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Western Washington University

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Songs Never Silenced

By Dee Johnson
UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

In his journal, Morris Tenenbaum relates the daily experience of family members who survived the pogroms in turn-of-the-century Lithuania. They escaped to America, traveling in the steerage compartment of a freighter. In their trunks and boxes and bags, they carried jars of chicken schmaltz mixed with hot water and hard bread, kosher food that would sustain them on their very long journey.

In their hearts, they carried the music that had always sustained them.

A generation later, when the Holocaust was beginning, Jews were herded onto the boxcars of trains going to unannounced destinations. They gave up their trunks and boxes and bags, but they did not give up their music.

Using music, stories and slides, Millie and the Mentshn, a Klezmer band, shows how Jewish music changed as it moved across time and space before, during and after the Holocaust. Campus visitors will have an opportunity to experience this journey when the band brings its multimedia concert to Western’s Performing Arts Center on April 22.

Millie and the Mentshn was formed in 2002 when Millie Johnson, a WWU professor of mathematics, began researching the lyrics and melodies that shaped the music so often remarked on in the journals written by her grandfather’s cousin, Morris Tenenbaum. Band members include Lou Lippman, piano, Warren Falken, drums, Ken Bronstein, eobo, and Phil Heaven, viola and violin. Johnson is the vocalist for the band and also writes the musical arrangements.

Lippman and Bronstein are also on the faculty at Western. Lippman is a professor of psychology; Bronstein is an accounting lecturer.

Following a chronological path, the April concert will introduce folk tunes starting from the late 1800s. The program will include a love song written in 1933 by Eliza Greenblatt. Her musically gifted family included son-in-law Woody Guthrie and grandson Ado Guthrie. Other songs from the Depression era will include “Brother, Can You Spare A Dime?” made popular by Bing Crosby.

The program will include a selection of songs written in the ghettos and concentration camps. Rarely do these songs address normal happenings—romance, children at play, the joy of learning. These songs chronicle families torn asunder. The lyrics, often narrative, are less soothing than the music. "Dreidern Freyl (Birds Are Dreaming)" is a typical example of a lullaby.

Your cradle once did stand
Woven out of happiness.
And your mother, oh, your mother
Never will return. Hushabye.

The music began to change in 1941 as the partisan movement developed. Johnson says that "What distinguishes the music of this period is the march rhythm (4/4 time) and the themes, which changed from tragedy and desperation to courage, dignity and survival. Many resisters, and they included non-Jews, were living in the woods and using what weapons they could steal or borrow. The rhythm of the music evokes a feeling of strength and spirit."

After the war, as survivors immigrated to the United States, joy and hope tempered by grief fused together to form a new dynamic. "The music that evolved was a synthesis of Old World traditions and the sounds of Broadway tunes and jazz that greeted them in the New World. Like the survivors, the music has adapted."

"Songs Never Silenced" has received generous support from the WWU Diversity Fund and from other campus organizations, including Hillel, Lutheran Campus Ministry and the Northwest Center for Holocaust, Genocide and Ethnocide Education.

The title "Songs Never Silenced" is being used with permission granted by Velvel Pasternak, editor of a book with the same title.

For more information about this band, go to www.millieandthemensthn.com.

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WWU SELECTED TO COORDINATE TEACHING AND LEARNING PROGRAM

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning has selected WWU to be the coordinating institution for the Student Participation in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning cluster, which is focused on improving undergraduate and graduate education. Other schools participating in this cluster include California State University, Long Beach; Elon University; Illinois State University; North Seattle Community College and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

WWW RECEIVES $500,000 GRANT FOR INTEGRATED LABORATORY NETWORK

The National Science Foundation has awarded a $500,000 grant to further development of an Integrated Laboratory Network (ILN) that allows researchers, students and faculty to access scientific instruments remotely via the internet. The project began in 2001 with funding from Western's Student Technology Fee. The ILN received a Most Outstanding Effective Practices award in November 2004 from the Sloan Consortium, an association of organizations and institutions committed to online learning.

