

# TOWSON

WINTER 2010

## Rebuilding Hope and Houses

THE ANNALS OF SANDTOWN

MARCH OF THE TIGERS 12  
NATURE'S NURTURERS 14  
WIDE OPEN SPACES 22



**PARK AND READ**—Some parking garages are designed to stand out, such as this one at the Kansas City Public Library in Missouri. With a façade of books, it is a page-turner when it comes to architectural design. The Kansas City Public Library Board of Trustees chose 22 titles for the garage's "bookshelf" from suggestions made by Kansas City readers. To see a complete list of titles, visit [www.kclibrary.org/community-bookshelf](http://www.kclibrary.org/community-bookshelf). To learn more about the design and innovation of parking garages, see the story on page 22.







Jonathan Moreau

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Douglas Purviance '75 took center stage when he picked up a Grammy last winter, but the jazz trombonist who has played in Broadway's biggest shows—*A Chorus Line*, *Cats* and *Wicked*—is no stranger to the spotlight.

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Allan, '88 and Susan, '91 Tibbels have devoted 24 years to revitalizing one of Baltimore's most distressed neighborhoods.

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“The Executive in Residence and the Distinguished Scholar programs focus on mentoring, speaking engagements and bolstering ties with the community.”

**T**owson launched two new programs that strengthen our links with leaders in business and government to ensure we are producing work force-ready graduates. The Executive in Residence and the Distinguished Scholar programs focus on mentoring, speaking engagements and bolstering ties with the community.

Last March we launched our first-ever Executive in Residence Program in the Division of Economic and Community Outreach (DECO) to connect business and government leaders with students, faculty, research projects and community engagement initiatives. Our first appointed Executive in Residence, Steve Peck, a member of the University's Board of Visitors, and former TU business student, brings a wealth of experience as former president and CEO of Axon Americas. Peck recently connected with student leaders from our College of Business and Economics and the Career Center and is making his way through campus to provide strategic consulting services.

In the fall we debuted the TU Distinguished Scholar program to invite academic and business experts to share their knowledge through community forums, lectures and team teaching. Our first scholar, former Maryland Attorney General J. Joseph Curran Jr., delivered his initial lecture in September, setting a high standard for future scholars.

The longest-serving elected attorney general and former lieutenant governor, state senator and state delegate, Curran brings an unparalleled depth of wisdom that will benefit our campus. This spring he will host public forums on topics related to his experience.

Both men have already proven to be valuable additions to our campus. These programs are just two creative ways that TU is "Thinking Outside" and fulfilling its metropolitan mission. We not only provide work force-ready graduates and solutions to the work force, educational, and technological needs of the state and region, we are bringing the "outside" in to ensure that we deliver the very best.

Bob Caret  
  
President, Towson University

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## Who's New

### TU'S FIRST CEO-IN-RESIDENCE

Last April, Steve Peck became CEO-in-Residence, a newly created TU position for business consultation and development.

His focus is on advising start-up ventures, shaping and strengthening TU's programs in global business, marketing, finance, healthcare and technology. He will work directly for the vice president for Economic and Community Outreach and collaborate closely with the president and the Board of Visitors (where he already serves).

"This role will provide a unique platform to incubate emerging technologies and companies, mentor students and provide strategic consulting services," says Peck.

### TU'S FIRST DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR

Last fall, J. Joseph Curran Jr., became TU's Distinguished Scholar for 2009–2010.

Curran, Maryland's longest serving elected attorney general (1987–2007), drew on his roles as the state's top lawyer and a seasoned state legislator, delivering guest lectures in political science courses.

In the spring, Curran will provide community forums on topics related to his experiences and interests, which include consumer protection, criminal investigations, Medicaid fraud prosecution, securities regulation and antitrust enforcement.

## Of Maps and Labs

### PROFESSORS WHO WON ELKINS PROFESSORSHIPS WILL RESEARCH INNOVATIVE MAPS AND BIOGEOCHEMISTRY

Two Towson University professors received endowed professorships from the University System of Maryland.

John M. Morgan '69, director of TU's Geospatial Research and Education Laboratory, and Steven Lev, associate professor in TU's Department of Physics, Astronomy, and Geosciences, were two of only three faculty members within the University System of Maryland selected as the 2010 Wilson H. Elkins Professors.

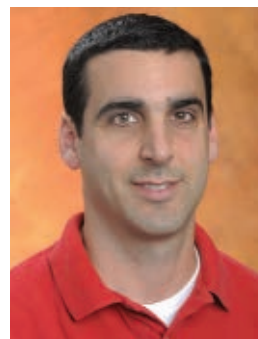
Morgan, whose one-year award comes with a budget of \$80,000, will develop a Google Maps-based emergency mapping system for the state of Maryland. He is director emeritus of TU's Center for Geographic Information Sciences, which developed EMMA, the Emergency Management Mapping Application, a Web-based tool used to support public safety and manage emergencies in Maryland, Virginia, Delaware and the National Capital Region.

State and local government agencies have used EMMA since 2004 for their homeland security and emergency-management efforts. Unfortunately, no such system exists for use by Maryland residents in the event of an emergency.

Morgan proposes to develop a Google Maps application that incorporates information such as evacuation routes, bus routes and flood hazard areas, in addition to the locations of evacuation centers, hospitals, police stations, gasoline stations, hotels and motels, and other important facilities and services. Combined with Google



John M. Morgan



Steven Lev

Map's ability to generate driving directions, this application would provide accessible, easy to use, and important information to the public

in the event of an emergency.

Lev, whose one-year award comes with a budget of \$52,000, will enhance the profile of TU's Urban Environmental Biogeochemistry Laboratory by supporting four undergraduate research students with stipends, laboratory supplies and travel funds to present their results at professional meetings. Lev has been instrumental in developing the lab, composed of faculty from geology, chemistry and biology who work with undergraduate and graduate students on interdisciplinary research aimed at better understanding the role and impact of storm water management facilities in the urban landscape. During its four years, this lab has involved 20 undergraduate students, three high school teachers and five graduate students.

Lev also intends to bring the lab's applied research into the classroom to better train the next generation of scientists who will confront the complex problems derived from human interactions with the environment. He has worked toward retraining himself in biogeochemistry and ecotoxicology, new lines of research which have led him to revise the curriculum in TU's geology program and the environmental science master's program.



**3 NOTEBOOK**

**Capitol Hill Chemistry**

Andrea Castillo '09 had the right chemistry to get to Capitol Hill last May.

Her research on phosphanyl(organyl)boranes (POBs) earned her a spot as the only participant from Maryland in the 2009 Council on Undergraduate Research Posters on the Hill. The event featured the scientific research of 78 undergraduates from across the United States.

POBs can reversibly bind to hydrogen, keeping it stable but also allowing it to be released as an energy source when needed.

"The current methods of creating POBs use harsh reagents, take a long time and produce a mixture of unneeded products," Castillo explains. Working with Clare Muhoro, TU associate professor of chemistry,

she "developed a cleaner, faster and more efficient way to produce them."

Now an analytical chemist at Caliber Analytical Services in Towson, Castillo is using her TU education as a backbone for her lab work. "Things I learned in class that seemed irrelevant at the time, like keeping a neat notebook, have actually helped me to work more efficiently in the lab," she says.

**"Things I learned in class that seemed irrelevant have actually helped me to work more efficiently in the lab."**

—Andrea Castillo '09

**Electronic Potential**

The nanoscopic nature of graphene makes it nearly invisible to the human eye. But the miniscule form of carbon provided a vision for the future to one TU senior.

As a Summer Undergraduate Research Fellow, Joshua Giltinan spent 11 weeks last summer at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). Working with NIST researchers and TU physics professor Jeff Simpson, he studied properties of graphene, a single layer of carbon

atoms, which has potential to transform silicon-based electronics.

"We used the graphene to make a semiconductor switch, which is essentially

**"I wanted a career in research. This experience solidified my decision."**

—Joshua Giltinan

a very small piece of a computer. Then, we tested it to see if it would work like the regular semiconductor switches in our computers."

The experience also helped Giltinan, who is pursuing a double major in physics and computer science, make a decision about his future. "After talking to other researchers and discovering more about research, I decided to pursue my doctorate, rather than just my master's," he says, "I wanted a career in research, and this experience solidified my decision."

**Microbiology Fellow**

Samantha Semenkov, a TU senior, received a 2009 Undergraduate Research Fellowship from the American Society For Microbiology. She was one of 33 recipients chosen from 69 applicants who competed for the \$4,000 award aimed at students who wish to pursue



graduate careers (Ph.D. or M.D./Ph.D.) in microbiology.

Semenkov will spend 10 weeks working with Barry Margulies, TU associate professor of biology, in collaboration with a professor at the University of California, Davis. The research focuses on the use of a silicone implant to prevent a herpes virus in cats that causes conjunctivitis.

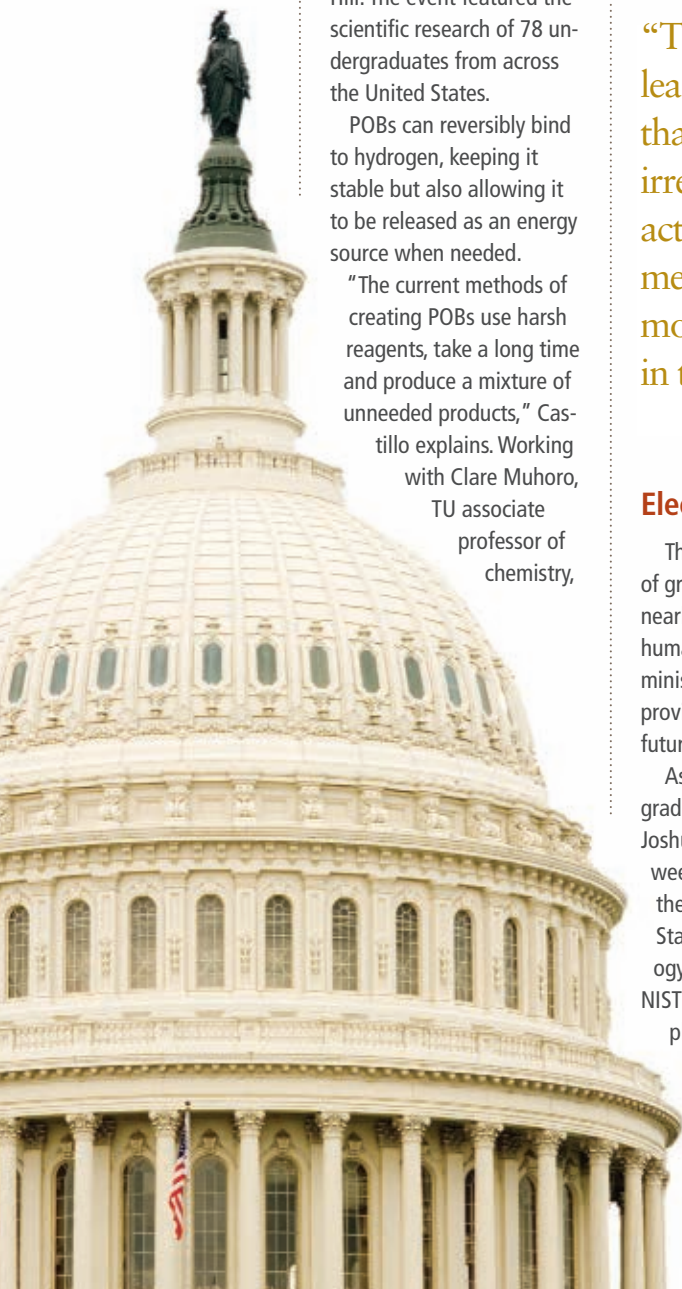
**OUTREACH**

**Back to the Future**

With nearly \$135,000 from the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC), Towson University will provide outreach activities and services to improve preparation for and access to college for middle school students from underrepresented populations.

TU's "Back to the Future" program will target sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders at Barclay Elementary/Middle School, Cherry Hill Elementary/Middle School, Dr. Nathan A. Pitts-Ashburton Elementary/Middle School, Grove Park Elementary/Middle School, and Winston Middle School.

The MHEC grant, under the federal College Access





Challenge Grant Program, provides college-awareness information and services to middle-school students. The program informs those who are at risk of not

**“We want students to revisit their earliest aspirations for life beyond high school and show them how pursuing a college degree can help them realize those dreams.”**

—Pamela Morgan,  
College of Education

enrolling in or preparing for college and their parents about postsecondary benefits, opportunities and career planning.

“Back to the Future” will engage middle school learners and their parents in college awareness and career planning, enhance their skills in technology, literacy and decision-making, and encourage students to undertake more rigorous course work in an effort to make them more ready for high school and college.

### The Things They Sent

They sent Gatorade mix, Crystal Lite, Propel Packets, medicated powder, Chap Stick, deodorant,

mouthwash, bar soap and moleskin.

There was beef jerky, sunflower seeds, Slim Jims, ramen noodles, hard candy, AA batteries, snuff (dip), cigarettes.

All told, some 30 cartons of donated items are making their way to U.S. troops deployed in Iraq, Afghanistan, Japan and other countries.

