister. “My father was respected and admired by students and peers alike. He would coordinate faculty and staff picnics and freeze over the old tennis courts so that students and kids from the neighborhood could go ice-skating. He really went above and beyond in his job.”

Ellen earned a degree in marketing from Robert Morris in just three years, graduating summa cum laude. She helped found the Students In Free Enterprise team, and in 1978, led it to a national championship. Now she is the founder and president of NouSoma Communications Inc., a Philadelphia marketing, publishing, and public relations company. Before that, she worked at the shopping channel QVC Inc., where she handled public relations and was also one of the company’s first on-air hosts. She is also the author of the Girls Know How book series, which encourages young girls to pursue the careers of their dreams.
There’s nothing quite like flamenco. To southerners of Spain, this passionate dance has spread through Europe, Latin America, and even Japan. But then there’s the story of flamenco in the United States?

This is the question posed by Carolina Loyola-Garcia, documentary-in-progress, “Inheritors of a Burden.” “Flamenco is the one performance form that I fell in love with,” says Loyola-Garcia. “It speaks to me on a very raw, internal level.”

Loyola-Garcia is an energetic polymath whose creativity is blinding. She has already produced a dozen videos, from traditional documentaries to commissioned works and experimental films. These videos demonstrate an incredible range of vision and intent. “The Other Land” is a dizzying exploration of language and culture, filmed in unnaturally bright colors and starring a creepy mix of mummers and nuns. In contrast, “Pascoal Lamba” is a straightforward documentary that investigates the gold mining industry in Chile. Many of these projects incorporate both English and Spanish.

But the artist is involved in far more than videography. She has also created art installations, has curated art shows, and she has provided video backdrops for Quantum Theatre and other theatrical troupes. Her work has been showcased in film and art exhibitions from Pittsburgh to Spain, Canada, Chile, and her native Chile. Meanwhile, as an associate professor, Loyola-Garcia teaches video and motion graphics at Robert Morris, as well as classes in videography. She has also created art installations, and she has provided video backdrops for Quantum Theatre and other theatrical troupes. Her work has been showcased in film and art exhibitions from Pittsburgh to Spain, Canada, Chile, and her native Chile.

Meanwhile, as an associate professor, Loyola-Garcia teaches video and motion graphics at Robert Morris, as well as classes in videography. She has also created art installations, and she has provided video backdrops for Quantum Theatre and other theatrical troupes. Her work has been showcased in film and art exhibitions from Pittsburgh to Spain, Canada, Chile, and her native Chile.

Loyola-Garcia first brewed the idea for a documentary in 2005. The process has been slow, beginning with a trip to New York in 2008, where she began to learn flamenco’s complex family tree—teachers, choreographers, performers, and students. “I was casting the documentary, in a way,” she recalls. Among the many personalities Loyola-Garcia hopes to introduce to wider audiences is José Greco, an early proponent of flamenco in America. Greco passed away in 2000, but Loyola-Garcia interviewed the dancer’s daughter and many of Greco’s students and collaborators, hoping to illustrate his powerful legacy.

But through it all, there is flamenco. Loyola-Garcia’s love affair goes back to her childhood in Santiago. Her father, an “opera fanatic,” took the family to see a performance of Carmen that was mesmerizing. When she was 13, her family took a trip to Spain to visit relatives, and she encountered authentic flamenco for the first time. When she reached college, Loyola-Garcia took dance classes, and the rest is historia. “I got hooked, you know?” she says. “It’s not something that I do full-time. It’s one of my hobbies. But I’m very much in love with it. It tells the story of oppression, of a people coming together because of the Spanish Inquisition. You can hear the lamentation.”

Loyola-Garcia turned to Kickstarter, an online fundraising tool for grassroots art projects. She described her project, set a goal of $2,500, and offered rewards for contributions. Investors who pledged $10 would receive free admission to the film’s premiere; at the $50 level, investors would receive a “special thanks” film credit and a signed DVD. The effort earned $3,972 from 56 backers in 30 days. Soon after, she traveled with her film crew to New York and filmed hours of interviews and performance. Loyola-Garcia is still actively seeking sponsors to fund her remaining shoots and post-production.

“Inheritors of a Burden” is characteristically ambitious, and Loyola-Garcia has crossed the country in pursuit of material. Using grants from the Heinz Endowments and the Pittsburgh Foundation, the intrepid producer traveled to Washington, Lancaster, and Philadelphia. Her research took her team as far as Madrid, and she also planned to shoot footage in New York, California, and Florida. But last year she stumbled into a problem. Her sizable grants would not fund her tour of New York, one of flamenco’s most important hotspots.

Not to be deterred, Loyola-Garcia turned to Kickstarter, an online fundraising tool for grassroots art projects. She described her project, set a goal of $2,500, and offered rewards for contributions. Investors who pledged $10 would receive free admission to the film’s premiere; at the $50 level, investors would receive a “special thanks” film credit and a signed DVD. The effort earned $3,972 from 56 backers in 30 days. Soon after, she traveled with her film crew to New York and filmed hours of interviews and performance. Loyola-Garcia is still actively seeking sponsors to fund her remaining shoots and post-production.

The film’s official premiere is planned for December. Loyola-Garcia wants to recut the film in a variety of formats to appeal to a range of viewers and maximize her audience on the festival circuit. “We want to describe the history. We want to show contemporary flamenco artists. And we want to showcase what flamenco is—it looks like, what it sounds like,” she says. “In the end, it’s all very intertwined.”
Ron Razete ’85 came to southwestern Pennsylvania 30 years ago to be a pastor, not a businessman. But through a series of what he calls “holy accidents,” Razete and his wife, RMU Island Sports Center guest services coordinator Marci Razete, have created a gangbusters business: Peace Love and Little Donuts, a psychedelia-themed hole in the wall in Pittsburgh’s Strip District.

“My wife and I got into business to raise money to open a retreat for marriage enrichment,” says Razete, whose degree is in marketing. “Working in the ministry helps you develop a realistic set of instincts about human behavior. You can build a better mousetrap, but it’s more important to figure out what people like.”

The Razetes began selling candied popcorn and other treats at outdoor festivals, and eventually private label snacks to groceries. But Pittsburgh’s often rainy weather makes festival sales risky, and the raves about the donuts that were part of their repertoire seemed worth pursuing.

Among the felicitous twists of fate: taking a small mobile donut fryer off the hands of a fellow concessionaire for a few hundred dollars. A fire-suppression hood thrown in for free brought the apparatus up to code for indoor use. Looking for a storefront “so small we’d never go broke,” the Razetes found a 209-square-foot space – formerly a newsstand – on Smallman Street near the iconic St. Stanislaus Kostka church, and opened in 2009.