BINGHAM RECEIVES NATURALIST AWARD

Brian Bingham, a Huxley College of the Environment professor and marine scientist at Western's Shorn Point Marine Center, has received the 2006 Naturalist of the Year Award presented by the Western Society of Naturalists. The award was established to recognize those who inspire young scientists through mentoring, research and service. The Western Society of Naturalists was created in 1916 to promote interest in biology and the natural environment.

MENDES EXHIBITS AT SCULPTURE BY THE SEA

Sebastian Mendes, associate professor of art, was invited to exhibit at the 10th anniversary Sculpture by the Sea exhibition held in November at Bondi Beach in Sydney, Australia. Sculpture by the Sea is Australia's most popular outdoor display of sculpture. Mendes was one of only five artists from the United States invited to exhibit. His work will also be featured in another exhibition in Perth. In March, Mendes will be a guest speaker at an international conference being held in Australia. His presentation will focus on Western's Outdoor Sculpture Collection.

WWU PARTNERS WITH RADIO MUSEUM

Western's College of Sciences and Technology has partnered with the American Museum of Radio and Electricity to enhance educational outreach in the sciences by developing programs that augment science education and illuminate the process of innovation and invention. The partnership will offer new opportunities for students in physics and engineering technology and in the Science, Mathematics and Technology Education program (SMAE), which is a national model for improving teacher preparation and reforming science education.

WWW PROFESSOR RECEIVES NSF GRANT TO STUDY GLOBAL WARMING

Andy Bunn, assistant professor of environmental studies at Western's Huxley College of the Environment, has received a $166,134 grant from the National Science Foundation to continue research on the effects of global warming on boreal forests at the Arctic treeline. The grant will enable Bunn to travel to Siberia and Canada to study the northernmost forests of the world. His research to date has shown that the growth rate in boreal forests has remained steady or declined during the past 22 years.

WWW TO HOST CANADIAN STUDIES JOURNAL

Western has been selected as the new host institution for the American Review of Canadian Studies (ARCS). The journal strives to bring multidisciplinary analysis to Canadian economic, historical, cultural and political experience. In making the selection, ARCS noted that Western's Center for Canadian-American Studies is a leader in teaching and research on Canada in the United States. John Purdy, professor of English, has been appointed to a four-year term as editor.

STUDY EXAMINES ECOLOGY OF BERING SEA

David Shull, assistant professor of environmental sciences at Western's Huxley College of the Environment, and graduate student Emily Davenport are collaborating with Alan Devol, a chemical oceanographer from the University of Washington, to study the effects of climate change on nutrient cycling and productivity in the Bering Sea. The National Science Foundation's Bering Ecosystem Study granted the project $866,000, of which Western will receive $368,000. The first of at least three research trips aboard an icebreaker ship is expected to be scheduled this spring.

MOTTNER AND ROEHL RECEIVE TEACHING AWARDS

Sandra Mottner and Tom Roehl are recipients of the 2006 Allee and Cayden Chase Franklin Excellence in Teaching Awards presented by Western's College of Business and Economics. Mottner, associate professor in the Department of Finance and Marketing, was recognized for development of a nonprofit marketing curriculum. Roehl, associate professor in the Department of Management, received the award in recognition of his integration of a broad range of skills in the international business curriculum. The $1,000 award is sponsored by WWU alumni Chase Franklin ('86), a Center for Excellence in Management Education Advisory Board member and founder of the technology company Opus.

THEATRE ARTS DEPARTMENT TO HOST TOUR OF ROME AND ATHENS

WWU's Theatre Arts Department has announced plans to host an educational tour of Rome and Athens in September. The tour, which will be open to alumni, students and the public, will focus on ancient Roman and Greek culture and will include guided visits to theatres, museums and the Vatican. Tour dates are Sept. 2 to 11. For information, email deb.currier@wwu.edu.
Seattle Business Forum

April 3 — Kerry Kilginner, chairman and CEO of Washington Mutual, will be the keynote speaker at the 10th annual Western Washington University Seattle Business Forum. Last year nearly 800 alumni and friends participated. More than $100,000 was raised to support scholarships for WWU students.