TU students—veterans of the armed services—coordinated the drive, setting up collection stations at five locations. The group packaged the items—some addressed to relatives and friends of TU faculty, staff and students—on the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

### LOOK BACK

### Seeing Red

Back in 1956, then Towson President Earle Hawkins “expressed concern” when the soccer team donned red uniforms instead of black and



L to R: Al Bryant '57, Henry Lichtfuss '58, Wayne Harman '57 and Coach Minnegan

gold, the school colors. But Coach Donald “Doc” Minnegan defended the red and white as being the colors of the state flag.

Besides, the team was “on a winning streak, and Doc was very superstitious,” writes Wayne Harman '57. So dressed in red, the men’s soccer team was undefeated that year.

### SPORT SHORTS

### Record Breaker

Despite a season-ending shoulder injury in her freshman year, Christina Boarman went on to rewrite the TU field hockey record



Christina Boarman

books. The senior psychology major now holds the career goals record with 46, breaking Julie Lambi’s record of 44; career assists with 35 breaking Lambi’s and Kelsi Fortier’s record of 23; and career points with 128, breaking Lambi’s 111.

Boarman, who sports a number three on her jersey because “I have had it since I was a little kid,” also shattered two other records during her Towson career—single season goals and single season points.

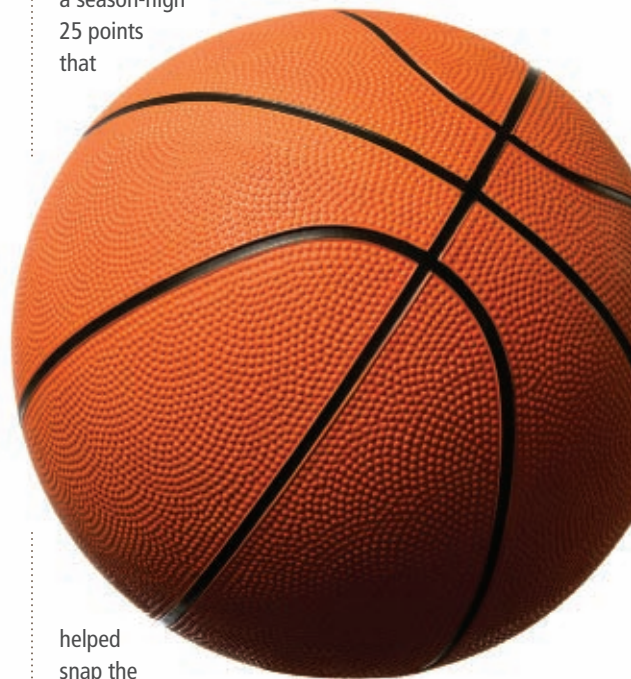
Boarman scored 20 goals during her junior year, breaking Lisa McCullen’s

single season record of 16. Boarman also had 55 single-season points as a junior, which broke her own record of 38 set during her sophomore season.

### Tigers Topple Terps

The TU women’s basketball team scored its biggest win in school history, stunning 25th-ranked Maryland with a 67-55 victory Dec. 10 at the Towson Center.

A record crowd watched Towson’s first-ever win over a nationally ranked team. Senior guard Shanae Baker-Brice scored a season-high 25 points that



helped snap the Terps’ five-game winning streak.

The game gave Towson Coach Joe Mathews his 100th career victory. “We had a great crowd and a great win over a great opponent,” he says. “None of us will ever forget this night.”



## All Fired Up

TU CLIMATOLOGIST STUDIES WILDFIRE RISKS



Beth Hall

If a wildfire is burning, chances are Beth Hall knows how the blaze got started.

The TU assistant professor of geography and environmental planning studies how wildfires ignite—whether nature or humans are responsible for the blaze—and the incidence of wildfires in various regions of the United States.

Wildfires—seared into memory via recent television images of Southern California blazes—are actually more common in the eastern part of the country. But the eastern fires do far less damage. “People are often surprised when I tell them there are actually more ignitions in the East than in the West,” Hall says.

“[Eastern] fires don’t get the same type of news coverage because the average ignition burns less than an acre,” she explains. “Out West, a single ignition can result in the loss of thousands of acres.”

Before arriving at TU last fall, Hall studied the wildfire climatology of the Western United States, while earning her master’s degree and doctorate in atmospheric sciences at the University of Nevada, Reno.

“I try to predict where future fire risks are greatest,” she says. “How dry are fuels, such as shrubs, grasses and brush, for a given area? Has the area experienced drought, and if so, for how long? What is the potential for lightning?”

Hall says lightning alone is responsible for one-half to two-thirds of natural ignitions in the Western United

States. But “unfortunately, most of Southern California’s catastrophic fires are caused by humans.”

People also cause about 90 percent of the wildfires on the eastern seaboard, with the exception of Florida, Hall adds. The causes include campfires that haven’t been put out, children playing with matches, railroad sparks, debris burning in people’s yards, and even arson.

While the Eastern United States has approximately 30,000 ignitions annually compared to the West’s 22,000 ignitions, Hall says more acres of land are burned in the West because people engage in recreational activity during its dry summer season. In contrast, people in the East tend to stay indoors during winter, its dry season.

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“Most of Southern California’s catastrophic fires are caused by humans.”

—Beth Hall

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Fires in the East tend to be put out more quickly, and sometimes naturally die on their own, which is why they usually result in less catastrophic damage than their Western counterparts. “Fires along the Eastern seaboard usually occur near where people live and in places responders can get to quickly,” says Hall. “In contrast, many Western fires occur on hillsides, tens of kilometers from where people live, so by the time smoke is detected and trucks and planes can respond, they are blazing out of control.” Fuels in the East tend to have a higher moisture content, so even when they do ignite, fires tend not to spread as quickly.

Hall says agencies in the East also set fires intentionally under controlled circumstances to thin out undergrowth and reduce the risk of wildfires igniting. While there is a natural fear of a fire’s consequences, Hall says fire plays an important ecological role.

“Fire is a natural part of our ecosystem. We need to have them burn. The objective is let them burn while preventing loss of life and property.”



Towson University was named to the honor roll of “Saviors of Our Cities: A Survey of Best College and University Civic Partnerships” last October.

## What's New



### No Smoking

No ifs, ands or butts—Towson University will be a smoke-free campus next August. The TU President's Council approved a smoke-free campus policy last fall, making the university the first four-year institution in Maryland to become a smoke-free campus. Towson's Smoke Free Task Force drafted the initial policy more than a year ago with input from campus representatives, including the Student Government Association, TU's Staff Council, Student Affairs and the President's Office. All buildings and exterior grounds owned or operated by TU will be designated as smoke-free including athletics, Bill Bateman's restaurant, parking garages and open spaces. For more information on the smoke-free policy, go to [www.towson.edu/smokefree](http://www.towson.edu/smokefree).



### The Fisher Chair

Timothy Brunker, assistant professor of chemistry, is the third recipient of the Jess and Mildred Fisher Endowed Chair in Biological and Physical Sciences. His three-year appointment began in August. An expert on the synthesis of novel chiral metal complexes—molecules that exist in both left-handed and right-handed forms—Brunker studies their potential for storing digital information. He will use the \$15,000 annual stipend to continue his projects and fund summer undergraduate researchers. Brunker has a Ph.D from the University of Oxford, United Kingdom, and did his postdoctoral research at Dartmouth College before coming to TU.



### Cherry Hill PALS

Fifth graders in the Cherry Hill neighborhood of Baltimore City will have opportunities for after school and weekend tutoring, mentoring and life skills, thanks to a \$900,000 grant from the Youth Empowerment Programs of the Department of Human and Health Services. Known as the PALS initiative (Partners in Academic and Life Success), these programs provide continued partnerships between the Cherry Hill community and TU's College of Health Professions. PALS aims to empower its participants to make informed health and lifestyle choices. Planned activities aim to build self-awareness through career exploration, goal-setting, exposure to diverse cultural experiences, on-campus day camp, and reflective journaling.



### Treating Anorexia

"Anorexia nervosa is the most fatal of all psychiatric disorders," says C. Alix Timko, assistant professor in TU's Department of Psychology. "It has profound emotional and physical consequences on the adolescent and family function." Timko received a National Institutes of Health grant to develop a new treatment, acceptance-based separated family treatment (ASFT), for this disorder. Working in collaboration with Duke University, the project aims to develop and refine this new treatment. Backed by a \$275,000 Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant (R21)—TU's first NIH grant—Timko hopes the two-year project will yield promising preliminary data, so she will be able to apply for a NIH research grant (R01) to conduct a multi-site randomized controlled clinical trial.



*GI Jobs magazine, the premier publication for military transitioners, included Towson University on its 2010 list of Military Friendly Schools.*







# Take Note

**Douglas Purviance '75 took center stage when he picked up a Grammy last winter, but the jazz trombonist who has played in Broadway's biggest shows—*A Chorus Line*, *Cats* and *Wicked*—is no stranger to the spotlight. ● By Laura Lewis Brown**

When his fifth-grade music teacher started handing out instruments, a young Douglas Purviance '75 just said, "No." Unlike his peers, he wasn't even tempted by the reeds or even the trumpet. Finally, his teacher warned him that if he didn't select something soon, there would be no instruments left.

"I told myself I'd pick the next thing he came out with, and it was the trombone," Purviance remembers.

That grade school decision set the stage for a career in music that has taken him from Baltimore to Broadway and, most recently, to represent his fellow members of the world-famous Vanguard Jazz Orchestra during an acceptance speech at the Grammy Awards. As he reflects on his success, Purviance is quick to remember his roots: his dad and Towson University.

"My father played jazz in the house sun up to sun down," he says. Listening to those records "was like having a musician in the family. Jazz was in my soul."

With music in his genes and years of experience with the trombone, Purviance found picking Towson a no-brainer.

Not only was Towson close to his home in Baltimore County, "Its jazz program was one of the major ones in the whole country," he says. "Towson State had the biggest influence on my jazz career."

At TU, Purviance studied under trombone instructor John Melick and the late Hank Levy, a composer known for writing in odd time meters. Levy composed tunes for the famous jazz orchestra led by Stan Kenton, which held clinics every summer around the country, including one at Towson. Levy's connection gave Purviance his first big break—a professional gig with the Stan Kenton Orchestra right after graduation.

The Kenton band asked Purviance to become a permanent member. "I left Baltimore for California and have been gone ever since," he says.

## On Broadway

After two years on the road with Kenton's band, Purviance returned to Baltimore with his Yamaha YBL-613H bass trombone to play at the Morris Mechanic Theatre. A meeting with the conductor of *A Chorus Line* in 1977 pointed him to the location of his dreams.

"He told me I belonged in New York," Purviance recalls. "My dream was always to move there. All the best musicians were in New York. All the best of everything was there."

Purviance left for the Big Apple and in three months parlayed his *A Chorus Line* experience in Baltimore into a gig subbing on the Broadway show, which was the top show at the time. He even got his own show with Liza Minnelli.

Soon Broadway became his steady money-making gig, which it remains today. He plays Tuesday through Sunday, with days off in between, in the orchestra for *Wicked*, the number one show on Broadway. [continued]



## Grammy Gold

On Mondays, however, Purviance heads to West Seventh Street where he wears the hats of trombonist and producer for the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra that plays at the Village Vanguard, a 123-seat jazz club. Since it opened in 1935, this jazz mecca has been the place to play, hear and record jazz. Jazz legends such as Sonny Rollins, Wynton Marsalis and John Coltrane have recorded a half-century's worth of jazz albums in the club's basement.

Purviance landed a steady job with the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra (then the Thad Jones/Mel Lewis Jazz Orchestra) soon after establishing himself on Broadway.



Doug Purviance '75 says the 2008 Grammy won by the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra (above) "changed me inside" and was "a real confirmation" of the orchestra's music and hard work.

"I would go to the Village Vanguard every Monday night to hear the band. It was and still is the best big band in the world," he says.

One night, the band's bass trombonist asked Purviance to sub on a job in Hampton, Va., a request that made Purviance both nervous and excited.

"I was scared because it was my favorite band. But I had heard the band so often, I knew what was going on with the music. I got on the bus and went down to Hampton, played my first gig," he says. From then on he became a regular sub.

Purviance traveled with the band to Europe for six weeks, during which the leader asked him to join the orchestra permanently. After the European tour, Thad Jones left the band, leading to its new name, the Mel Lewis Orchestra.

Lewis died in 1990, and rather than become a ghost band, playing tribute music, Purviance and the rest of the orchestra wanted more.

"We decided to use the history we had and move forward with new music, new writers. We changed the name to Vanguard Jazz Orchestra and I stepped up to help John Mosca with running the band," Purviance explains.

He also took on the role of producer, leading the helm on every record the band has put out since changing its name, the last of which earned music's highest distinction in 2008.

As the producer, Purviance also went to the Grammys every year the band was nominated, but after five nominations and no wins, attending the ceremony seemed pointless. In February 2008, Purviance's co-producer thought

another nomination meant another disappointment and told Purviance the ceremony wasn't worth attending. The Vanguard also had a huge event that same weekend.