Because of its compact size, the fryer can only handle a few donuts at a time. So while cooking oil temperature can drop dramatically when a lot of food is immersed at once, the oil at Peace Love and Little Donuts stays a steady 375 degrees. Hence the crisp exterior that is the hallmark of Razete’s delicacies.

Then there’s the innovative flavorings. “Groovy” donuts – 75 cents, please – are rolled in flavored sugars like ginger and Saigon cinnamon. “Far out” varieties are $1 frosted with icings that include coffee and orange. “Funkadelics” will set you back $1.25 and feature icings and toppings in combinations that start with banana split, cherry pie, and s’mores, and get more adventurous. Maple frosting topped with shredded bacon, anyone?

As for the ’60s and ’70s-era imagery, Razete says, “That’s my life. AM radio, Wolfman Jack, the Doobie Brothers, Boston. I’ve lived a very, very conservative life. I never did drugs or drank, but I enjoyed the music of that time. And the TV: Scooby Doo, The Dating Game, Rowan & Martin’s Laugh-In. Our signs and graphics are straight out of Laugh-In.”

On a recent busy Sunday, a line snaked down the block while six people pinwheeled expertly around each other behind the counter. At one point or another, all the Razetes have taken their turn at the fryer – Ron and Marci; their daughters Macy, Christianna, and Brianna, who’s studying early childhood education at RMU; sons Gabriel and Caelin, who’s a manufacturing engineering major; and daughter-in-law Jennifer Edwards Razete, a student who also works with Marci at the Island Sports Center. Razete says he appreciates the way RMU “helps students transition into the real world, helps them figure out how to solve real-world problems. The school has its roots in capitalism, which I like.”

While the Razetes’ marriage retreat is still in the plans, the donut shop keeps galloping forward. Razete has licensed the business, and two other shops have opened recently, one on Meyran Avenue in Oakland and another in Naples, Fla. Licensee agreements are also in the works with other entrepreneurs, some of whom plan to open much bigger shops. Razete wishes them luck but has his reservations. “Our small size is part of the appeal,” he says. “You have to step in and accept and enjoy the intimacy.”

WRITTEN BY BONNIE PFISTER
PHOTOGRAPHY PROVIDED BY HOT METAL STUDIOS

PEACE LOVE & LITTLE DONUTS

ROBERT MORRIS UNIVERSITY FOUNDATIONS • 19
The last time Larry O'Leary walked into a classroom was 1983. Today, he's back at school via the virtual classroom, earning his M.S. degree in organizational leadership in RMU's fully online graduate program.

O'Leary says it's too early for him to assess how e-learning stacks up to a traditional education, but he has noticed that class participation and discussions are much more extensive than they were in his brick and mortar days. While students in a classroom typically have three hours a week to talk about issues, he notes that those online are reading, writing, and posting comments five to seven days a week, 24 hours a day. And while he might not know what his classmates look like, "you can get a feel for how people think and the type of personality they have by reading their introductory bios, posts and responses," he says.

Whatever opinion one may have of distance learning, one thing is sure: It is not going away. From 2002 to 2010, while the overall student body in higher education increased by two percent annually, the number of students taking at least one online class a semester grew by 20 percent, according to a recent report in "The Chronicle of Higher Education." Undergraduates can choose among seven online degrees, from business and nursing to English and psychology. "Students expect it, the market demands it, and the technology makes it possible," says professor Lois Bryan, D.S.C., who teaches managerial accounting for RMU's online M.B.A. program.

But the jury is still in session over how well virtual learning compares to a traditional education. Tensions are apparent in a recent Pew Research Center survey of college presidents, in which nearly half said they believe an online course does not provide an equal educational value compared to one taken in the classroom. Bryan, who also teaches traditional business courses, agrees there are some drawbacks. "In the classroom, I get a lot of energy and cues from students as to where the discussion should go. When students don't understand something, I get an immediate question. That's not happening online yet." Other students in a classroom typically have three hours a week to talk about issues, but online, all students must respond to discussion posts from their professors and peers.

Undergraduates can choose among seven online degrees, from business and nursing to English and psychology. "Students expect it, the market demands it, and the technology makes it possible," says professor Lois Bryan, D.S.C., who teaches managerial accounting for RMU’s online M.B.A. program.

The only difference in an online course is the delivery, says Darcy Tannehill, E.D.D., vice president of online and off-campus programs and associate professor of education. And, she adds, students cannot hide in an online class. "Many professors can vouch that often in the classroom setting, two or three students dominate the discussion, while the majority contribute little," says Tannehill. "But online, all students must contribute little," says Tannehill. "But online, all students must respond to discussion posts from their professors and peers."

While intimidation, uncertainty, or apathy may keep some classroom students from participating, Tannehill says those studying online can take the time they need to read and think about their responses, do some research and reply intelligently — when they are ready.

The university's B.S. degree in health services administration used to be a hybrid of classroom time and online work, but the major is now entirely online. The program's new director, Joseph Angelelli, Ph.D., formerly of Brown University, says the change actually sets the bar higher. "Students are not limited by a weekly class time, but are able to communicate all the time," he says. "They can be more reflective, and faculty are able to be in constant contact with them." Many of the students are already working in health care fields, so they bring their everyday work experiences to the discussions, Angelelli says.

That appeals to students like John Shingle, a sophomore in the program. "Classroom discussions tend to be more teacher-driven, but online they are more student-driven, which has its benefits," he says. For example, one recent discussion about long waits in the emergency room garnered 40 comments. "In the classroom, one or two students would have said something, and that would have been the end of it," Shingle says.

RMU’s online health services administration degree program was ranked #5 in The Best Colleges Top 10 Bachelor of Health Management and Health Administration Degree Programs of 2011-2012. Angelelli is grateful for the distinction, but adds, ‘I’d like us to be number one.”

Another sign of the health of the university's online programs is that the majority of students keep coming back. While most online courses have retention rates that average about 50 percent, according to Tannehill, RMU had a 94 percent retention rate in graduate online courses and a 97 percent in undergraduate courses in fall 2011. "Once you're here," Tannehill says, "we want to do everything we can to keep and engage you.”

WRITTEN BY JIM TALERICO >> TALERICO IS AN ADJUNCT PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS AT RMU
At the factory store of Betsy Ann Chocolates, James Paras ’80 notices when the aroma of fresh, handmade chocolates conjures powerful memories among his customers. “You can see on their faces these memories come alive,” says Paras, president of the family business for more than two decades.