Reserve April 3 for this marquee event, which will be held again at the Washington State Convention and Trade Center. Named scholarships and a table at the event are available for $3,000 each. Table sponsorships are available for $1,500. Each table seats nine guests; the 10th seat is filled by a WWU student, faculty or staff member. Program and event sponsorship levels are also available.

For more information or to reserve your table, call the WWU special events office at (360) 650-3629 or visit www.foundation.wwu.edu/bf.

WWU/CBE Golf Tournament

June 18 — Alumni and friends will have an opportunity to enjoy a fun day of golfing on June 18, the date set for the second annual WWU/CBE Golf Tournament at the private Plateau Club in Sammamish.

Last year's tournament brought together 120 alumni, parents, friends, faculty and students for a day of networking and golf followed by an evening barbecue and silent auction. This event raised much needed support for teaching and scholarship for Western's College of Business and Economics.

Not a golfer? You are welcome to join us at 5:30 p.m. for the dinner and silent auction.

For information about this year's tournament, sponsorships or dinner and silent auction, call Peggy Warner at (360) 650-2617 or go to www.cbe.wwu.edu/golf.

By Karen W. Morse
UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

Every January, when the U.S. Peace Corps lists its top ranking participating colleges and universities is published, I am reminded that the Western value of engagement is demonstrated in many ways by our alumni, students, faculty and staff. In the 2006 Peace Corps list, Western is ranked fourth among medium-sized schools in the nation, based on the number of alumni currently serving as volunteers.

Western students are continuing this tradition of service. College of Humanities and Social Sciences students alone annually contribute an average of 150,000 hours, working with more than 200 agencies in the region.

Western's Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies, long recognized for its commitment to social responsibility, encourages student participation in a variety of formal and informal service programs.

Students participating in the College of Fine and Performing Arts Dance Makers program and M.O.T.ley Crew (Multicultural Outreach Tour) regularly bring cultural experiences to students in grades K through 5.

The College of Sciences and Technology, expanding its outreach to teachers and students, recently partnered with the American Museum of Radio and Electricity to enhance educational offerings for young students. The College also offers a Science and the University public lecture series, part of an ongoing community outreach.

Distinguished faculty from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences participate in the Dean's Community Lecture Series, which is designed to showcase the breadth of topics in humanities and the behavioral and social sciences.

Several WWU College of Business and Economics students volunteer as seminar leaders for MoneySense, a financial literacy program. MoneySense was created by Alexa Volskaller (76) in response to a challenge issued to Beta Alpha Psi honorary society members to develop a program that would help young people make informed financial decisions. Now in its second year, MoneySense won first place in the Beta Alpha Psi National Best Practices Competition held this past summer in Washington, D.C.

Another notable recognition this year was the 2006 Naturalist of the Year Award presented by the Western Society of Naturalists to Brian Bingham, a WWU Huxley College of the Environment professor and director of the Multicultural Initiatives in Marine Science Undergraduate Participation Program at Shannon Point Marine Center. This program, funded by the Western Science Foundation, has received a national Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Math and Engineering Mentoring.

Students enrolled in Western's Woodring College of Education participate in learning service programs and work on a variety of volunteer projects. As an example, Adam Johnson and Hardy VanEky and Woodring faculty members Jeff Stady, Duane Sisto and Rich Packard helped build a playground in Oak Harbor, Wash. Johnson served on a community steering committee that raised $90,000 for this project.

We are well represented by alumni volunteering at home and abroad through a myriad of programs that make our world a much better place.