But Purviance knew that if the record, *Monday Night Live at the Village Vanguard*, won and no one attended he'd feel horrible. So he got a sub for the band's big gig and flew to L.A.

"Just in case," he says, "I wrote down what I wanted to say on my iPhone. I was looking down at my phone when I heard 'And the winner is *Monday Night...*'"

Purviance hopped up from his third-row seat to pick up the award, an exhilarating moment for the musician who picked the trombone by default more than 50 years earlier.

"This award changed me inside," Purviance says. "This was a real confirmation of all the hard work I put into the music and the Vanguard Orchestra. We started from the ground up, working for free, creating our own music label, just doing something we loved. This award meant 'Thank you. We understand and appreciate what you're doing.'"

These days the Grammy sits on Purviance's mantel in the house he shares with his wife, Brenda Pressley, an actor and former singer who has her own love for jazz. They met when they worked together on *Cats*, which Purviance played in for 18 years.

Purviance doesn't look at the gold statue every day, but whenever it catches his eye, he gets "this big smile on my face."

Since winning a Grammy, the band keeps busy with tours in addition to its Monday night show. The orchestra makes most of its money from touring, because as Purviance explains, "It's not like big labels are clamoring to get big band jazz." This year has included concerts at the University of Illinois, Connecticut College and Seton Hall University.

## Getting By on Reputation

When Purviance isn't playing jazz, he gives private lessons and teaches at Seton Hall, helping young musicians with their craft and the business side of the music world.

"For working musicians, especially in New York, it's all about reputation. There's no agent looking for gigs for you," Purviance says.

As Purviance explains, whenever a musician takes out his instrument in New York, he is basically auditioning for something or someone. Purviance's reputation on the bass trombone has served him well, but he admits that along with talent, luck played a role in his success.

"The Kenton Orchestra opportunity really blessed me. I never starved in New York. I was doing Broadway shows as soon as I got there," he says. And both his Broadway and Vanguard jobs provide health-care benefits and a pension.

When he landed in New York, it wasn't about making money though. Purviance remembers the music scene in the 1970s with fondness.

"The times have really changed. Back in the '70s, you moved to New York, there was so much going on professionally and there were a lot of rehearsal bands," he says. "People would get together and play people's music just for the joy of it."

Running the band, working on Broadway, teaching and doing studio recordings leaves little time for much else. But he wouldn't have it any other way.

"I have no time to do anything. I'm nuts," Purviance says. But he keeps playing and producing "because someone did this before I did, and someone will do it after me. I'm doing it until I can't do it anymore." ■

**Laura Lewis Brown** is a former University Relations editor.

# All That Sazz

## A glimpse at TU's rich jazz history from Hank Levy to today

Jazz arrived at Towson in the late 1960s when legendary composer and arranger Hank Levy joined the music faculty. Levy earned world renown through Stan Kenton's and Don Ellis' recordings and performances of his arrangements.

As leader of the Towson Jazz Ensemble, Levy helped make Towson's jazz program one of the best in the country. Today Towson honors Levy's legacy by performing his music and being a steward of his manuscripts. Some of the famous jazz artists who studied in Levy's program include saxophonist Ellery Eskelin '81, pianist Larry Brown '74 and trombonist Douglas Purviance '75, the latter two who chose Towson specifically to study under Levy.

**"Students are expected to function in the artist's ensemble as any professional would."**

Towson continues to be an excellent training ground for instrumentalists, vocalists and composers. TU's 40 undergraduate jazz majors have many opportunities to perform—big band, small jazz ensembles and in their own recitals. Beyond campus, jazz majors can be found performing at An Die Musik, the Windup Space, the 13th floor, Joe's Square, the Red Room, The Creative Arts Alliance and 49 West in

Annapolis to name only a few venues in Maryland.

"Jazz at Towson is quickly becoming recognized as a resource for the most current in musical practices," says David Ballou, trumpeter, composer and TU assistant professor of music. "The individual attention available to each student allows our faculty to serve as mentors—this is not always the case in jazz programs across the country."

To help restore TU's jazz program to its former glory, Bill Murray '08, and his wife, Helen, created an endowment in 2004 that brings guest artists to teach and perform on campus each year. Four years later, the Murrays established a fund to start a jazz artist residency, which supports visiting musicians who conduct master classes, perform with students and faculty, and serve as mentors for undergraduates in the jazz major. While Towson has always attracted prominent jazz names, including a visit from Miles Davis in the '80s, the residency is a more formal program that is unique to the region and to jazz programs across the country.

"This program offers a direct model to our students of what it is to be a creative artist in the 21st century and solutions to overcome some of the many challenges they will face," Ballou says. "The students experience the demands of performing at the highest level. They are expected to function in the artist's ensemble as any professional would."

In fall 2008, double bassist and award-winning composer Drew Gress '81 was the first artist to visit campus as part of the Murrays' residency. Since then, Eskelin and John Hollenbeck have served as artists in residence.





# MARCH OF THE TIGERS

“

THE TIGERS WERE THE ONLY UNIVERSITY BAND TO MARCH THE NEARLY THREE-MILE ROUTE, FROM 77TH STREET AND CENTRAL PARK WEST TO MACY'S HERALD SQUARE AT 34TH STREET.

”

TU's Marching Band makes music and history in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade

By Ginny Cook  
Photos by Kanji Takeno and Desirée Stover

A handmade sign in the crowded New York City streets said it best: “You can't stop the beat of Towson's Marching Band.”

The 225 members of the Towson University Marching Band stepped onto one of the world's largest stages—the streets of New York City for the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade—and rocked the Big Apple.

“The band did a fantastic job,” says John Miliauskas, who is in his sixth season directing the band. “The students worked hard throughout the

months leading up to the parade,” he adds. The payoff was perfectly straight lines and a seamless sound during the 2.8-mile march.

And when the band paraded in front of the television cameras, “I couldn't have imagined it going any better,” Miliauskas says. “I was 100 percent pleased.”

“We all felt really great about the performance,” agrees Mitchell Smallwood, a junior economics major who bangs the biggest bass drum—the 32-inch number five—in the Tiger



band. “It was exhilarating to perform in front of so many people. I have never had such a rush.”



nearly three-mile route, from 77th Street and Central Park West to Macy’s Herald Square at 34th Street.

That rush is his last. A student in the Honors College and marketing director of the Wall Street Investors Club, Smallwood is leaving the band and the rigors of practice so he can devote more time to his studies.

But he’ll always cherish being part of the Thanksgiving performance, and even has a special fondness for a 2 a.m. wake-up call for a 3 a.m. practice.

In a city that never sleeps, “no one was around except for another marching band and the NBC producers. It was really awesome to see the city so empty, and then compare it to 11 a.m., [with] thousands of people,” Smallwood says. “The people were not two or three lines deep; the people filled the city as far as I could see.”

An estimated 3.5 million spectators and another 50 million television viewers watched the parade. Throngs of TU fans were among them. “On every single block, fans were holding up TU signs, dressed in TU sweatshirts or waving Towson pennants,” Miliauskas says. “The Macy’s band captains were very impressed with the turnout.”

In fact, five buses of band supporters made the trek to New York. The TU Alumni Association hosted more than 100 parents, alumni and friends at the Marriott Marquis overlooking the parade route. (See page 29.) And when an NBC gaffe listed Towson as a high school rather than a university, fans responded quickly on social networking sites, with thousands calling out the error.

This was TU’s first appearance in the historic parade. The Tigers were the only university band to march the

TU’s journey to the national spotlight actually began in 2007 when the band competed for a spot in the 2009 parade “Both of my older brothers, Ben ’08 and Jon ’10, were in the band when the audition tape was sent to Macy’s,” says Emily Graf, a junior who plays the trumpet. She dedicated her performance “in honor of my brothers, who helped get the band to where it is today.” ■

**Ginny Cook is the editor of Towson.**

Right: The TU Marching Band filled the streets of New York City with Tiger sounds as part of the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Top: Throngs of TU fans were among those who lined the streets to watch the parade.







# NATURE'S NURTURERS





## KELLY PROFFITT '01

*Most photos provided by Kelly Proffitt*

Deep in the Montana backcountry, Kelly Proffitt M.S. '01 is on the trail of elk—from 1,000 feet overhead.

As a research wildlife biologist at the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Proffitt is assigned to track elk populations across the vast wilderness of the greater Yellowstone region. And to cover that much land, she takes to the skies.

Once a week, Proffitt climbs into a two-seat Cessna Super Cub prop plane. She and her pilot spend the day surveying several elk herds, which each comprise anywhere from a few hundred to 5,000 animals.

Proffitt's research reveals survival rates and population distribution, but her primary focus is the impact

and spread of brucellosis, a bacterial disease that afflicts the herds. The bacteria can be transmitted to cattle—which are big business in Montana—making study of the disease a top priority in the state.

The disease poses little risk to humans, as pasteurization kills pathogens that may exist in milk, and ranchers test cattle before sending meat to the market. But infected livestock means lost time and lost money for the industry, leading to conflicts when elk migrate onto private ranch land.

"It's important to manage the disease in wildlife and minimize transmission risk because there is no vaccine available," Proffitt says. "I'm trying to determine how many elk carry the disease, and pinpoint areas of high risk, such as places where

many animals congregate or overlap grazing lands."

The research isn't all high-flying adventure. Proffitt also tracks elk movement over land and over time with the help of special radio collars worn by some of the animals. She helped fit 45 adult elk with collars in March, and has been following their movement to see exactly where migration tracts intersect with ranch land. The collars are pre-programmed to fall off next summer, when Proffitt and her team will travel into the wilderness on foot to recover them.

While Proffitt's work today is taking her to the remotest areas of Yellowstone, compared to her last research post, this one is a walk in the woods.

For her Ph.D. dissertation, she conducted research in Antarctica on a long-term project funded by ▶

# *From Antarctica to Montana to the Atlantic coast, two TU grads work where the wild things are*

BY DAN FOX

## TOM WEISS '82

*Photos by Desiree Stover*

Some people dream of retiring on the beach. Tom Weiss '82 is making his second career there.

Weiss is a ranger at Assateague Island National Seashore, the barrier island just off the Maryland-Virginia Atlantic coast best known for the wild horses that roam its beaches. He began donning the flat-brimmed hat in 2008, following his retirement from the Maryland Department of Planning.

From his post at the main entrance station, Weiss greets visitors of all kinds as they enter the park. Some are lifelong lovers of the outdoors, and some are first-timers, dropping in on the way home from a vacation in nearby Ocean City. They all come for a similar reason.

"Over 10 million people live within just a few hours' drive of this island," he explains. "From cities like Baltimore and D.C., this really is the great escape. It's a way into the wild that many people just don't have in their day-to-day lives."

More than two million visitors make the great escape to Assateague each year. Many come to see the wild horses, opting to take in the sights from the main park road. Visitors often ask Weiss where they're most likely to spot the infamous animals.

"Trust me, the horses will find you," Weiss laughs. "Especially if they smell food. Of course, it's against the law to feed them, but it's legal for them to ask."

The horses might get most of the attention, but Weiss says he encourages visitors to dig a little

deeper into park offerings—whether it's the community of family camping among the dunes, the solitude of early-dawn surf fishing, or the freedom of driving the island's isolated beach.

In an area as unique as Assateague, Weiss' mission is to make sure every visitor finds his or her trip worthwhile. "I might be the only contact that a park visitor has. I want them to have the best experience possible, whether they're here for a few hours or a few days," he says. "But I encourage people to stay. To truly enjoy this place, you need to spend some time here."

And Weiss knows something about spending time on the island. His relationship with Assateague has spanned nearly 50 years, and in fact, his history with the park begins before there was a park at all. ▶



the National Science Foundation. Based near McMurdo Station, where temperatures can be as low as minus-60 degrees Fahrenheit, she studied the relationship between sea ice characteristics and the reproductive performance of Weddell seals.

Traveling to Antarctica whenever the weather permitted, she made a total of five trips between 2003 and 2007 for Weddell seal mating season, which lasts about three months.

Even in the comparatively mild summer season, the Antarctic climate is harsh by any standard. Despite the 24-hour-per-day sunshine, temperatures average 10 degrees below zero while sharp winds make it feel much colder. Difficult terrain adds another layer of hazard directly underfoot. And those research subjects—the seals—are

1,200-pound predators.

“The seals are not wary of humans and I could get fairly close without compromising my safety,” she explains. “But they use cracks in the ice for breathing and hauling themselves out of the water. You need to be careful where you step.” Misplaced footing could have meant a deadly fall through the sea ice, where even extreme weather gear offers no protection.

In spite of the dangers, Proffitt found Antarctica’s landscape more remarkable than she’d imagined. “It’s not the flat, sterile environment that people expect it to be. The ice is dynamic. There are islands and mountains and active volcanoes. And when the summer sun hits an iceberg at the right angle, everything turns a deep blue.”



*“This really is the great escape. It’s a way into the wild that many people just don’t have in their day-to-day lives.”*

—TOM WEISS '82



He recalls paying his first visits to Assateague in 1962. His older brother was studying oceanography and began making day trips to the island. Weiss, then a teenager, was literally along for the ride.