Founded in 1938 by Betsy Ann Helsel, the West View company supplied the candy shops in Horne’s department stores. In 1968, when Helsel retired, she sold the business to Harry and Catherine Paras. The middle son of five boys, James grew up in the candy business. For him, the chocolate factory was always a place of work, not a Willy Wonka fantasy.

Just steps above the store, in the factory’s kitchen, industrial mixers agitate gallons of molten chocolate. Workers pour and spread the smooth, brown liquid by hand onto grooved marble tables to prepare it for various confections. On one table, an inch-thick slab of chocolate meltaway seven feet long by five feet wide waits to be cut into bite-sized squares.

In the next room, underneath a photo from the iconic “I Love Lucy” chocolate factory episode, three ladies in hairnets keep pace with a white conveyor belt dotted with chocolate-covered caramels. The candies emerge from the coating machine, where their bottoms are first coated by a grooved metal belt drenched with molten chocolate, then a chocolate waterfall coats their tops and sides. The candies cool, and the ladies carefully place them into paper liners and pack them in boxes.

The chocolates are “exactly the same as they were more than 50 years ago,” Paras says.

He worked in the factory on weekends and school breaks since the age of 12, but he didn’t initially plan to stay in the family business. After earning his accounting degree at RMU, he got a job selling mutual funds for a financial services company. One day a few months later, when he stopped by the chocolate factory to say hello, his father asked him to stay. Income from investment sales was unpredictable, but the factory offered steady pay. So Paras quit his new job and joined Betsy Ann full time, making candies, packing boxes, and helping wherever he was needed.

When his mother had a heart attack and could no longer run the company office, Paras stepped in to handle business operations. Since 1990, he has been president of Betsy Ann Chocolates. His brother, Bob, runs the factory now, while their father, now in his 80s, still comes in to make candies during busy times. Betsy Ann now has some 40 employees and produces 200,000 pounds of chocolates annually, with hopes to eventually double that output.

In addition to maintaining the company’s high standards, Paras has helped it weather major changes. When Horne’s stores began closing — the retailer shut down in 1994 — Betsy Ann rebounded by opening its own shops. That strategy worked until the economic downturn of 2001, when sales declined and never bounced back. In 2004, Betsy Ann was forced to close stores and rethink its strategy again.

“A lot of people thought after we closed all those stores that we were gone,” says Paras. The company was just searching for the right way to grow again. Today, in addition to the factory store, Betsy Ann has a store in Allison Park and a franchise in the South Hills. The rest of the business comes from Internet sales, fundraising through schools and organizations, and most recently, a return to department stores. Since 2008 Macy’s has carried displays of the chocolates at its Pittsburgh area stores.

Paras credits his RMU education with helping him navigate changes in the market. When he makes important decisions, he often thinks about a class he took in business policy. “I have drawn upon the case studies we reviewed in class to help with my decisions,” he says.

The company’s success is also due to a passion for fine chocolates, and the type of family traditions that their aroma can evoke. “Chocolate is almost always associated with the best times of your life,” Paras says. “It adds a dimension to those occasions. It anchors our lives to good, wholesome things that they should be anchored to.”
It can be an exciting adventure, greeting the day in an exotic European locale no tourist has ever heard of. Sometimes, maybe too exciting.

As a United Nations observer in postwar Kosovo, Julie Woloshin ’03 used to be jolted out of bed every morning by an angry phone call from the town mayor, threatening to launch an armed assault against his rivals.

It was 2008, and the Moon Township native was stationed in Viti, a town of about 59,000 in rural southeast Kosovo. At the time, nearly a decade had passed since NATO bombed Serbia to stop its army from crushing a rebellion in the breakaway province. U.N. workers like Woloshin were spread across Kosovo, trying to cool tensions between the ethnic majority Albanians and the minority Serbs, who consider Kosovo their historic homeland.

When Kosovo declared independence that February, things got even more tense. In Viti, Serb municipal workers blockaded themselves in their office in protest. The town’s Albanian mayor tried to fire them, but they ignored him. Armed local Serbs gathered around the office to “guard” it. Suddenly, Viti threatened to become the next Balkan tinderbox. In the middle of it all was one U.N. worker who had only just learned to speak the language. And she was starting to get some rather unnerving phone calls.

“The municipality here really wanted to flex its muscles and occupy that building,” says Woloshin. “My boss told me, ‘You have to hold it until Serbia has its elections in May.’ Every single day at 7:30, the mayor would be calling me, waking me up, screaming. ‘We’re going in the building today!’”

This was not the kind of morning the social sciences major had in mind when she signed up for the study abroad program. Woloshin was an accomplished hurdler who came to RMU on a track scholarship. She joined the honors program as a freshman, and started to think about a career in law.

But the daughter of a French Canadian mother and Russian-Cossack father also yearned to experience the world for herself. So Woloshin spent a semester in Paris her junior year, studying at Schiller International University. Her perspective shifted. “I realized there is more to life than working in an office. One learns that in Paris, when you’re enjoying wine and cheese and spending time with people. At that time I realized I didn’t want to get into the corporate world. I wanted to experience different cultures and meet people and travel.”

After graduation, Woloshin went back to Schiller to earn a master’s in international relations and diplomacy. She worked in Brussels for an international conflict resolution group, then was hired as a consultant by the government of Macedonia, Kosovo’s neighbor to the south. A year later, she took the U.N. post in Viti.

And soon found herself shuttling back and forth between the town’s Serbs and Albanians, trying to preserve a fragile truce.

First she persuaded the Serbs to release government property from the building, piece by piece – first official stamps, then computers, finally a school bus. She gummed up the mayor’s plan to fire the Serbs, by arguing he hadn’t given them the required three days’ notice. Hurdle by hurdle, she helped Viti – and Kosovo – make it to the finish line. Moderates won the Serbian elections. The United States and most of Europe still formally won’t. When it was over, Woloshin hung up her phone and took a three-week vacation to the seaside.

But Woloshin has also come to love Kosovo and the rest of the Balkans. The generosity and hospitality of the people struck her immediately.

“People exhibit a passion for life regardless of their conditions. They spend more time living, dancing and singing, spending time with their families and friends. That’s what’s really nice. They deal with life differently, and that taught me a lot.”

After graduation, Woloshin went back to Schiller to earn a master’s in international relations and diplomacy. She worked in Brussels for an international conflict resolution group, then was hired as a consultant by the government of Macedonia, Kosovo’s neighbor to the south. A year later, she took the U.N. post in Viti.

And soon found herself shuttling back and forth between the town’s Serbs and Albanians, trying to preserve a fragile truce.