I am very proud of the extent to which members of our Western family are engaged globally and in their communities. These efforts reflect a special kind of student and faculty and continue a long legacy at Western of service to others.
WEDDINGS

Jessica (Fitch) DolsonLongchamp (’05) and Jason DolsonLongchamp (’04) were married, Sept. 23, 2006.

1993 – Darrel Jones competed in the Washington State Senior Games, in July, winning a gold and silver in basketball and bronze medals in the shot put, softball throw and javelin.

1975 – Anthony F. Chelte was appointed director of sales and marketing for the Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth.

1963 – Mary Hebert has been appointed assistant professor for men’s soccer at Oregon State University.

1983 – Paul Meehan is associate head coach for the Blue Devils men’s basketball team. He formerly was assistant coach at Marshall University.

1982 – Darcy Weiner is the new principal of Wally Walla High School. He previously served as principal of Spokane’s John R. Rogers High School.

1981 – Jim Carney has been hired as business manager of Gateway Centre Executive Suites in Bellingham.... Mary Herbert has been appointed assistant superintendent for human resources and elementary programs for the Port Angeles School District. She previously served as principal of the district’s Dry Creek Elementary School. Herbert replaces Ron Spanjer, who has been selected as superintendent of the Blaine School District....

1974 – Anthony F. Chelte was appointed president of the Wilkes Univeristy Foundation, becoming the fifth president in the university’s history.

1978 – Jeffrey A. Pontius was elected in December to the board of directors for Wealth Minerals Ltd., a mineral exploration company based in Vancouver, B.C....

1977 – Jeff Freeman has been appointed director of sales and marketing for Stauber Performance Ingredients Inc., a chemical company based in San Francisco. He is responsible for the development of the company’s core markets, including the pharmaceutical, food, agricultural and household markets.

1975 – John Damon is a professor of English at the University of Nebraska at Kearney and is finishing a book on medieval hagiography and a book on medieval English literature and linguistics at the University of California, Los Angeles. He is the recipient of a $1,500 honorarium, sponsored by the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

1986 – Mike Kugler is the recipient of the 2005-2006 Northwestern College Teaching Excellence Award. The award, which includes a $1,500 honorarium, is sponsored by the Alumni Association and Student Government Association. Kugler is associate professor of history.

1980 – Regina Campbell was named Distinguished Teacher of the Northwest by the National Catholic Education Association. Campbell is a physical education teacher and coach at Assumption Catholic School in Bellingham.... Kurt Frick is the new city manager of McCook, Neb....

1981 – William A. Scherrer of the Seattle Times was named 2006 recipient of the Central Washington University Award for Distinguished Service to the University. Scherrer served as principal of the district’s Dry Creek Elementary School. He replaces Ron Spanjer, who has been selected as superintendent of the Blaine School District....

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1980 – Reg...
IN MEMORIAM

1927 - Margaret M. Oldfield, 99, a community volunteer, homemaker and former music teacher, on July 24.

1928 - Inez Williamson, 99, a world traveler and retired teacher and nurse, on Aug. 28.

1931 - Elizabeth Regina (Streeten) Bechtol, 92, a retired teacher, missionary and community volunteer and recipient of a Washington State Conservation Teacher of the Year award, on July 3 in Stanwood.

1937 - Jane McCurdy Bridges, a retired educator, on July 18.

1939 - George Henry Boynton, 85, a retired news reporter, editor and columnist, on June 30.

1940 - Arnold Glen Miller, 88, a retired educator and former superintendent of Tenino School District, on June 14 in Belfair.

1941 - Shirley Cratsenberg Germain, 87, an artist and lifetime member of the Northwest Watercolor Society, on Sept. 4. Helen A. Leam, 94, a retired teacher, on July 31.

1944 - Lawrence F. Muniza, a retired teacher, coach and athletic director inducted in 1990 into the Washington Football Coaches Hall of Fame, on June 6 in Arlington.