“We would drive my brother’s Land Rover up and down the beach, and we’d hardly see another soul all day. That was before the park was created—there wasn’t even a bridge connecting the island to the mainland.

**From horses to horseshoe crabs, Tom Weiss '82 is the go-to person for information on the wild things on Maryland’s Assateague Island.**





**In Antarctica, Kelly Proffitt '01 observed the march of the penguins and the reproductive habits of seals. Now in Montana, she tracks wild elk.**

Her inclination for these wild spaces—from an Antarctic ice floe to a Montana mountain top—is something she finds closely tied with her identity as a researcher. “I’m not sure where the interest initially came from,” she says. “I just know I’ve just been incredibly lucky that my work brings me to experience these places.”

After earning her bachelor’s degree in biology from James Madison University in 1998, Proffitt came

to Towson to pursue her master’s degree in biology, which she acquired in 2001. She earned her Ph.D. from Montana State University in 2008 and went on to complete a one-year post-doc in Yellowstone National Park, where she studied the population dynamics of trumpeter swans.

As for what’s next, she can’t quite say. “Brucellosis is the big issue right now, though priorities change and I could be reassigned.”

But that bit of uncertainty is what science is all about, she explains. “In research, you’re constantly faced with questions and challenges. I’m always learning new skills and developing new tools. It never gets boring because I never do the same type of job twice.”

*Proffitt helped fit 45 adult elk with radio collars to see exactly where migration tracts intersect with ranch land.*

We used to take a ferry across, which was no more than a flat, rickety barge with an outboard motor,” he says.

At the time of Weiss’ first visit, Assateague Island was an assortment of private lots, passed over for inclusion in the park service because of its prospects for beach-front development. But in that same year, 1962, a devastating Atlantic storm destroyed many of the island’s structures and rekindled park service interest in preservation. Soon after the storm, private developers moved off and federal protection moved in. The national park opened in 1965.

As Weiss grew older, he led youth groups from Baltimore County on camping trips to Assateague and other parks. Recognizing the benefit of his own childhood exposure to the outdoors, he made a priority of

passing that experience on.

Even with the pressures of work and school—he was working at the State Highway Administration by day and attending Towson in the evenings to earn his degree in geography and environmental planning—Weiss found time to organize youth trips every few weeks. Many of the children in the groups had no experience with the wilderness; for a generation of local youth, it was Weiss and fellow leaders who provided the vital first-contact with the outdoors.

“I thought it was important to get involved in the community,” he says. “Many of those kids weren’t exposed to the outdoors at home. I wanted them to know there’s more out there than just their own town.”

Over a period of 20 years, Weiss took groups to Assateague more often

than anywhere else. The regular visits continued into Weiss’ retirement, as he frequented the park for his own recreation. When the opportunity to work at the park arose, he jumped at the chance.

Today, he’s proud to share those decades of outdoors experience with all who pass through Assateague’s gate. Wearing a smile as prominently as the park service badge on his chest, it’s clear that for Weiss, this really is a dream job.

“Another day at the office,” he says. “You couldn’t ask for a better way to work.” ■

**Dan Fox is a senior editor in University Relations.**



# SAVING







# SANDTOWN

BY JAN LUCAS ■ PHOTOS BY KANJI TAKENO AND DESIRÉE STOVER

**Allan '88 and Susan '91 Tibbels have devoted 24 years to revitalizing one of Baltimore's most distressed neighborhoods.**

By the 1980s Sandtown had hit bottom. The historically black enclave on Baltimore's West side had once been home to thousands of working-class families that took pride in their rowhouses and their bustling, close-knit community.

Blight had gained a foothold in the '60s as better-off residents moved out, leaving Sandtown increasingly fractured and vulnerable.

It took only a decade or so for the neighborhood to become the sort of place few wanted to drive through, much less live and work in. The exodus left 1,000 abandoned houses, and those still occupied fell into disrepair. Businesses faltered, then failed. Crime, joblessness, disease and despair afflicted the remaining residents. Once-stable Sandtown was in trouble—big trouble.

But one man detected a heartbeat in the midst of hopelessness.

Clarksville, Md., resident Allan Tibbels had long been involved with his church, where he was active in youth-outreach programs. In the early '80s, after a spinal cord injury left him paralyzed at age 26, he began to consider what he could do to address urban ills. "I felt a calling to relocate to inner-city Baltimore," he remem-

*Allan '88 and Susan '91 Tibbels with Kevin Mills, Sandtown homeowner and Habitat for Humanity employee.*

bers. In his efforts to pinpoint the "most hurting" area, Tibbels studied the city's demographics and explored distressed neighborhoods.

"The idea," he explains, "was to organize a team, move in and devote the next 30 years to the effort."

There was nothing pie-in-the-sky about Allan Tibbels' plans. He espouses a model of Christian community development created by John M. Perkins, a former Mississippi sharecropper turned civil rights activist. Perkins championed social action, economic development and justice in addition to evangelism. The model required sacrifice and commitment from its adherents, as well as full-time presence in the community of need.

For Allan and Susan Tibbels, that meant trading suburban Howard County for Sandtown.

While she supported her husband's plans, Susan Tibbels didn't initially see eye-to-eye with him on the need for relocation. "We had two young children," she says. "I really wasn't enthusiastic about moving to the city."

Susan wasn't alone. "People thought Allan had lost his mind," she recalls.

In 1986 the Tibbelses, their daughters Jennifer and Jessica, and a friend, Mark Gornik, established residence in the neighborhood. About 10,000 people lived in the 72 square-block area that comprised Sandtown, all of

them very low-income African Americans. The newcomers immediately aroused suspicion, Allan Tibbels says.

"Everyone wondered what we were doing there and what we wanted," he says. "That was understandable, given the circumstances."

Fitt Bennett, now an administrative assistant at New Song Academy, was a rambunctious 11-year-old when he first noticed the Tibbels family. "I was nosy," he recalls with a laugh. "Who were these white people? I knocked on their door every day for three days, until Allan finally came out."

Allan Tibbels and Mark Gornik initially focused on getting to know Sandtown's teens and young adults. As they earned the kids' trust, parents and other residents began to let down their guard. "We were careful not to impose an agenda," Tibbels emphasizes. "This needed to be a community effort."

Banks weren't eager to lend in Sandtown, so Allan and Susan Tibbels used the proceeds from the sale of their Clarksville rancher and 13-acre lot to purchase, gut and rehab condemned houses. "Decent housing was a priority, but so were health care, jobs and economic development," says Allan. "Every day we saw the struggle and hurt that was so deeply entrenched in the neighborhood."

During the next few years, the Tibbelses and a small army of supporters



undertook an astonishing array of initiatives designed to reverse Sandtown's decline. In 1988 they helped to found New Song Community Church, an interracial, economically diverse congregation based in the neighborhood. That same year Towson awarded Allan the bachelor's degree in history and sociology that he'd pursued part-time for a decade.

In 1989 he co-founded Sandtown Habitat for Humanity, which, with assistance from volunteers and sweat-equity invested by prospective homeowners, transformed 275 eyesores into handsome residences. The nonprofit organization, with Tibbels as co-executive director, hopes to restore another 100 houses during the coming years.

Towson faculty and students are no

**“The idea was to organize a team, move in and devote the next 30 years to the effort.”**

**— Allan Tibbels '88**

strangers to Habitat projects. Retired physics professor John Wessner—who taught Susan Tibbels as an undergraduate—has been recruiting volunteers and installing heating systems in rehabbed houses since 1990.

In 1991—the year she received her B.S. degree in elementary education from Towson—Susan Tibbels launched New Song Community Learning Center, which includes New Song Academy, a nonprofit public contract school begun in 1996. It now enrolls about 140 Sandtown pupils from preschool through eighth grade.

“We’re essentially a zoned public school in partnership with Baltimore City,” Susan explains. Half of her pupils live in Habitat-restored houses, and most walk to school. “The building we opened in 2001 also functions as a community center,” she adds. “It’s used for all kinds of gatherings, including after-school programs, college and career preparation, graduations—even weddings.”

*Workers from Habitat and the community have transformed 275 houses.*

*Gerry Palmer, the owner of Gerry's Goods, embodies the new entrepreneurial spirit taking hold in Sandtown.*



The school is also the focus of one of Towson University's longest-running urban-outreach partnerships. Established in 1992, the program enables TU art-education majors to work with New Song students to foster understanding, enhance classroom learning and create pathways to college. (See sidebar.)

In addition to providing a sound education—New Song pupils regularly outperform other neighborhood schools on standardized tests—Susan Tibbels and her staff strive to match graduates with the Baltimore high schools best suited to their needs and

“Mothers put their babies on our waiting list before they're born—that's something I had associated only with affluent parents and private schools.”

Establishing a church and a school were just the beginning of the Tibbels work in Sandtown. Within a few years they'd also established New Song Family Health Services in partnership with Mercy Medical Center; EDEN Jobs, a job-placement, counseling and career-services center; New Song Arts and Media; and a partnership with Newborn Holistic Ministries, which includes a transitional recovery house for women.

Gerry's Goods, a newly opened coffee shop and convenience store, exemplifies the kind of small businesses the community hopes to attract. It's owned and operated by Gerry Palmer, a Sandtown resident.

For a couple who insist they “stink at fundraising,” Allan and Susan Tibbels have ploughed about \$50 million into Sandtown projects from a variety of sources, including corporations, foundations and contributions from faith-based organizations and from individuals. “We've been blessed with a strong network of volunteers that allowed us to meet people with resources,” Susan says.





Allan adds, "For 20 years we've operated on the principle that as we move forward, it will be funded. Susan broke ground for a new school building in 2000 when we had absolutely no money. We ended up with \$5.5 million to fund the construction, and now we're planning an expansion."

The Tibbels point to their neighbors as the key to their successes. "Sandtown is an intergenerational community—the family networks are amazing," Allan says. "There's a relational commitment: they love this place and one another. They want to stay here, and we want them to stay here."

"Yes, I do get discouraged," he says. "We're dealing with the results of years of oppression, racism and systemic injustice. There are still abandoned houses and problems that we have to face every day. But we work in partnership and see ourselves as an extended family."

There's a lot of pain in living here," he acknowledges, "but there's a lot of joy, too."

Susan Tibbels notes that "suffering has been a journey" for Sandtown's residents. "They've exhibited tremendous faith in circumstances that would render most people incapable of functioning."

"If we were to think about quitting, we'd have to consider the effect on all those who are on this journey with us." ■

Jan Lucas is an associate director in University Relations.



*The Towson-New Song partnership, directed by Kay Broadwater (center in red) is a model for art-education programs in other states. The Maryland Art Education Association selected Broadwater as 2010 Maryland Art Educator of the Year.*

## Finding the Future With Art

Towson's art-education partnership with New Song Academy is one of the university's oldest urban-outreach efforts. Founded in 1992 by Kay Broadwater, then a lecturer in the TU Department of Art, the program initially aimed to address the lack of art instruction in the newly opened Sandtown school.

"My husband and I have known Allan and Susan Tibbels since the '70s," says Broadwater, who now serves as the art department's area coordinator for art education. "I volunteered at New Song and began to think about how to bring more art into these kids' lives."

From an initial 39 middle-schoolers and 50 TU elementary education majors, the program has ballooned to about 130 children and 100 Towson students.

Broadwater funds the program with the help of grants from Pepsi and the Alumni Association; New Song provides bus transportation.

Then, as now, Towson students design lesson plans that integrate art with New Song's academic subjects. Some projects draw inspiration from Baltimore streetscapes and multicultural themes. Others are integrated with existing math and science curriculums.

The Towson-New Song partnership formed the crux of Broadwater's doctoral dissertation and has been used as the model for art-education programs in other states.

Broadwater understood that the Towson-New Song partnership was much more than an outlet for creative expression. It also aspires to demolish stereotypes, explore human commonality and difference, integrate theory with practice and encourage children to develop a vision for continuing their education at the college level.

She points with pride to some lesser-known benefits of art education in public schools. "Students who are involved with the arts in school are much more likely to graduate than those who aren't," she says. "You can prove that art gets them to school and keeps them there longer. But it also requires respect, trust, commitment and high expectations from both teachers and students."

Broadwater acknowledges that both parties have benefited from the partnership, perhaps in unexpected ways. "In my experience the people who are perceived as reaching out often receive the greatest benefit. I learned so much that it changed the way I taught."

She clearly admires the virtues New Song children bring to Towson. "They possess enormous empathy and resiliency," says Broadwater. "It surprised me at first—then it inspired me."





Shannon Sanders McDonald '76 understands how parking spaces affect quality of life.

Her book and a national exhibit examine the design and innovation of the parking garage.

By Ginny Cook

This space intentionally left blank. Believe it or not, a 10- by 20-foot empty space is exactly what most people crave. Along with home ownership, this has become part of the American dream.

Of course we're not talking about just any vacant piece of property. This is prime real estate—a parking space.