First she persuaded the Serbs to release government property from the building, piece by piece – first official stamps, then computers, finally a school bus. She gummed up the mayor’s plan to fire the Serbs, by arguing he hadn’t given them the required three days’ notice. Hurdle by hurdle, she helped Viti – and Kosovo – make it to the finish line. Moderates won the Serbian elections. The United States and most of Europe still formally won’t. When it was over, Woloshin hung up her phone and took a three-week vacation to the seaside. Now she is a senior democratization officer in Kosovo, overseeing the effort to promote good governance and human rights principles by supervising 11 international field teams that cover a territory with half a million residents. Her studies at RMU, Woloshin says, provided excellent career preparation for her leadership role. “One of the reasons I am the youngest person in this position is that I am able to communicate clearly and get my point across,” she says. “My colleagues may be more experienced. But if it wasn’t for those communication skills that were drilled in at Robert Morris, I wouldn’t be able to present my knowledge and experience as clearly and effectively.”

When not working, Woloshin is usually traveling. Back home once a year, but usually to exotic, exciting destinations – Greece, Italy, Russia, Thailand. Africa is next on the calendar. All much more enjoyable when she doesn’t have to take phone calls from the mayor.

“People exhibit a passion for life regardless of their conditions. They spend more time living, dancing and singing, spending time with their families and friends. That’s what’s really nice. They deal with life differently, and that taught me a lot.”

Woloshin has also come to love Kosovo and the rest of the Balkans. The generosity and hospitality of the people struck her immediately.

Writer: Mark House
When John Bartling ’82 was studying for his B.S.B.A. in marketing at Robert Morris, he probably never imagined that one day he would be ringing the opening bell of the New York Stock Exchange. But it took him less than 20 years to get there. “You get up on that little balcony overlooking the floor with all the traders, with CNBC over in one corner, and there is all this pent-up excitement,” says Bartling. “Then your moment comes, and never in your life do you think you will be the person who gets to stand on the podium and push that button.”

Bartling transferred to Robert Morris from Westminster College to finish his degree while paying his way through college. “Going to school at night and working during the day really focuses your attention on how much a degree is really worth to you,” he says. “Asking myself that question – is going to school really important to you – definitely matured me.”

After graduation, Bartling’s first position was with Mellon Bank’s commercial mortgage banking group. One of his clients, a major real estate development and investment firm, asked him to head their new land development division. “So at 28, I moved from Pittsburgh to Washington, D.C., to start a business I had no clue how to run,” he says. But Bartling found success; in 1992, he moved to Wall Street to assist big banks in pooling commercial mortgages to sell to investors. Later, as CEO of an Ohio real estate company with a billion dollars in real estate investments, he took the company public on the NYSE – and rang the celebrated opening bell. Another string of successes followed, eventually leading up to his joining Ares Management in 2010.

Bartling says his wife and children help him keep his perspective. “Ringing the bell on Wall Street, as exciting and fun as it was, pales in comparison to watching your child take their first steps, go to their first dance, or graduate from high school. For me personally, parenting is about being able to enjoy the world in which we all live in through their eyes.”

When his daughter Amanda was three months old, she had a bad reflux condition, causing her to choke and almost die. She ended up spending a significant portion of the next six months in the hospital and on a heart monitor. Because of that scare and the lifesaving medical treatment his daughter received, Bartling became an active supporter of hospitals and medical charities – both in terms of the dollars he raises or donates as well as time and effort on their behalf. A charity he created, Caring Partners for Kids, makes available vacant apartments and houses to families who need a place to stay while their child undergoes surgery or needs long-term health care.

“Little things can have a huge impact in your community,” says Bartling. “Sometimes just making use of what you are not using can make an enormous impact.”

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MICHAEL WYLL ’08

Making an Impact
**Student Profile**

One day Jamar Cromwell Little will be giving some company a strategic competitive advantage. But for now, the advantage belongs to RMU.

The transfer from Kent State already has his bachelor’s degree in competitive intelligence systems and is currently pursuing his M.S. in information security assurance. As the starting fullback for the Colonials football team last season, Little was named the inaugural recipient of the Tim Hall Scholarship, named for the late RMU running back and member of the Oakland Raiders. "I’ve been playing football since I was 8 years old," says Little. "Achieving something like this is a reflection of 14 years of hard work."

When he’s not hitting the books or the opposing defense, Little likes to do his best John Coltrane impersonation on the tenor saxophone, which he’s been playing since seventh grade. "It was either play an instrument or join the choir," he says. "And I can’t sing, so..." Today he plays several instruments and is a member of RMU’s jazz band and the Center of Life jazz band. Little has played in jazz clubs in the Strip District with renowned jazz artists like Roger Humphries and Sean Jones.

And, oh yeah, he’s also quite the poet. "I love writing because it’s a release," he says. "You are able to be nonconforming to society’s everyday train of thought. You can take off the shackles and walk in whatever direction you desire with a pen and pad."

**Faculty Profile**

Students know they will get a lot of homework from Peter Wu, Ph.D. The associate professor of computer and information systems has a reputation for giving out assignments on the first day and not letting up until finals. But whether he’s teaching database design, web development, or geographic information systems, Wu believes his students learn best through practice. "It takes a lot of time for them to appreciate it," Wu says. "For me the most encouraging thing is when they come back to me years later and say, ‘What I learned from you was valuable.’"

The third of five boys, Wu came from a working class family in then-British Hong Kong. With a full tuition scholarship to the University of Rochester, he arrived in 1975 not knowing a soul, with two suitcases and $300. Wu went on to earn a master’s and doctorate at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, then spent seven years as a computer science researcher at the IBM Watson Research Center. He went back to Hong Kong and taught for two years, then came to Pittsburgh to join a colleague in starting a consulting business. Although that venture didn’t pan out, another did: Wu met his wife here, Taiwan-born Yijen, and they have two boys, Zechary and Joshua. After four years at Pitt, Wu came to RMU in 2003.

With the university now in the process of renewing its accreditation, Wu was chosen to co-chair the committee measuring progress on student retention and support services, such as tutoring. "This is purely a learning experience for me," he says. "The learning part and the thinking part is interesting. Writing the documents and making them foolproof, that is tough and hard." His students may be glad to know that Wu has a lot of homework too.

**Up Close and Personal**

WRITTEN BY MARK HOUSER

PHOTOGRAPHY PROVIDED BY PETER WU
1970s

**JOHN K. YAKLICH ’71** is the author of the e-book romance *Mercy*, under the pseudonym “Jocko.” The story concerns a woman who has been severely injured in a crash. John lives in Verona.