1946 - Edith Patashnik, 83, on Sept. 10 in Kirkland. Esther June Snowden, a former teacher, homemaker and founding member of the Gig Harbor Peninsula Historical Society, on May 31 in Olalla.

1950 - Barbara Jeanne Horman, 79, a homemaker and volunteer community member, on Sept. 17. Phyllis Lee Myers Montgomery, 78, a retired member of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce and ITT, on Sept. 16.


1952 - Walter Irving Utt, 75, a musician and retired teacher, on June 20 in Snohomish.

1956 - Richard Norman Hall Sr., 79, a retired professor and former associate dean at State University of New York, on July 8 in Hamilton. James J. Honcoop, 78, a retired WWU librarian, on Aug. 1 in Bellingham.

1958 - Ronald Ardell Janke, 71, a retired teacher, on April 20.

1959 - Harriet Jean (Christopher) Franck, 85, a retired teacher, on June 29 on Whidbey Island.

1961 - Donna M. Chase, 81, a former teacher, on Aug. 21 in Port Angeles. Ervin Eugene Ellis, 84, a retired teacher and coach, on June 14 in Marysville.


1964 - David Lawrence McConkey, 65, a teacher recognized by the Washington Industrial Arts Association as Outstanding Teacher of the Year in 1980, on Aug. 22. Daniel P. Stovner, 64, a retired teacher, on Sept. 24 while traveling in Rockford, Ill.

1965 - Robert Buray, on Sept. 17. Robert B. Wade, 62, director of security for America Online and retired supervisory special agent of the FBI, on Aug. 29 in Fairfax, Va. Edna May (McLaurin) Zoet, 92, a former faculty member of Western's Business Education Department, on Sept. 9.

1966 - Jilisa Sue (Higgins) Zitter, 62, a retired teacher, on May 19 in Marysville.

1968 - Judith Sue Phillips, 59, a teacher and school librarian and recipient of the 2006 Top Individual Fundraiser Award from the American Cancer Society Tacoma Relay for Life, on July 28 in Tacoma.

1970 - Jane Clark, 88, former director of Western's Bureau for Faculty Research, on Oct. 22 in Bellingham. James S. Laxdal, 63, a mental health advocate and founder of Avium Arts, on Aug. 11 in Bellingham.

1971 - Wendy Abbot Danforth, a director and theater arts teacher, on Sept. 23 in Murray Bridge, South Australia. Jean "Jeannie" Dew, 68, a musician and former teacher and insurance representative, on July 30 in Burlington.

1972 - Mark McCann, 55, an environmentalist and musician, on May 26.

1973 - Larry W. Nelson, an educator, on April 6 in Olympia.

1974 - Rick Roff, a writer and editor, on April 14.

1975 - Barbara Janine Bell, 73, on Nov. 9 in Bellingham.

1977 - Janet (Jutkiss) Vance, a longtime elder service professional recognized by her peers with several awards, on Aug. 7.

1978 - David Bruce Hyland, 60, a teacher and avid sailor, on May 25.

1979 - Wendy R. Cotler, 49, a psychologist and training director at Northwestern University and recipient of the Above and Beyond Award and Outstanding Contributions to the Development of the Professor Award, on June 4 in Bellevue.

1980 - Lorene Brown, 67, a nurse, on Dec. 8. Rhonda Jo (Davidson) Carson, 45, a social worker, on Dec. 6. Carol S. McCann, 59, a high school English teacher and member of Western's Woodring College of Education Professional Education Advisory Board, on Aug. 25 in Mount Vernon.


1982 - Rob Wales, 46, a teacher and coach, on Aug. 5 in Darrington.

1986 - Charles Alan Sojers, 40, a fire fighter, on Aug. 28 in Leavenworth.


2001 - Susan Stodden, 22, an environmentalist educator who worked with Seattle Audubon and the Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association and also did volunteer work in Nepal, on July 11 near Mount Pilchuck.