Ever since the early 1900s when the automobile began rolling en masse onto the landscape, drivers needed a place to keep it. Horses had stables, trains had roundhouses and drivers craved garages as the number of cars quickly outgrew spots on the street.

Consider this: In 1900, there were 8,000 registered drivers; 10 years later there were half a million and by 1928, there were so many cars clogging its streets that Chicago imposed a ban on curbside parking.

"By the 1920s multi-story garages became well known structures to drivers," says Shannon Sanders McDonald '76, an architect and expert on the ins and outs of where people park. Her 2007 book *The Parking Garage: Design and Evolution of a Modern Urban Form*, traces the history and architecture of garages.

It also spawned "House of Cars: Innovation and the Parking Garage," an exhibit at the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C., that runs through July 11. It is an exploration of not just parking structures but how parking affects quality of life.

"The exhibit encourages us to consider why and how we have decided to integrate cars into cities and towns and think about the relationship between where we need to go and where we want to park and to imagine other alternatives," reads the first sign visitors see upon entering the gallery.

Cars were once considered environmental saviors that would also clean up city streets. Historians estimate that horses ate 15 million acres worth of feed, and in 1880s New York City, equines produced four million pounds of manure a day and 40,000 gallons of urine.

Both McDonald's book and the exhibit traverse 100 years of cars and where to put them when they are not in gear, which is about 90 percent of the time.

The first garages were often converted stables.

Soon parking garages were built with amenities that included heat or luxurious lounges so women could literally remove the dust of the road before shopping or dining in the city. In 1903, according to the exhibit, "some garages had dressing rooms and lounges so women could change from motoring outfits." In San Francisco's Union Square garage, built in 1942, "delicate colors...[gave] every invitation for the woman patron to freshen up after driving downtown..."

Early garages were enclosed and heated to protect car engines from the elements, or had gas stations and on-site mechanics to deal with temperamental engines. Then mechanized garages arrived, some equipped with car elevators and other innovative methods to whisk cars into high places. A video at the exhibit shows the Westinghouse Ferris Wheel garage in Chicago in 1931 and reports on a Houston, Texas, garage for Foleys Department Store in 1948 where attendants used a system of ladders and fire poles to go up and down the levels.

But soon various ramp systems proved a faster way to park volumes of cars, and after WWII the open-ramped, self-park garage became a staple.

"Until the 1950s, every famous architect designed a parking garage," McDonald says, creating structures that were beautiful and proportional to the cityscape surrounding them. The Cafritz Office Building in Washington, D.C., offered 1950s workers interior parking spaces next to offices on the building's exterior. Workers could literally park at their desks.

Then, notes McDonald, garages came under the purview of engineers who were more interested in structure and function than design. While some garages went underground, others became open decks of concrete with a numbing sameness.



The Union Garage, TU's first, was built in 1984.

## The Space Race

### A (brief) history of TU parking

The invention of the automobile generated new demands—parking spaces and parking garages—as well as rules about who could park where.

Towson was no exception. As far back as the 1920s, student parking was restricted. "No boarding student will be permitted to bring a personally owned automobile to the campus for his or her permanent use," reads the 1923 to 1925 catalogue of the Maryland State Normal School at Towson.

Fast forward to fall 2009 when TU's Office of Parking and Transportation Services issued 9,647 student parking permits and another 2,724 to faculty and staff, according to Pam Mooney, director. But supply and demand still bans cars on campus for some freshmen. "Due to the limited availability of spaces on campus, freshman residents should not expect to be able to purchase a permit," reads the parking Web site.

Photos from the 1920s in TU's Cook Library Archives show a few parking spaces surrounding Stephens Hall, but these were presumably for faculty. Students who commuted to school often wrote in letters and yearbook quips about taking the streetcar, which ran on York Road, to school.

By 1954, blueprints show dormitory parking for 17 cars, field house parking for 49 cars and athletic parking for 107 cars. In 1962, blueprints from Olmsted Associates proposed a faculty/staff parking garage for 39 cars in between Stephens Hall and Van Bokkelen. (It was never built.)

When Towson expanded in the late 1970s, so did the demand for parking. The campus completed its first multi-level parking facility—the Union Garage with more than 1,000 spaces—in 1984. The Towsontown Garage (1989) and the Glen Garage (2002) soon followed.

Today, there are some 7,165 parking spaces at TU including garages and flat lots with some spots earmarked as handicapped or for motorcycles. "At peak times, roughly 6,500 are in use," Mooney says.

—Ginny Cook





"A garage is not a destination but a convenience."

—Shannon Sanders  
McDonald '76

### From Chalkboards to Blueprints

Parking garages didn't always fascinate McDonald, though "architecture was always in the mix," she says.

She began as a teacher, choosing education as her major because in the '70s Towson still had a program that offered tuition reimbursement to students who promised to teach after graduation. This became her path to higher education.

After graduation from Towson, McDonald spent 11 years teaching art in Baltimore County Public Schools, eventually becoming art department chair at Hereford Middle School. Along the way, she earned a master's degree in art education from MICA in 1980, and bought and restored a bungalow on Burke Avenue in Towson. She also became president of Historic Towson, "fighting to preserve the best of Towson homes," she says.

Eager for a new challenge, McDonald enrolled at Syracuse University in 1987 to study architecture. She soon transferred to Yale, from which she graduated in 1992.

At Yale, McDonald became hooked on parking garages because of a class assignment looking for the most important piece of architecture in urban design.

"It was a no-brainer," she quips, as she could almost look out her window to find the information. Two famous parking garages designed by noted architects—the New Haven Veterans Memorial Coliseum Garage and the Temple Street Parking Garage—were at the center of New Haven's development, McDonald says.

The paper impressed her professor who asked her to expand the piece, but the manuscript "was confined to a file cabinet," McDonald says. "I wanted to build good schools."

So she took off for Chicago working for several architectural firms and then on her own before moving to Atlanta. All the while, the parking paper "was passed around underground," McDonald says. "I did more research and the next thing I knew, people wanted me to write a book."

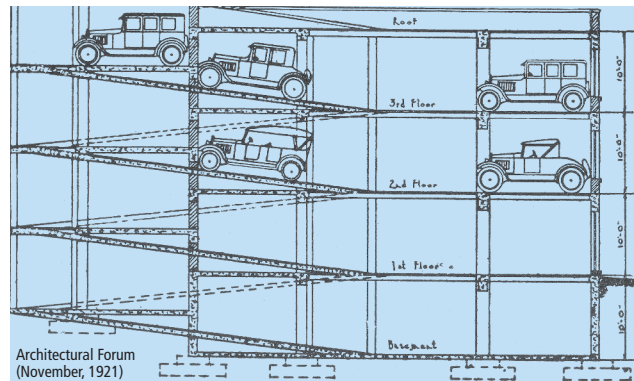
Her reaction? Laughter. "I'm a horrible speller," she adds. "What's more, I didn't have enough information."

It would take another seven years of research, teaching and writing until she completed the task and settled on a publisher, the Urban Land Institute.

### The Future of Parking

McDonald examines not only the architecture of parking garages but also the connections they forge with the cities, towns, colleges or the tourist spots they encompass.

"A garage is not a destination but a convenience," she notes, an important link between the car and an ultimate location.



With staggered floors, the patented D'Humy ramp, introduced in 1918, revolutionized parking because it maximized the number of spaces in garages.

Parking garages can contribute to the life of a city and can also be green, sustainable and great architecture.

The façade of the garage for the Kansas City Public Library, for example, resembles a bookshelf, while a Miami garage is draped in vines, adding not only beauty but also a cooling effect.

New garages blend the best work of architects, engineers and city planners who now aim to integrate places to park with mass transit and other uses, or reduce their environmental impact.

Santa Monica built the first LEED certified garage in 2008, which has rooftop solar cells to collect energy.

With an estimated two billion cars on the road worldwide, garages are here to stay, McDonald says. "It's the architect's job to make them better." ■

Ginny Cook is the editor of *Towson*.

In 1903 "some garages had dressing rooms and lounges so women could change from motoring outfits."



## A Living Lab

PARTNERSHIP ESTABLISHES FIELD STATION AT CAMP RUNNING BEAR



Professor Don Forester will direct the TU Field Station at Camp Running Bear.

Over the years, Camp Running Bear in White Hall, Md., has had scout troops, school groups and other nature lovers use its 228 acres of land for hiking, swimming in the Gunpowder River, ropes courses and other outdoor adventures.

Now the property of Al '66 and Suzie Henneman will be available for outdoor pursuits and studies because of a partnership with Towson University. Under an agreement between the Hennemans and TU, a TU Field Station is being established which already includes a conservation easement to protect the land from development.

The Field Station will be used for environmental projects of TU graduate and undergraduate students that may include a salamander breeding program, applied surveying, flora and fauna research, water quality and trail marking.

"Our students will be exposed to applied research in a pristine outdoor laboratory," says David Vanko, acting dean, of the Fisher College. Don Forester, biology professor in TU's Fisher College of Science and Mathematics, will direct the facility.

*A special thank you to James Sheehan, vice president, Gary Rubin '69, vice president, and Warren Riefner '77 and his team for making this partnership possible.*

from the  
alumni president



In April, my term as alumni president will come to a close. I'll admit that I'm looking forward to some new-found free time, but I'm also sad because I will miss the wonderful opportunities that this role afforded me to meet so many fun, friendly, interesting and inspiring alums from all over the country.

Most of all, I can't believe how quickly the past three years have gone—and how much we've accomplished during that time. The list is too long to mention, but I can tell you that none of it could have been achieved without the support of an amazing alumni relations staff and a talented, enthusiastic board of directors. I was lucky to have them, and so are all of our alumni.

Many people assume that I work for the university as my full-time job. And while I do work on behalf of the university, I do not get paid. Like all Towson University volunteers, we give of our time, talents and resources as a labor of love for an institution that has meant so much to us—and means so much to our current and future students.

It has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve in this role—and I can't wait to see what the future has in store for TU! I hope to reconnect with many of you in the coming year, and also to meet some new faces, as we continue to support our alma mater in new and exciting ways.

All the best,

*Kim Fabian*

Kim Fabian '88  
President  
Towson University Alumni Association



## Never Forget

### Honor Elizabeth Wainio '95 remembered at Ropewalk Tavern >

On Sept. 10, 2009 family, friends and patrons gathered at the Ropewalk Tavern in Federal Hill to recognize Honor Elizabeth Wainio '95, one of 40 passengers who perished on Flight 93 in Shanksville, Pa. on Sept. 11, 2001. The Wainio family—father Ben, sister Sarah and stepmother Esther Heymann '72—were joined by former Gov. Robert Ehrlich, many other family and friends, and recipients of the communication scholarship established in her name.



1 Grace and Brian Toeneboehn 2 Gary Rubin '69, Joanie and Rick Dempsey, Kim Fabian '88 and Bill Stetka '77 3 Lori Armstrong, Linda McFaul, Marc McFaul '95, Robert Ehrlich, Esther Heymann '72 and Ben Wainio 4 Ryan Clark '96, Donna Mayer, Keith Ewancio '94/'07 and Ed McDonald '78 5 Jane Brannon, Sarah Wainio and Bryant Carter



## In Atlanta



### < Reception honors Georgia State University president

On Oct. 13, 2009, TU alumni and friends in Atlanta celebrated the investiture of Georgia State University's new president, Mark Becker '80. He and his wife, Laura Voisinet '81 were the guests of honor at the Capital City Club. Well-wishers included Robert L. Caret, TU president, and John Schuerholz '66, president, Atlanta Braves along with Gary Rubin '69, vice president of university advancement, and Lou Dollenger '74, incoming Alumni Association president. More than 780 TU alumni live in Georgia.

1 Kevin Fidati '89, Ann Fidati and Gary Rubin '69    2 David Tyberg '03 and Jason Wetzel '66    3 Lou Dollenger '75, Robert Caret, Mark Becker '80, Laura Voisinet '81, John Schuerholz '62 and Michael Rossetti '77    4 Heather Martin, DeJuan Martin '91, Pat Wilde-DiFiore '72 and Richard DiFiore



## Creatures Great and Small

### Wildlife visits the Hackerman Academy's science series >

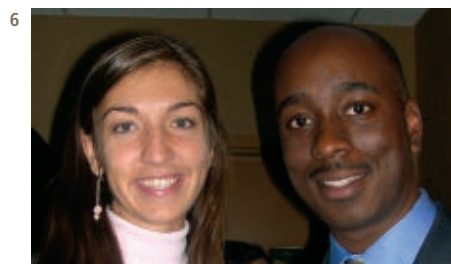
It wasn't lions and tigers and bears but hedgehogs, snakes, ferrets and a tarantula that cruised into Smith Hall on Oct. 24. Oh my! Valerie Garcia '88 and her Wildlife Adventures educational program entertained more than 600 children, friends and alumni during two shows as part of the Hackerman Academy's Saturday Morning Science Series. Alumni Relations provided snacks. Find out more about the Saturday Science Series at [www.towson.edu/HackermanAcademy](http://www.towson.edu/HackermanAcademy).