**DANIEL D. WOLFE ’77** merged his accounting firm with A.S. Ficano & Co., where he was a former shareholder. The new firm is Byler, Wolfe, Lutich & Kamber Inc. He lives in East Liverpool, Ohio.

**DOROTHY FRANK ’78** was director of corporate support for Essential Public Radio 90.5 FM and WYEP 91.3 FM. She was formerly with Ernst & Young. Dorothy lives in Pittsburgh.

**KEVIN COLEB ’79** was promoted to general manager of the Pittsburgh Steelers, the first person in team history to hold that title. Kevin joined the Steelers in 2000 as the director of scouting and player personnel. Kevin also was recently appointed to the RMU Board of Trustees. He lives in Pittsburgh.

1980s

**NICHOLAS GARRUBBA ’81** is executive vice president for loan and credit administration at Brentwood Bank. He lives in McKees Rocks.

**DALE H. KILLMEYER ’81** was elected chairman of the board of Southwind Inc., a nonprofit agency providing quality residential care and life skills training for adults with developmental challenges. Dale is vice president and director of corporate finance for International Capital Networks LLC. He and his wife, DEBBIE KILLMEYER ’83, live in Pittsburgh.

**JEANNIE V. CRYCHLOW ’81** was named to the board of Uptown Partners. Jeanne is the director of volunteer and community services for UPMC Mercy. She lives in Pittsburgh.

**JEFF BELSKY ’83 M’86** and JOHNNEK BLYSKY ’07 are owners of J W. Hall’s Steak and Seafood Inn in Hopewell. For the past 11 years, Jeff has been an administrator at the Pittsburgh Technical Institute, and Johnne has worked as an emergency room nurse at St. Clair Memorial Hospital. The Belyks reside in Moon Township with their three teenagers.

**WAYNE P. KURTZ ’89** is the president and CEO of Karlsberg International Insurance Corp. He lives in Belize.

**DALE MILLIGAN ’90** was promoted to senior vice president of reimbursement for Aplia Healthcare. He and his wife, Kimberly, and twin sons, Aidan and Riley, live in the Philadelphia area.

**JEANNE V. CRICHLOW ’88** was promoted to senior vice president of audit services for UPMC Mercy. She lives in Pittsburgh.

**MARK DOODS M’93** co-edited the recently published *Encyclopedia of Sport Management and Marketing*. Mark is an associate professor of sport management at SUNY Cortland.

**BETTI D. MASLANKA LYNCH ’94** was promoted to investment relationship manager for Schneider Downs. Beth and her husband, JEFFREY M. LYNCH M’93, live in Pittsburgh.

**P.J. DUNUZZO M’95** was named to the board of Valley Cam Association Endowment Corp. He is the founder of DNuzzo Investment Advisors. He lives in Beaver.

**JOHN A. LYTTLE ’95** joined the nonprofit niche team in the accounting and auditing department of Horvitz, Rudoy & Roteman. John lives in Pittsburgh.

**MARK DEBIASIO M’99** played football for the University of Kentucky. He was an intern at a major consulting firm in New York. Mark is now an independent consulting business owner.

**CINDY BERIE GLANZER ’73** is an administrative assistant with Parametric Technology Corp. in Fort Collins, Colo. She lives in Loveland, Colo., with her husband, Jeff, and their children, Jeremy, Andrew, and Chelsea.

**THOMAS YOUNG ’91** is a principal with Laron/Allen, leading the firm’s state and local tax practice. He was formerly with Ernst & Young. Ellen lives in Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

**MARIE STEWART ’02** is the owner of Stagecoach Trucking, a trucking company located in Washington County, Pa. She lives in Carnegie.

**SHARI PAYNE M’10** and Michael Purvis are the proud parents of Sophie Rose Purvis, born October 20. Shari is the university’s Dean of Engaged Learning. The family resides in Lower Burrell.

**HEATHER FENK ’02** is the national recruiter and HR consultant with Vantagen. She is currently pursuing her master’s in public management at Carnegie Mellon. Heather resides in Pittsburgh.

1990s

**MARK DODDS M’93** co-edited the recently published *Encyclopedia of Sport Management and Marketing*. Mark is an associate professor of sport management at SUNY Cortland.

**BONNIE WILSON ’96** and Ken Haines were married on July 20 in Marco Island, Fla. Bonnie is employed by AIP in their comprehensive services organization. She lives in Washington County with her husband and stepchildren.

**JOHN A. LYTTLE ’95** joined the nonprofit niche team in the accounting and auditing department of Horvitz, Rudoy & Roteman. John lives in Pittsburgh.

**J.J. LOUVIC ’96** is vice president and director of sales for Dynamic Research Corp. He lives in Pittsburgh.

**SHARON HUNSICKEL ’98** is a principal with Laron/Allen, leading the firm’s state and local tax practice. He was formerly with Ernst & Young. Ellen lives in Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

**CAROLYN M. HALL ’02** was named to the board of LifeSpan Inc. Carolyn is the administrator of Elderfest Nursing Center. She lives in Carnegie.

**MARIE STEWART ’02** is the owner of Stagecoach Trucking, a trucking company located in Washington County, Pa. She lives in Carnegie.

**SHARON HUNSICKEL ’98** is a principal with Laron/Allen, leading the firm’s state and local tax practice. He was formerly with Ernst & Young. Ellen lives in Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

**CINDY BERIE GLANZER ’73** is an administrative assistant with Parametric Technology Corp. in Fort Collins, Colo. She lives in Loveland, Colo., with her husband, Jeff, and their children, Jeremy, Andrew, and Chelsea.

**THOMAS YOUNG ’91** is a principal with Laron/Allen, leading the firm’s state and local tax practice. He was formerly with Ernst & Young. Ellen lives in Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

**HEATHER FENK ’02** is the national recruiter and HR consultant with Vantagen. She is currently pursuing her master’s in public management at Carnegie Mellon. Heather resides in Pittsburgh.
JACLYN E. GOEHRING ’07 married Brad Barkor on August 5. She is a kindergarten teacher in the Shannango Area School District near New Castle. The Barkors live in Greenville.

JACLYN MALECKI ’04 and Matt Dean were married in July. Jaclyn is an IT research and communications specialist for UPMC. The couple lives in Pittsburgh.

TIMOTHY DIANA ’06 and BECKY KENNEDY DIANA ’06 M’02 welcomed daughter Caroline Marie on July 26, to join brothers Patrick, 6, and Andrews, 4. Tim works for Guardian Protection Service and Becky is assistant director of RMU conference and facilities services. They live in Moon Township.