2002 - Joshua Alan Diers, 26, a pilot at AIRPAC Airlines and former instructor at Wings Aloft, on July 10. Lance S. Fuller, 56, a musician, little league coach and forestry employee, on June 19 in Arlington.

2003 - Samantha Semmern, 22, in a traffic accident on Aug. 12. Semmern had been accepted into the Peace Corps and was being assigned to Mexico.

FACULTY, STAFF AND FRIENDS

Richard Allen Atneosen, 71, associate professor of physics and astronomy, on July 27 in Leavenworth.

Robert Balas, WWU professor emeritus of French, on Nov. 14 in Bellingham.

James Yule Balder Jr., 84, a WWU maintenance worker from 1972 to 1984, on Oct. 7 in Bellingham.

Fredericks Bond, 92, on Aug. 6 in Bellingham. During her lifetime, Fredericks Bond endowed several scholarships for WWU students, including one in the name of her father-in-law, E.A. Bond, for whom Western's Bond Hall is named. She also endowed scholarships at Adelphi University in Garden City, N.Y., where she received a bachelor of arts degree, and at the University of Minnesota, where her husband, Clay Bond, taught. In 1999, she established the Bayview Fund at Whatcom Community Foundation.

Kathryn "Kay" Crocker, 93, a retired WWU librarian, on Aug. 1 in Bellingham.

Kathleen "Katie" Hanson, 58, a former secretary in the Registrar's Office and coordinator of veteran's affairs, on Dec. 4 in Lynden.

Edward H. Kaplan, 70, a professor at Western from 1968 to 2001 specializing in Chinese history, on June 25 in Burlington.

Filip "Fil" Leonardson, 75, former WWU retirement and insurance officer and winner of the 1952 Summer Olympics bronze medal for rowing, on Nov. 2.

Jeanne Towle Miller, 83, widow of Western's Journalism Program founder Gerson Miller, on Aug. 9.

John F. Utendale, 69, a retired Woodring College of Education professor and the first black Canadian hockey player to sign an NHL contract, on Aug. 24 in Bellingham.
Howard Anderson Is Named U.S. Peace Corps Director for Jamaica

Howard Anderson (77) is serving as the new Peace Corps country director for Jamaica. A former Peace Corps volunteer, Anderson is Jamaica's 19th country director. He previously served in Islamabad, working as the country's Department of Agriculture attaché for Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Approximately 50 WWU alumni currently serve as Peace Corps volunteers. Western is ranked fourth in the current U.S. Peace Corps listing of "Top-producing Colleges and Universities" in the medium-sized schools category.

1991 - Linda Allen recently released Belling­
ham Homicide, her first novel, and completed writing Bellingham Betsy, the second novel in her planned series of mysteries following a 38-year-old real estate detective.

1992 - Derek Brower has joined the faculty at Northwestern College in Iowa as an instruc­tor in education. ... Kirby Duncan has been named vice president, commercial loan offi­ce and treasurer of the WWU Alumni Association.

2001 - Kimberly Blair has received a schol­arship from the International Council of Air Shows Foundation to further her academic training. Blair holds an FAA private pilot certificate and is working towards a com­mercial pilot certificate. She is a member of the Boeing Employees' (Wyng) Associa­tion and recently began academic training in an American Champion Decathlon. ... James Himmel has joined the CB Financial Services in Tacoma as a financial consultant. ... Garrett McConnell is a climber with the Bellingham Mount Everest team. He was part of an expedition that included three other guides and five sherpas. ... Renee Peterson has joined Rusty George Design in Tacoma as an account manager. ... Stanislav N. Zinkov climbed solo to the top of Mount McKinley, reaching the 20,320-foot peak on May 23. He was credited with rescuing two climbers on a route that is known from May 24.