## Forging Ties

### Alumni Career Fair & Networking Reception >

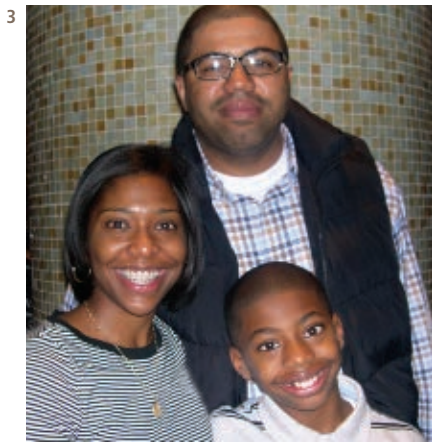
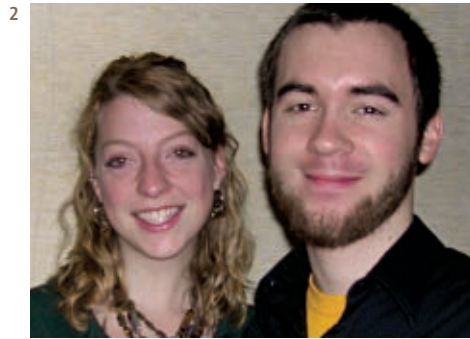
Last November, more than 100 alumni took advantage of the free opportunities to improve their careers and job-seeking skills when Alumni Relations hosted a career resource event. Heartfelt thanks is extended to Alumni Relations staff Jen Pawlo-Johnstone and Kathleen Crouse, the Alumni Association Board of Directors, the Career Center and other alumni volunteers.



1 Hilde Martin and Larry Martin '69 2 Kim Fabian '88, Ian Mutton and Colin Mutton 3 Kathleen Crouse '03 and Valerie Garcia '88 4 Hedgehog 5 Tarantula 6 Leslie Cox '05 and Kenneth Abrams '92 7 Stephanie Machrone '04 assists a recent grad with setting up a LinkedIn account 8 Gayle Becker '81 discusses "How to Sell Yourself in 30 Seconds"



## Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade



### < Alumni watch TU's band perform

An enthusiastic alumni crowd stormed the Marriott Marquis in New York City to cheer the only university marching band in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. In a warm banquet room overlooking the parade route, alumni, family and friends watched the TU Marching Band perform its new fight song, "Hail Towson." Another 50 million people saw the band on television.



1 Obsette Korme '03, Dedra Mack and Saniyah Young '03 2 Megan Strittmatter '07 and Jeffrey Hosier '07 3 Stacie and Terrence '96 and Donovan Clemmons 4 Christine '93 and John Robinson with Matthew and Timothy Robinson 5 Karen and Eric Lent '91 with children Andrew, Chase and William



## Wild With Pride

**WILD  
WITH PRIDE**  
HOMECOMING 2009  
TOWSON UNIVERSITY

### Volunteer Recognition Reception >

The wind and rain did not dampen the excitement in the Patuxent Lounge where the Alumni Association recognized their top volunteers, student scholarship recipients and grant recipients.



Spirit of the University Award  
**Daniel J. McCarthy '75/'83**



Alumni Association Volunteer Service Award  
**Barbara Eckley '77**



Staff Alumni Volunteer Service Award  
**Louise K. Shulack**



Faculty Alumni Volunteer Service Award  
**James Anthony**



University Alumni Volunteer Service Award  
**Janet L. Kines '80**



Athletic Alumni Volunteer Service Award  
**Tony Seaman**



The Alumni Association Scholarship and Grant Recipients for 2009



# Homecoming 2009



## < Millennium Reunion

Alumni from the classes of 2000-2009 celebrated at Charles Village Pub.



## < Alumni Homecoming Festival & Reunion Row Sponsored by GEICO

Alumni and their families kept warm inside the University Union with games, food and entertainment by the TU Dance Team. But the driving rain did not keep some intrepid alumni from having a party on Burdick Field.



For more homecoming pictures go to [www.tutigertracks.com](http://www.tutigertracks.com)

1 Joe Brammer, Leslie Cox '05, Darcy Accardi '06, Robert Caret 2 Misty Schultz '00, Joanne Forrester '00/'05, John Schultz and Drew Forrester 3 Jenn Long '08, Robert Caret and Matthew Laumann '08 4, 5 & 6 TU fans celebrate Homecoming 7 The HHC Alumni Group 8 The Alumni of the Stay Puff Markmallow Man Group 9 Delta Sigma Theta Alumnae 10 BETE Fraternity Alumni with President Caret





# Growing a university

THE CAMPAIGN FOR TOWSON



from the

campaign chair

Philanthropy matters, now more than ever. It matters to Towson professors, who seek professional development opportunities to remain experts in their fields. It matters to students, who need extra financial aid to remain in school.

Towson's ability to provide this crucial support to students and faculty is directly affected by waning state support and a down economy which challenges our endowment. In these times, we must look to our alumni, parents, faculty, staff and friends for help to bridge the gap.

I want to thank those who continued their giving through tough times. What has become even more apparent recently is how much you care about the future of our students, the institution and the community that they seek to benefit.

Your philanthropy matters—to each student you helped, to every person who felt the impact of a Towson University program, to each individual or organization who was inspired to give because you gave.

Thank you.

*Molly Shock*

Molly Shock '75  
Campaign Chair  
Growing a University—  
The Campaign for Towson

## Campaign Reaches \$40 Million

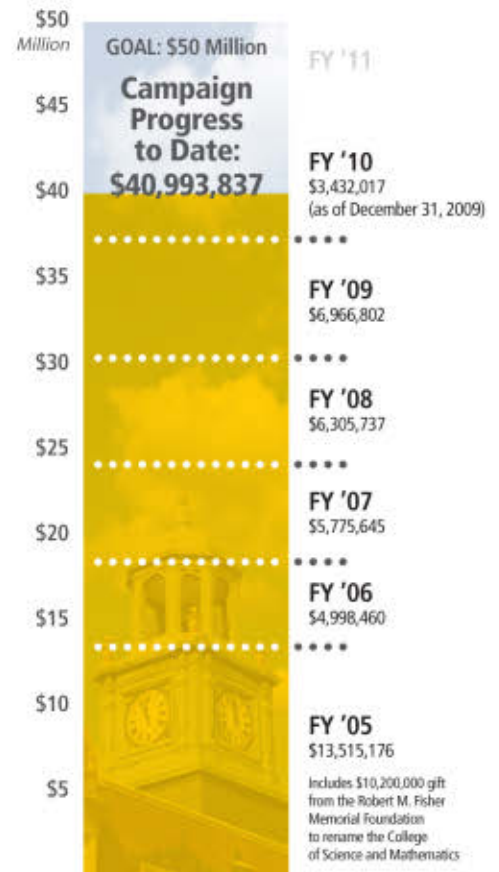
AMOUNT IS 80 PERCENT OF GOAL

As of January 2010, *Growing a University—The Campaign for Towson* had reached the \$40 million mark, in spite of a challenging economy and steep stock market declines in the fall of 2008. Towson remains on track to reach the \$50 million goal by the campaign's end in June 2011.

We still need your support to get there. Here are a few ways you can help:

- Contribute to name a locker, classroom, studio or building after a loved one.
- Create a named scholarship or program endowment to give enduring support to TU.
- Become a member of the Founders Society through your annual gift of \$1,000 or more.
- Make your annual gift at any level, showing your support for the students of Towson.
- Become a member of the Tower Light Society by making an estate gift.

There are so many opportunities to have an impact. If you wish to discuss ways that you can make a difference at Towson, call 1-866-301-3375 (toll free), e-mail [towsonfund@towson.edu](mailto:towsonfund@towson.edu) or visit [www.towson.edu/supportTU](http://www.towson.edu/supportTU).



## Rose Winder Scholarship Established

FUND SUPPORTS GRADUATE STUDENTS IN JUDAIC STUDIES

The College of Liberal Arts and the Baltimore Hebrew Institute announced the Rose Winder Scholarship for graduate students in Judaic Studies. It is the first scholarship in Judaic Studies since Baltimore Hebrew University became the Baltimore Hebrew Institute at Towson University last July.

The fund is established in memory of Rose L. Winder, who was born in Zawierce, Poland, in 1922. She had just completed her law degree when she was taken to Auschwitz by Nazi soldiers. Although she was grouped with those being sent to their deaths, she managed to slip into the crowd of those chosen to work and survived as a slave laborer.

After liberation by the U.S. Army, Winder met her future husband, Max Winder, on a train to the Displaced Persons Camp in Italy. He wished to emigrate to Tel Aviv to be with his surviving

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The fund is established in memory of Rose L. Winder, an Auschwitz survivor and Baltimore businesswoman.

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brother, but because of the British blockade of Palestine, the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) arranged for them to move to Baltimore. They settled in an apartment in the Reservoir Hill neighborhood among many refugees.

HIAS found employment for Max in the Comfee Slip Cover factory; but it did not suit him, and he instead apprenticed himself to a local grocer. The Winders eventually purchased the grocery and moved into the apartment over the store. They worked 10-hour days, six days a week. After paying off the store's mortgage, the couple bought and rented out properties. Max became a handyman, while Rose kept the books and assisted the tenants, earning a reputation as a respected businesswoman. She was also an active gardener—her neighbors referred to her plot as the "Sherwood Gardens of Rogers Avenue"—and loved attending lectures and concerts.

The Rose Winder Scholarship will support graduate students in Judaic Studies.

### INCREASE YOUR ANNUAL INCOME AND SUPPORT TOWSON UNIVERSITY

With a charitable gift annuity, you could enjoy a 5.3 percent to 9.5 percent fixed income for life and at the same time make a major gift to the Towson University Foundation.

Additional benefits:

- Partially tax-free income
- Current charitable income tax deduction
- Preferential treatment on capital gains

To learn more, contact Donna Mayer, associate vice president for development, at [dmayer@towson.edu](mailto:dmayer@towson.edu), 410-704-3375 or toll free, 1-866-301-3375.

*Charitable gift annuities benefiting the Towson University Foundation are offered through the University System of Maryland Foundation and may not be available in all states.*

## Baltimore Hebrew Institute at TU

NEW FACULTY AND GRADUATE PROGRAMS

The integration of Baltimore Hebrew University into Towson University has brought new faculty and three new graduate programs into the College of Liberal Arts and the College of Education. TU now offers Master of Arts degrees in Jewish Studies, Jewish Communal Service and Jewish Education, as well as several graduate certificates.

In addition, BHU's outstanding Judaic library collection, with over 70,000 volumes including an important rare book collection, has relocated to Towson's Albert S. Cook Library. The Baltimore Hebrew Institute (BHI) in the College of Liberal Arts is a hub for TU's Judaic Studies graduate students, and hosts an array of Judaic studies programs, including continuing education classes, Hebrew language courses, scholarly lectures, and symposia to encourage literacy, dialogue and understanding among all traditions. The BHI also serves as a bridge between TU and those interested in higher Jewish education.

*For more information or to make a gift in support of the Baltimore Hebrew Institute, visit [www.towson.edu/bhi](http://www.towson.edu/bhi) or call 410-704-7117.*



## Making A Difference

ONE CALL AT A TIME



Andrew Altshuler '09

As a recent graduate, Andrew Altshuler '09 never expected to continue working for the Towson Fund Phonathon, the part-time job he held as an undergrad. But less than four months after walking across the stage, Altshuler returned to campus as the first Phonathon alum. Learn about the man who cannot get enough of Towson.

### Why Towson?

I chose Towson because it was the perfect distance from my home on Long Island. I wanted to go away for school, and I also liked that Towson had a communication studies program.

### How did you get involved with Phonathon?

When I was a sophomore, I was looking for a part-time job. I liked to talk to people and figured it would be a good fit. After one

semester of calling, I was promoted to a supervisor where I tried to make calling fun, both for the students and the alumni and parents they call.

### What activities were you involved in at TU?

I founded Towson's chapter of the Invisible Children Club, which helps children in northern Uganda who are victims of the longest-running war in Africa. It was tough to get it started, but after two and a half years, it has a big membership. I used a lot of the skills I learned through Phonathon, and we've raised a couple thousand dollars to help end this tragedy.

### What do you do now?

Even though I graduated with a degree in mass communications/philosophy, I actually work in the psychology field as a Rehabilitation Counselor for Mosaic Community Services. And now that I'm back on campus, I can more easily stay connected to Invisible Children.

### Why did you return to Phonathon?

Besides needing a part-time job, I also understand the importance of giving back to Towson. Towson supplied a great educational environment for me, and I want the same for future students. As a new alum and donor, I hope to encourage more graduates to give back, too.

## WHEN A TU STUDENT CALLS, PLEASE PICK UP THE PHONE

Towson University's Phonathon callers will be at work through April this year, offering those who have not made a gift this year the chance to help support scholarships, faculty professional development and academic programs. Please take time to answer, make your gift and ask what's new on campus. Your caller is your direct connection to your alma mater. Be sure to say "hello."



Your TU gift supports students and programs such as the Cherry Hill Learning initiative.