MICHAEL D. WELSH ’06 is a fraud investigator at Facebook. He previously was a senior consultant with McGroty & McDowell in Pittsburgh. Michael has moved to Palo Alto, Calif.

JACLYN E. GOEHRING ’07 married Brad Barkor on August 5. She is a kindergarten teacher in the Shannango Area School District near New Castle. The Barkors live in Greenville.

KATIE SELBY ’05 and Dan Hughes were married on May 28. Katie is an HR coordinator for Maryland Quality Meats in Baltimore. After a honeymoon in the Bahamas, the Hughes are residing in Westminster, Md.

MONICA A. CLARK ’06 is PSH quality assurance analyst at CGI Federal Inc. She lives in Alexandria, Va.

Samantha is corporate tax manager at Liberty Tire and Recycling. She lives in West Alexandria, Va. Samantha is corporate tax manager at Liberty Tire and Recycling. She lives in West Alexandria, Va.

ROBERT M. ROBBINS ’06 M’06 is an office assistant and transcriptionist at Greater Pittsburgh Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine in Cranberry and a water aerobics instructor at the Beaver County YMCA. Kimberly married Patrick Lissie Jr. in 2009. They live with their son, Mason, and Patrick, 1, in Fombell, Pa.

Samantha is corporate tax manager at Liberty Tire and Recycling. She lives in West Alexandria, Va.

JACLYN MALECKI ’04 and Matt Dean were married in July. Jaclyn is an IT research and communications specialist for UPMC. The couple lives in Pittsburgh.

TIMOTHY DIANA ’06 and BECKY KENNEDY DIANA ’06 M’02 welcomed daughter Caroline Marie on July 26, to join brothers Patrick, 6, and Andrews, 4. Tim works for Guardian Protection Service and Becky is assistant director of RMU conference and facilities services. They live in Moon Township.

MICHAEL D. WELSH ’06 is a fraud investigator at Facebook. He previously was a senior consultant with McGroty & McDowell in Pittsburgh. Michael has moved to Palo Alto, Calif.

JACLYN E. GOEHRING ’07 married Brad Barkor on August 5. She is a kindergarten teacher in the Shannango Area School District near New Castle. The Barkors live in Greenville.

KATIE SELBY ’05 and Dan Hughes were married on May 28. Katie is an HR coordinator for Maryland Quality Meats in Baltimore. After a honeymoon in the Bahamas, the Hughes are residing in Westminster, Md.

MONICA A. CLARK ’06 is PSH quality assurance analyst at CGI Federal Inc. She lives in Alexandria, Va.

Samantha is corporate tax manager at Liberty Tire and Recycling. She lives in West Alexandria, Va.

ROBERT M. ROBBINS ’06 M’06 is an office assistant and transcriptionist at Greater Pittsburgh Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine in Cranberry and a water aerobics instructor at the Beaver County YMCA. Kimberly married Patrick Lissie Jr. in 2009. They live with their son, Mason, and Patrick, 1, in Fombell, Pa.

Samantha is corporate tax manager at Liberty Tire and Recycling. She lives in West Alexandria, Va.
NEW TRUSTEES

Four alumni recently were appointed to the RMU Board of Trustees. JEFF D. BERGMAN ’77 is a private investor and consultant. KEVIN COBERT ’79 is general manager of the Pittsburgh Steelers. ROBIN SANDERS D’10 is international affairs advisor for Africans, and JOHN J. WALDRON ’72, is an independent financial advisor. Joining them are recent appointments GARY SOKULSKI, MARGARET DICUCCHIO, and MARGARET LARKINS-PETTIGREW, M.D.

KAYLEE STURM ’11 is a public relations and social media practitioner at the Millcreek specialist with MarketSpace.

SUSAN ROCHE D’11 is a nurse practitioner at the Millcreek treatment center. Sue teaches nursing full time at Penn State Behrend and sees patients part time at the Regional Cancer Center. She lives in Erie.

KEVIN WILLIAMS ‘11 was hired at KDKA-TV as a news producer.

Todd is an associate business development manager at Advantage Sales and Marketing and Julie is a public relations specialist at Direct Energy. The couple lives in Greensboro.

JOSEPH G. HARWICK ’35 In Memoriam

was hired at RMU as an assistant professor of engineering, after working as a laser engineer at Penn State.

JULIE COSTELLO ’08 Todd is an associate business development manager at Advantage Sales and Marketing and Julie is a public relations specialist at Direct Energy. The couple lives in Greensboro.

RICHARD C. PORTER ’72 of Mt. Washington passed away on October 31 at the age of 63. He owned Ron Richards Photography in Oakdale. He is survived by his wife, Betsy, and daughters Diana, Beverly, and Patricia.

BENJAMIN R. CAMPBELL ‘09 joined RMU as an independent financial advisor. Joining them are recent appointments GARY SOKULSKI, MARGARET DICUCCHIO, and MARGARET LARKINS-PETTIGREW, M.D.

In Memoriam

GEORGE M. BOYLE ’54 of Bridgewater passed away May 9 at the age of 86.

LINDA CLARK HOUSEMAN COVEN ’77 of Safety Harbor, Fl., passed away on May 20 at the age of 65 after a battle with cancer. RICHARD C. PORTER ’72 of Oxford, Fla., passed away on August 27.

RONALD PATRICK DAUGHERTY ’74 of Canonsburg passed away on August 21. He owned Ron Richards Photography in Oakdale. He is survived by his wife, DENISE PANOIS DAUGHERTY ’74, and daughter Bridgette Daugherty.

KATHRYN T. CORBETT MCCUNE ’75 of Canonsburg passed away on May 17 at the age of 57 after her battle with cancer. Kathy retired from the Pa. Department of Labor and Industry in February after 35 years of service.

LARRY DUPONT SR. ’76 of Safety Harbor, Fl., passed away on May 20 at the age of 65 after a battle with cancer.

WASHINGTON ‘74 of Mt. Washington passed away on October 31 at the age of 63. He owned Ron Richards Photography in Oakdale. He is survived by his wife, Betsy, and daughters Diana, Beverly, and Patricia.

BENJAMIN R. CAMPBELL ‘09 joined RMU as an independent financial advisor. Joining them are recent appointments GARY SOKULSKI, MARGARET DICUCCHIO, and MARGARET LARKINS-PETTIGREW, M.D.

In Memoriam

GEORGE M. BOYLE ’54 of Bridgewater passed away May 9 at the age of 86.