# Towson University Foundation

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JULY 1, 2008 TO JUNE 30, 2009

The Towson University Foundation manages 665 funds that support academic programs, scholarships and special projects at Towson University. These funds include 333 endowments, which include 262 that support scholarships. Other endowments fund fellowships, distinguished professorships, the arts, athletics and other programs.

Contributions increased to \$6,783,555 from \$6,118,447 last year, partly due to fundraising efforts of the \$50 million capital campaign, *Growing a University—The Campaign for Towson*.

Endowment gift revenues for FY 2009 totaled approximately \$3.2 million. On June 30, 2009, the endowment investment portfolio's market value totaled \$27,760,054, compared to \$33,107,777 at the same time last year. As the markets trend upward, we remain confident that our long-term investment strategy will serve our portfolio well and position us to benefit greatly as the markets and the economy stabilize and grow.

## TOWSON UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION, INC. Statement of Financial Position

(Abbreviated and extracted from Audited Financial Statements)  
June 30, 2009 and 2008

	2009	2008
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and investments	\$35,530,251	\$39,893,795
Contributions receivable	1,462,048	1,090,270
Annuities receivable	164,115	348,010
Collections	1,002,458	945,435
Deposits	1,200,000	1,200,000
Other	227,531	271,725
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$39,586,403</b>	<b>\$43,749,235</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
Liabilities	\$1,297,441	\$1,434,962
Net assets	38,288,962	42,314,273
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$39,586,403</b>	<b>\$43,749,235</b>

Complete Audited Financial Statements are available upon request.

## LETTER FROM TOWSON'S FOUNDATION PRESIDENT



From an investment perspective, 2009 was one of the most challenging in the foundation's history. By the time the dust

settled at the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2009, 270 of the foundation's 333 endowed funds had lost value or were "underwater." Our assets totaled \$39,586,403, a decrease of \$4.1 million over the previous fiscal year.

The downturn and resulting loss of investment revenue decreases the amount of money the foundation can offer to fund scholarships and programs in the 2010-2011 academic year. Now more than ever, the philanthropy of our donors is needed to mitigate the effects of this decrease on TU students.

But there is good news. We are beginning to see vast improvements in investment performance. As of September 30, 2009, the number of underwater funds fell from 270 to 226. Under the leadership of our investment committee, our decision to stay the course with our investment strategy has served us well as the markets have rebounded. We remain committed that over the long-term, our strategy will provide Towson with resources for success.

Sincerely,

Dan McCarthy '75/'83  
President  
Towson University Foundation, Inc.



## Alumni Association Scholarship

The TU Alumni Association offers scholarships to children and grandchildren of alumni. The deadline for this year's applications is May 1. Visit [www.towson.edu/alumni/awards](http://www.towson.edu/alumni/awards) for more information.

### In Memoriam

#### Alumni

**Edward L. Reyes '80**  
October 3, 1994

**Kathleen B. Kesler '68**  
May 26, 2002

**Rochelle R. Shevitz '82**  
November 9, 2003

**Florence A. Shapiro '42**  
November 26, 2004

**David L. Shepherd '41**  
August 21, 2006

**Kelli Ann Gillespie '03**  
March 29, 2007

**Robert M. Pupek '89**  
June 17, 2007

**Louise H. Seidel '64**  
October 17, 2007

**Gladys Carpenter Grimes '30/'61**  
January 3, 2008

**Diana M. Lang '88**  
June 28, 2008

**Betty G. Jones '50**  
August 7, 2008

**Regina M. Ferguson '91**  
October 6, 2008

**Ernest A. Forthman '58**  
December 9, 2008

**Jean L. Cannon '68**  
December 14, 2008

**Sylvie C. Grossman '71**  
January 15, 2009

**Edgar M. Gerlach '77**  
February 13, 2009

**Gunther Bienes '71**  
February 23, 2009

**Evelyn P. Benser '73**  
May 3, 2009

**Michael S. Hodges '88**  
May 9, 2009

**Cynthia A. Pool '94**  
June 9, 2009

**Jack Epstein '35**  
June 18, 2009

**William D. Ferrell '77**  
June 29, 2009

**Thomas H. Salathiel '95**  
July 26, 2009

**Athena Mugno '73**  
August 8, 2009

**Jeffrey Scott Roberts '92**  
October 19, 2009

**Dwight Dingle '68**  
November 26, 2009

#### Faculty

**James Hill**, professor of English, died May 28, 2009.

**Stanley Pollack**, professor emeritus of art, died July 21, 2009.

**Irene C. Shipman '70**, former chair of speech and mass communication, died September 16, 2009.

## Before the 1960s

**Bill Hammerman '52 EDUC**, Senior Volunteer of the Year, in Petaluma, Calif., was honored at the Sonoma-Marín Fair on Seniors Day for his contributions throughout the year.

**Audrey Bortner Alderson '56** received the 2009 Hon Kachina Volunteer Award for addressing the need for more stimulating activities for group home residents with memory-related issues. In 2001, she founded Audrey's Angels, a nonprofit organization, which has grown to more than 65 musicians and crafters who bring music and activities to 100 group homes and adult day-care centers in the Phoenix, Ariz., area.

## 1960s

**Felix W. Morrison '69** was appointed to serve on the Caroline County Board of Education. He told the *Star Democrat* that his advertising, finance and marketing background, with companies that include Bayer Health Care Pharmaceuticals and Chesapeake Publishing, gives him decision-making experience that will be valuable to the board. He also said he pursued the school board position because "I believe strongly in the value of a public school education."

## 1970s

**Darryl K. Myers '72 HIST** was promoted to postmaster of Cincinnati, Ohio. For the past two years, he has won the Benjamin Franklin Award, which is the U.S. Postal Service's highest award for community service and civic involvement.

**Jeffrey Jones '73 SOCI** and his wife have two grandsons and three granddaughters.

**Theresa Dabrowski Karr '73 ECED** retired in 2006 after 25 years as an early childhood education teacher in Baltimore City Public Schools. After graduating from TU, she married and earned her master's degree in early childhood education.

**Christopher Thomas Harrison '74 SOSOC** retired from the U.S. Postal Service with more than 30 years of government service, including four years in the U.S. Army. He is certified to teach

history and social science in Virginia, and began substitute teaching in November in Craig County Public Schools in Virginia.

**Eugene Hoffman '74** has worked at Archbishop Curley High School for 32 years in a number of positions, including physical education department chair, physical education instructor, mathematics instructor and health instructor. Hoffman, the head coach for the cross-country, track and field, and indoor track teams, recently celebrated his 100th season of coaching at Archbishop Curley. He has coached more than 30 championship teams for the school.

## Maureen Maloney Larkin '74 PSYC

earned her master's in teaching from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in May. She plans to teach outdoor science to children. She and her husband, Barry, recently celebrated their 27th wedding anniversary. The couple has two daughters in college: Grace, who is in the East Asian studies program at Wittenberg University in Ohio, and Gail, who is studying biomedical engineering at the University of Mary Washington in Virginia.

**Linda D. Burgee '76 ELED**, superintendent of Frederick County Public Schools, was named administrator of the year by the Maryland Association of Educational Office Professionals.

**Debbie Kmiecik DiPaolo '76 ELED** has been educating parents and advocating for children with special needs for 10 years in Western Maryland. She lives in Frostburg with her two sons, Michael and Charlie.

## Cindy Pohlhaus Wilhoite '77 ARED

taught art for 27 years in Baltimore City and Baltimore County. After retiring in 2008, she and her husband, Jerry, built Hilltop Hideaway Bed and Breakfast in Hampstead, Md. Wilhoite has also been a student service-learning fellow since 2004, and teaches art classes in Manchester, Md.

**Mark Furst '78 BUAD** was named chief executive officer of United Way of Central Maryland. He joined United Way in 2004 as senior vice president and was promoted to executive vice president and chief operating officer in 2007.

**Jeanne O'Kelley '79 BUAD** won the Women in Technology's Corporate Leadership

Award in May and is one of the 48 past winners highlighted in *No One Path: Perspectives on Leadership from a Decade of Women in Technology Award Winners*, a book released in October.

**Ernie Paszkiewicz '79 ACCT**, a Certified Public Accountant, and audit and accounting partner at Gross Mendelsohn, published "Nonprofits need to pick their financial controls carefully" in the Nov. 20, 2009 issue of the *Baltimore Business Journal*.

**Glenn L. Wilson '79 BUAD** is president and chief executive officer of AmeriServ Financial, a community bank in Johnstown, Pa. He and his wife, Diana, are building a home in Johnstown.

## 1980s

**Mark Becker '80 MATH** was one of six honored with the 2009 Outstanding Science Alumni Award from the Penn State Eberly College of Science. Becker, who earned his doctorate in statistics at Penn State in 1985, is the seventh president of Georgia State University. He has also worked as provost and executive vice president for academic affairs of the University of South

Carolina, professor and dean of the School of Public Health at the University of Minnesota, and professor and associate dean for academic affairs at the University of Michigan School of Public Health.

**Carol Coughlin '82 BUAD**, chief executive officer and founder of BottomLine Growth Strategies, Inc. in Towson, was awarded the Certified Exit Planning Advisor designation from the Exit Planning Institute.

**Dottie Gallagher-Cohen '82 CMM** became president and chief executive officer of the Buffalo Niagara Convention and Visitors Bureau in New York. Gallagher-Cohen has worked for *Buffalo News* for 13 years, most recently as its senior executive, and was also executive director of the Kelly for Kids Foundation, marketing manager at Buffalo Place, and director of public relations at Erie Community College.

**Amy DeNike '84 ECED/'90 M.Ed.** was named the 2009 Northeast area teacher of the year by the Baltimore County Chamber of Commerce at its 23rd annual Awards for Excellence in Education ceremony. She teaches third grade at Kingsville Elementary School in Baltimore County.

**Irwin Kramer '84 PSYC** is the executive producer at the Legal Television Network (LTVN). Kramer, a trial attorney and managing partner of Kramer & Connolly, a law firm in Maryland, has appeared regularly as a legal analyst on local television for the last 15 years.

**Glenda Shaw Sanders '84 BUAD/MCOM** celebrated the 20th anniversary of her firm, Sanders Designs, Architects. She and her husband, Tim, founded the firm in 1989. Clients include Boys' Latin School, Baltimore Lutheran High School, the Pikesville police station and the Woodlawn Library.

**William Neil Cummins '86 BUAD** of Joppa, Md., earned his fifth MetLife's Leaders level of recognition—an honor bestowed to top producers at MetLife who exemplify the highest standards of personal integrity, professionalism and customer service.

**George Parsons Jr. '89** published *Passing the Baton*, a personal account of his 24-year career in criminal justice, which began in 1973 with the Baltimore Police Department and has included service in arson, marine and K-9 units. Parsons talks about the tradition of the police



**Mark Furst '78** is the chief executive officer of United Way of Central Maryland.

## Send Us Your News

What's new? Your friends from college want to know. Please send news about your personal and professional life to Class Notes, Alumni Relations, Towson University, 8000 York Rd., Towson, MD 21252-0001 or e-mail [alumni@towson.edu](mailto:alumni@towson.edu). Because of production schedules, your news may not appear in the magazine you receive immediately after submitting an item.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class Year \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_ Name at Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Address (if address is new) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Here's my news (please use a separate sheet of paper if necessary): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_





## Wedding Belle Katie Oleske '05

Dance teacher's nuptials aired on the small screen

Most brides-to-be spend months or years planning the wedding of their dreams. Katie Oleske '05 spent only 24 hours.

She married the day after her fiancé, Kris Minogue, popped the question.

He not only surprised her with a proposal May 9, but told her the wedding would take place May 10. The two wed in front of 150 close friends and family while being filmed for a special episode of the Style Network's hit series, *Whose Wedding is it Anyway?*

"Kris and my family made the decision to put the wedding on television," she says. "When Kris approached my parents with the idea, they weren't thrilled at first, but they knew it suited my personality and that I would love it."

Putting together an elaborate surprise wedding was a group effort, and a labor of love. For six weeks, Oleske's family and friends, planned her wedding down to the last detail. To keep the nuptials a surprise, they successfully convinced her that she

was going to be a participant in another Style Network show.

"I thought I was competing in a reality show called *Bridal Wars* to win a dream wedding," she says. "But then I found out that it was all part of the plan to distract me!"

The hard work paid off: the wedding took place at the Florentine Gardens in New Jersey and was complete with a custom-made designer gown, thousands of roses and candles (in an all-pink décor) and an after-party hosted by a Jersey shore band.

From start to finish, the event was a whirlwind of planning, filming, celebrating, and most of all, surprises. To Oleske, who recently returned from her honeymoon to Bermuda with her new husband, the surprises made her special day all the more unforgettable.

"My favorite part of the wedding was all of the surprises: my dress, the flowers, the décor...it was one surprise after another!" she says, "and all of the surprises were wonderful. It was truly everything that I could have dreamed of."

—Melissa Kviz

nightstick, or baton, and shares the story of his original baton, "Miss Rosewood." He teaches in the criminal justice department at St. Johns River Community College in Florida.

## 1990s

**Susan O'Brien '92 MCOM** was named vice president for public affairs of the Health Facilities Association of Maryland, managing communications and legislative strategy for the association. She has more than 20 years of experience, including handling media relations for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and serving as a spokesperson for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

**Shannon Corr '94** is associate dean of students at the College of Notre Dame of Maryland.

**Christopher Hutton '94 MUSC** graduated from The Pennsylvania State University with a master of music degree in May 2009.

**Michael Navarre '94 BUAD** was elected as special counsel at Steptoe & Johnson, LLP, an international law firm. He is also co-founder and contributor to a legal blog, CAAflog, which was selected by the *ABA Journal* as one of the top 100 legal blogs in 2008.

**Donna McCallister '95 ENGL**, a language arts teacher at George Fox Middle School in Pasadena, Md., won the Anne Arundel County Teacher of the Year Award. A 15-year veteran teacher, she recently earned her national board certification. Judges chose McCallister for her "teaching skills and extraordinary professionalism." Her principal called her "a perfect role model for all teachers."

**Kenneth Kerr '95 M.S.**, professor of English and adviser for the Alpha Delta Sigma Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa international honor society at Frederick Community College, received the Paragon Award For New Advisors at the society's 2009 convention in Texas. His four-year term on Phi Theta Kappa's honors program committee includes selecting an interdisciplinary honors topic and leading honors students in seminars and courses.

**Ashby Wratchford '95 MCOM** is the senior editor/flame artist for the Martin Agency's postproduction facility, Running with Scissors.

**Kristy Keller-Gross '96 ELED** is teaching middle school science, social studies and pre-algebra at St. Mary Catholic School in Goldsboro, N.C. She is pursuing a master's degree in education. She and her husband, Chad, have two children, Celie, 7, and Matthew, 5.

**David M. Curry '97 M.A.** was selected by *The Queens Courier* as a "Rising Star" award recipient for his business leadership in Queens, N.Y. He is an associate in the real estate department at Farrell Fritz, a law firm in New York.

**Jack S. Monell '97 MCOM** an adjunct professor at Capella University, an online institute of higher learning, is featured in a chapter of the book, *Forensic Social Work: Psychosocial and Legal Issues in Diverse Practice Settings*. Monell has also been appointed to the National Association of Social Worker's Children, Adolescents and Young Adults section.

**Carl Stahlman '97** and his wife, Dina, welcomed Andrei Dimitri on March 7. Andrei joins big brother, Alexander Nicolai, 3. Stahlman was also promoted to major in the U.S. Army in June 2007.

**Kimberly Segermark '98** married Jeromy Trask on November 8, 2008, in Cecilton, Md.

**Rebecca Bialo Wing '98** welcomed Emma Kate on August 9. Emma joins big sister, Alexandra, 3.

**Michael Barbaro '99** and **Barbara Foley Barbaro '99** welcomed Reece on Jan. 12. Reece joins big brother, Gavin, 3. Michael is vice president/general sales manager of Clear Channel Outdoors-Tampa. The family lives in Belleair Beach, Fla.

**Rechelle Tearnan Salazar '99 ART** wrote and illustrated *Henna and the Magical House*, a children's book on Amazon.com. She lives with her husband and three children in Bastrop, Texas.

**Caryn '99** and **Evan '99 Zweben** welcomed their son, Ryan Blake, on Nov. 27. He weighed 9 pounds, 4 ounces.

## 2000s

**Michael Weller '00 BIOL/GEOG** earned his J.D. from The George Washington University Law School in May. He is an associate with the law firm of Bracewell & Giuliani, LLP. Before attending law school, Weller spent several years as a wildlife biologist and environmental consultant in California.

**Kristina Wilfinger Foderaro '01 KNES** and **Donald Foderaro '01 HLTH** former TU football player, welcomed Dominic Dalessio on Sept. 2. Dominic, who weighed 8 pounds, 6 ounces, joins big sister, Sophia, 17 months. The family lives in Nottingham, Md.

**John Gustavsen '01 HIST/POSC** earned his doctorate in history from the University of Miami in August. His dissertation focused on the history of tourism in Cuba.

**Patrick C. Guthrie '01 BUAD** earned his master's degree, and recently earned his professional credentials as a Chartered Financial Analyst.

**Karen Coster Hollingsworth '01 ELED** and **Andrew "Hog" Hollingsworth '01 MCOM** welcomed Alexis Kate on June 28. Alexis joins big brother, A.J., 5, and big sister, Olivia, 2. The family lives in Ridge, N.Y.

**Richard Polyniak '01 MCOM** and **Kimberly Blahut Polyniak '01 MCOM** welcomed a daughter, Emma Ann, on Sept. 12. The family lives in Anne Arundel County, Md.

**Jessica Sadler '01 MCOM** graduated from Northwestern University's prosthetic and orthotic programs at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago. She is completing her residencies in Walnut Creek, Calif., in the East Bay. Sadler plans to specialize in veterinary orthotic and prosthetic care.

**Kari Greenwalt '02** is assistant manager of the David Wills House museum in Gettysburg, Pa., where she focuses on military history. The former director of the Sykesville Gate House Museum in Maryland, is helping with museum plans to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. The Wills House once housed President Abraham

Lincoln, who stayed there before he delivered the Gettysburg Address.

**Bill Kelly '02 EMF** and **Kripa Cuddapa Kelly '02 ENGL** welcomed their first child, Alexander Shivesh, on July 28.

**Matthew Papuchis '03 MCOM** and his wife, Kristie, welcomed their first son, Dylan Lawrence, on Oct. 7.

**Ellen K. Tierney '03 NURS** was one of more than 900 joint military, interagency personnel, partner nations and nongovernmental organizations associated with the United Nations, taking part in the four-month humanitarian and civic assistance mission, "Continuing Promise 2009," aboard the USNS Comfort. She visited ports in Latin America and the Caribbean and worked in the ship's general intensive care unit.

**Amy Davis '04 CCMM** joined the media planning and buying team of Media Works, Ltd., a Baltimore-based media agency. She will work on the \$30 million account of Van Tuyl Automotive Group, which has 75 dealerships.

**Ira Gamerman '04 THEA** was nominated for a New York Innovative Theatre Award for outstanding original short script for his play, *Dated: A Cautionary Tale for Facebook Users*.

**Jennifer '04 ELED** and **Drew Harrah '03 COSC** welcomed their daughter, Abigail Cadence, on July 13. She is the couple's first child.

**Ashley Lauren Adams Aycock '06 CRMJ** married Christopher R. Aycock on Sept. 19 at her parents' home. The couple resides in Harford County, Md.

**Kaitlin Bensley '07 ART** teaches English in Rozhniv in southwest Ukraine, where she will serve for two years as a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer. She has initiated a program to improve her school by soliciting monetary donations and English textbooks. Donations can be made online at [www.peacecorps.gov](http://www.peacecorps.gov). Go to "Donate Now," then type in "Bensley" and choose "Ukraine."

**Debbie Kiblin '07 M.A.** is co-author of *Teach with Success: The First Year and Beyond*. Local authors and Baltimore County Public School



Susan O'Brien '92 is vice president for public affairs of the Health Facilities Association of Maryland.



teachers collaborated to write the book, which provides tips, ideas, lesson plans, handouts and other resources for current or aspiring educators.

**Gus Kosmakos '07 BUAD**, an assistant TU football coach, who twice earned Offensive Player of the Year honors while playing Tiger football, re-signed with the Mariners indoor football team for 2010. He helped propel the Mariners to the American Indoor Football Association's leading rushing offense in 2009.

**Dayron M. Arnold '08 FMST** graduated from the Baltimore Police Academy in October.

**Katherine Mercado '08 CCMM**, a junior marketing specialist with A. Bright Idea, an advertising and public relations firm in in Bel Air, Md., won the New Professional of the Year award from the Public Relations Society of America last fall.

**Stephanie Reed '08 DFST** deployed to Denver last fall for her first service project with the National Civilian Community Corps, an AmeriCorps program. Reed is responsible for completing a series of six-to-eight week projects with a 12-person team. AmeriCorps supports disaster relief, the environment, infrastructure improvement, energy conservation, and urban and rural development.

**Lauren A. Sato '08 POLI** a U.S. Navy seaman, completed the eight-week U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command in Great Lakes, Ill.

**Jill Dombroskie '09 ART** was hired as a graphic designer at A. Bright Idea, an advertising and public relations firm in Bel Air, Md. Her responsibilities include creating ads, other print pieces and branding materials for clients.

**Kaitlyn M. Martin '09 FMST** has accepted a graduate assistant position at Wilkes University in Pennsylvania where she is pursuing a master's degree in teaching English as a second language.



David M. Curry '97 M.A., an associate in the law firm of Farrell Fritz in New York, received the Rising Star award from *The Queens Courier* for outstanding business leadership in Queens.



## The Investor

Sandra R. Oliver Brown, '71/'72 MA

Teacher reaps rewards when students succeed

For 42 years, Sandra R. Oliver Brown, '71/'72 MA has invested in every student who comes into her classroom.

The music department chair and instructor in district 299 of the Chicago Public Schools understands the value of persistence and has helped light the way for African Americans and disadvantaged students because she understands the challenges they face.

When countless barriers seemed insurmountable for African Americans, Brown jumped the hurdles, becoming the first African American instructor of music education at Towson, where she taught from 1971 to 1979. She was also the founding faculty member of Towson's Mu Mu chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, "a sisterhood of more than 200,000 predominately Black college educated women," according to its Web site.

She also sang with the Baltimore Opera Company for five years.

Although she enjoyed extraordinary success in these roles, Brown chose a more meaningful, if less glamorous, calling by working with disadvantaged children in the Maryland, and later Chicago, public school systems. "Teaching is a profession, never just a job," she says.

Her recent accomplishments include advancing music education as a core and essential academic subject,

and raising funds for to build a MIDI Piano and Computer Laboratory for Chicago public school students.

Brown has also published numerous scholarly articles on Genealogy and African American lineage and became engaged in the field as a member of the Afro-American Genealogical and Historical Society of Chicago. "I have to know who I am, if I am to help students discover who they are," she says. She can trace her roots back to Pvt. Henry Dent, Maryland 19th Regiment, Company K, U.S. Colored Troops, earning her membership in the Daughters of The Union Veterans of The Civil War.

As professional development coordinator of Lyric Opera Company of Chicago, in 2008, she also published *The Barber of Seville: Cross-Curricular Unit Plan for the Lyric Opera of Chicago's Student Matinee Professional Development Workshop*.

Throughout her career, Brown always emphasizes the values she believes are most vital for the success of her students. Music helps her students develop their talents and self-respect, even if they struggle with other subjects or in their personal lives. "The hardest part is reaching the children," she says. "Once you've reached them, their talent will grow very naturally."

—Peter Meacham '10

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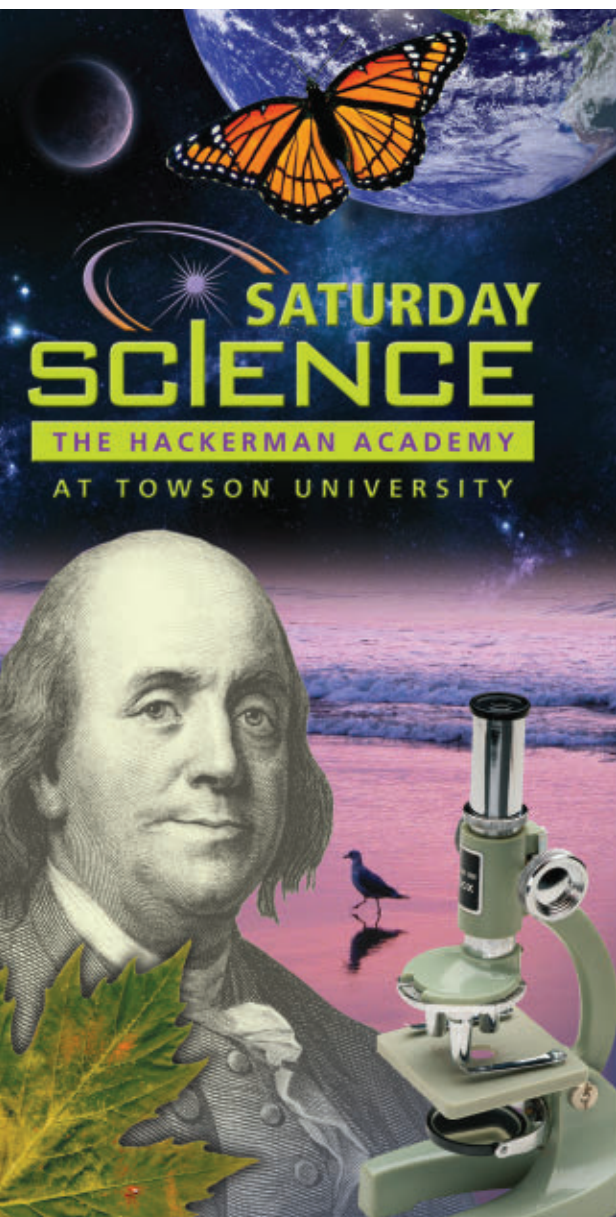


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