LINDA CLARK HOUSEMAN COVEN ’77 of Safety Harbor, Fl., passed away on May 20 at the age of 65 after a battle with cancer. RICHARD C. PORTER ’72 of Oxford, Fla., passed away on August 27.

RONALD PATRICK DAUGHERTY ’74 of Canonsburg passed away on August 21. He owned Ron Richards Photography in Oakdale. He is survived by his wife, DENISE PANOIS DAUGHERTY ’74, and daughter Bridgette Daugherty.

KATHRYN T. CORBETT MCCUNE ’75 of Canonsburg passed away on May 17 at the age of 57 after her battle with cancer. Kathy retired from the Pa. Department of Labor and Industry in February after 35 years of service.

LARRY DUPONT SR. ’76 of Economy passed away on April 11 at the age of 67. A U.S. Army veteran who served in the Vietnam War, he was retired from H.H. Robertson and a former credit manager for Beckwith Tracking.

WILLIAM P. ‘BILL’ LAUDER ’76 of Economy Borough, passed away on June 9 at the age of 42. A veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps who served in Operation Desert Storm, he had been an inventory specialist at Westonhouse.

JOEL D. WALTERS ’77 of Shippensburg, Pa., passed away September 29 at the age of 50.

MARTY L. WINCHESTER M’12 of East Finley Township, Ohio, died on October 8 at the age of 43.

LEE J. STEEN D’06 passed away unexpectedly in Ellict City, Md., on August 26 at the age of 29. The youngest individual ever to earn a Doctor of Science degree from Robert Morris University, he worked for the Department of Defense in Fort Meade, Md., and taught at Frostburg State University, Johns Hopkins University, and University of Maryland University College. He and his wife, Lauren Conway, had welcomed their first daughter May 21.

MINDY RUPRECHT ’06 of Sewickley passed away on July 27 at the age of 33. She is survived by her son, Trenton.

STEPHAN E. HARVEY 0’6 of Ochrein, Iowa, passed away on September 1 at the age of 61. He was retired from Bayer Corp. as an accounting specialist after 25 years there.

JOSEPH G. HARWICK ’35

In Memoriam

was hired at RMU as an independent financial advisor. Joining them are recent appointments GARY SOKULSKI, MARGARET DICUCCHIO, and MARGARET LARKINS-PETTIGREW, M.D.

In Memoriam

GEORGE M. BOYLE ’54 of Bridgewater passed away May 9 at the age of 86.

LINDA CLARK HOUSEMAN COVEN ’77 of Safety Harbor, Fl., passed away on May 20 at the age of 65 after a battle with cancer.

RICHARD C. PORTER ’72 of Oxford, Fla., passed away on August 27.

RONALD PATRICK DAUGHERTY ’74 of Canonsburg passed away on August 21. He owned Ron Richards Photography in Oakdale. He is survived by his wife, DENISE PANOIS DAUGHERTY ’74, and daughter Bridgette Daugherty.

KATHRYN T. CORBETT MCCUNE ’75 of Canonsburg passed away on May 17 at the age of 57 after her battle with cancer. Kathy retired from the Pa. Department of Labor and Industry in February after 35 years of service.

LARRY DUPONT SR. ’76 of Economy passed away on April 11 at the age of 67. A U.S. Army veteran who served in the Vietnam War, he was retired from H.H. Robertson and a former credit manager for Beckwith Tracking.

WILLIAM P. ‘BILL’ LAUDER ’76 of Economy Borough, passed away on June 9 at the age of 42. A veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps who served in Operation Desert Storm, he had been an inventory specialist at Westonhouse.

JOEL D. WALTERS ’77 of Shippensburg, Pa., passed away September 29 at the age of 50.

MARTY L. WINCHESTER M’12 of East Finley Township, Ohio, died on October 8 at the age of 43.

LEE J. STEEN D’06 passed away unexpectedly in Ellict City, Md., on August 26 at the age of 29. The youngest individual ever to earn a Doctor of Science degree from Robert Morris University, he worked for the Department of Defense in Fort Meade, Md., and taught at Frostburg State University, Johns Hopkins University, and University of Maryland University College. He and his wife, Lauren Conway, had welcomed their first daughter May 21.

MINDY RUPRECHT ’06 of Sewickley passed away on July 27 at the age of 33. She is survived by her son, Trenton.

STEPHAN E. HARVEY 0’6 of Ochrein, Iowa, passed away on September 1 at the age of 61. He was retired from Bayer Corp. as an accounting specialist after 25 years there.

CLASS NOTES

Women of RMU

April 19

Networking Luncheon

11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Omn William Penn Hotel

With Linda Koga Pikachu ‘81

The former CEO and president of PepsiCo Beverages Canada shows what she learned running a $2 billion business.

The American community were models for the African-American community were acknowledged.

Robert Morris University, he was retired from Bayer Corp. as an accounting specialist after 25 years there.

MINDY RUPRECHT ’06 of Sewickley passed away on July 27 at the age of 33. She is survived by her son, Trenton.

STEPHAN E. HARVEY 0’6 of Ochrein, Iowa, passed away on September 1 at the age of 61. He was retired from Bayer Corp. as an accounting specialist after 25 years there.

EXCELLENCE

Four RMU women were recognized by the New Pittsburgh Courier among its 50 Women of Excellence for 2011. Honored for their professional accomplishments, commitment to Pittsburgh, and status as positive role models for the African-American community were KIMBERLY PHARR MOSES ’98, an attorney at UPMC Children’s Hospital, TAMMIE MILES BROWN D’09, director of strategic initiatives for Pittsburgh Public Schools; and KIM JEFFERSON ’78, general manager of the Pittsburgh Steelers.

JOSEPH G. HARWICK ’35 In Memoriam

was hired at RMU as an independent financial advisor. Joining them are recent appointments GARY SOKULSKI, MARGARET DICUCCHIO, and MARGARET LARKINS-PETTIGREW, M.D.

In Memoriam

GEORGE M. BOYLE ’54 of Bridgewater passed away May 9 at the age of 86.

LINDA CLARK HOUSEMAN COVEN ’77 of Safety Harbor, Fl., passed away on May 20 at the age of 65 after a battle with cancer. RICHARD C. PORTER ’72 of Oxford, Fla., passed away on August 27.

RONALD PATRICK DAUGHERTY ’74 of Canonsburg passed away on August 21. He owned Ron Richards Photography in Oakdale. He is survived by his wife, DENISE PANOIS DAUGHERTY ’74, and daughter Bridgette Daugherty.

KATHRYN T. CORBETT MCCUNE ’75 of Canonsburg passed away on May 17 at the age of 57 after her battle with cancer. Kathy retired from the Pa. Department of Labor and Industry in February after 35 years of service.

LARRY DUPONT SR. ’76 of Economy passed away on April 11 at the age of 67. A U.S. Army veteran who served in the Vietnam War, he was retired from H.H. Robertson and a former credit manager for Beckwith Tracking.

WILLIAM P. ‘BILL’ LAUDER ’76 of Economy Borough, passed away on June 9 at the age of 42. A veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps who served in Operation Desert Storm, he had been an inventory specialist at Westonhouse.
What led you to being a yoga instructor? I actually have a bad back, and I decided to try yoga. It really helped me feel better. Plus, I’ve always enjoyed fitness – running, Pilates – so I really enjoy that.

How did you get into modeling? I was in college, my friend talked me into meeting with a couple casting companies downtown. I ended up doing some local work and even lived in New York for a month at a time. But in the end I wanted to be back home with Jimmy.

What's it like being Pittsburgh royalty, or other friends at a reception this spring in a city near you.

Would you like to sink your teeth into a magazine-sized chocolate bar? We're giving the original Foundations chocolate cover, custom-made and hand-poured by our friends at Betsy Ann Chocolates, to one lucky RMU alumnae.

How is your German shepherd puppy, Kota, getting along with the other members of your pet family? At 70 pounds, he’s already the biggest one, so he’s brought some serious size to the house. He’s really interested in Elvis, our 6-year-old cat, and he’s always trying to play with him. Of course, Elvis wants nothing to do with him.

Has anyone ever changed your life? Definitely my grandparents, Romaine and Jack. Jimmy always says there are many things you can do in life, but when you pass, people don’t remember you for what you did as much as how you treated people. They were wonderful role models. They used to run a TV and radio shop in their hometown of Franklin. They didn’t do things for the money but instead for the people. I was lucky to know them.

You’ve got the dogs and cats covered. Any chance of adding a lizard or maybe even a snake to the mix? That would be fun, but I’m pretty sure my two beagles would think they were snack food.

Has anyone ever changed your life? Definitely my grandparents, Romaine and Jack. Jimmy always says there are many things you can do in life, but when you pass, people don’t remember you for what you did as much as how you treated people. They were wonderful role models. They used to run a TV and radio shop in their hometown of Franklin. They didn’t do things for the money but instead for the people. I was lucky to know them.

You’ve got the dogs and cats covered. Any chance of adding a lizard or maybe even a snake to the mix? That would be fun, but I’m pretty sure my two beagles would think they were snack food.

WIN THE COVER!

We’ve made you hungry? Would you like to sink your teeth into a magazine-sized chocolate bar? We’re giving the original Foundations chocolate cover, custom-made and hand-poured by our friends at Betsy Ann Chocolates, to one lucky RMU alumnae.

How is your German shepherd puppy, Kota, getting along with the other members of your pet family? At 70 pounds, he’s already the biggest one, so he’s brought some serious size to the house. He’s really interested in Elvis, our 6-year-old cat, and he’s always trying to play with him. Of course, Elvis wants nothing to do with him.

Has anyone ever changed your life? Definitely my grandparents, Romaine and Jack. Jimmy always says there are many things you can do in life, but when you pass, people don’t remember you for what you did as much as how you treated people. They were wonderful role models. They used to run a TV and radio shop in their hometown of Franklin. They didn’t do things for the money but instead for the people. I was lucky to know them.

You’ve got the dogs and cats covered. Any chance of adding a lizard or maybe even a snake to the mix? That would be fun, but I’m pretty sure my two beagles would think they were snack food.

WIN THE COVER!

We’ve made you hungry? Would you like to sink your teeth into a magazine-sized chocolate bar? We’re giving the original Foundations chocolate cover, custom-made and hand-poured by our friends at Betsy Ann Chocolates, to one lucky RMU alumnae.

Has anyone ever changed your life? Definitely my grandparents, Romaine and Jack. Jimmy always says there are many things you can do in life, but when you pass, people don’t remember you for what you did as much as how you treated people. They were wonderful role models. They used to run a TV and radio shop in their hometown of Franklin. They didn’t do things for the money but instead for the people. I was lucky to know them.

You’ve got the dogs and cats covered. Any chance of adding a lizard or maybe even a snake to the mix? That would be fun, but I’m pretty sure my two beagles would think they were snack food.

WIN THE COVER!

We’ve made you hungry? Would you like to sink your teeth into a magazine-sized chocolate bar? We’re giving the original Foundations chocolate cover, custom-made and hand-poured by our friends at Betsy Ann Chocolates, to one lucky RMU alumnae.

Has anyone ever changed your life? Definitely my grandparents, Romaine and Jack. Jimmy always says there are many things you can do in life, but when you pass, people don’t remember you for what you did as much as how you treated people. They were wonderful role models. They used to run a TV and radio shop in their hometown of Franklin. They didn’t do things for the money but instead for the people. I was lucky to know them.

You’ve got the dogs and cats covered. Any chance of adding a lizard or maybe even a snake to the mix? That would be fun, but I’m pretty sure my two beagles would think they were snack food.

WIN THE COVER!

We’ve made you hungry? Would you like to sink your teeth into a magazine-sized chocolate bar? We’re giving the original Foundations chocolate cover, custom-made and hand-poured by our friends at Betsy Ann Chocolates, to one lucky RMU alumnae.

Has anyone ever changed your life? Definitely my grandparents, Romaine and Jack. Jimmy always says there are many things you can do in life, but when you pass, people don’t remember you for what you did as much as how you treated people. They were wonderful role models. They used to run a TV and radio shop in their hometown of Franklin. They didn’t do things for the money but instead for the people. I was lucky to know them.

You’ve got the dogs and cats covered. Any chance of adding a lizard or maybe even a snake to the mix? That would be fun, but I’m pretty sure my two beagles would think they were snack food.

WIN THE COVER!

We’ve made you hungry? Would you like to sink your teeth into a magazine-sized chocolate bar? We’re giving the original Foundations chocolate cover, custom-made and hand-poured by our friends at Betsy Ann Chocolates, to one lucky RMU alumnae.

Has anyone ever changed your life? Definitely my grandparents, Romaine and Jack. Jimmy always says there are many things you can do in life, but when you pass, people don’t remember you for what you did as much as how you treated people. They were wonderful role models. They used to run a TV and radio shop in their hometown of Franklin. They didn’t do things for the money but instead for the people. I was lucky to know them.

You’ve got the dogs and cats covered. Any chance of adding a lizard or maybe even a snake to the mix? That would be fun, but I’m pretty sure my two beagles would think they were snack food.