3002 - Jill Aitken, is an audiologist at the Ear, Nose and Throat clinic in Cheyenne, Wyo. ... Robert Detweiler (r) is teaching English at Kellogg Secondary School. His father teaches science at the same school and together they will coach the school's football team. ... Logan Halms and Lan Johannes are electrical engineers in training at Coffman Engineers. Coffman Engineers recently acquired engineering firm Betz, Inc., the firm where they were previously employed. ... Amy (Bart) Odele is married and living in Abbotsford, Scotland, where her husband is working toward a Ph.D. She is an assistant manager for Starbucks. ... Jacob Stevenson has secured a new position with the Bellingham Slam. The team reached the semifinals of the American Basketball Association championship tournament last season. ... Mike Tully was named this year's recipient of the annual Northwest Olympic Sports Commission's Excellence Award. ... Reed Tebben has joined the news staff of The Edmonds Beacon. ... Cassandra O'Bryant, a graphic artist, has joined Cawthorn Creative Group in Bellingham. ... Karen Parker is teaching English to elementary school students in South Korea. ... Lynda Steele has joined the Bellingham accounting firm of Vaner Symsma and Hendren as a staff accountant. ... Brandon Young graduated from the University of Washington Police Department Academy in June and is assigned to the patrol division.

2003 - Brittney Baldwin has joined the marketing department of the Everett-based management consulting firm of Shockey/ Brent. The store offers goods supplied through the district featuring the works of local artists and crafters' work. ... Scott Conlan recently completed a climb of Mount Rainier for the St. Baldrick's Foundation to raise funds for Sea Mar Community Health Center. ... Jim Bilsland has assumed the position as the health and education reporter for the Bellingham Herald. ... Zoe Fraley has joined the news staff of The Spokesman-Review in Spokane, a national pro­gram for girls in grades 3 through 5. The Spokesman-Review has grown from five to 60 participants. ... Tyose Lynn is the new editor of The Edmonds Beacon. ... Kassan­dra O'Bryant, a graphic artist, has joined Cawthorn Creative Group in Bellingham. ... Jeremy Holder is an instructor of natural history with the Bellingham Museum of Natural History. ... Kyle Jackson has been hired as an accountant. ... Shelly Mears and her husband Ben are owners of import 12 in Bellingham. ... Lloyd VanBenbroek is a real estate broker with Schrock of Whatcom County, the firm where they were previously employed. ... Craig Rossenwald has signed with the Sandburg Rabbits, a professional team in Denmark's top basketball division.

Sigm a Iota Epsilon recognizes distinguished alumn i

Laury Evans (69), chairman and CEO of Horizon Bank, and David Mann (82), former CEO of Inmunex Corp., are recipients of this year's Distinguished Executive Awards. The awards, presented in November by Western's College of Business and Economics Sigma Iota Epsilon (SIE) honor society, recognize alumni who have distinguished themselves in terms of career achievement, management success and as role models for other alumni and students.

Send short items of interest, address changes, news about alumni and photos of alumni wearing their Western shirts, hats, etc. to: WWU Alumni Association, MS-9199, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA 98225-9199.
The Western Washington University Foundation and Western Washington University are pleased to recognize the generous private financial support received during the 2005-2006 year (July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006).

During the year, 11,108 alumni, parents, friends and businesses contributed more than $5.6 million to Western. You gift enhances all university programs and provide significant advantages to both faculty and students.

Listed on these pages are the names of donors contributing $100 or more. Each contribution is deeply appreciated. On behalf of all who teach and learn at WWU, thank you to all who invest in Western Washington University. You are making an impact.

GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM PRESIDENT’S CLUB MEMBERS provides funds that are essential to maintaining Western Washington University’s leadership in undergraduate education. The President’s Club is a giving society that provides flexible support for our most critical needs of campus-wide programs and projects, or to a specific college, department or program. For information on how you can support Western through the President’s Club, please call Angie Vandenhaak at (360) 650-7647 or email angela.vandenhaak@wwu.edu.

PRESIDENT’S CLUB LEVELS OF PARTICIPATION INCLUDE:
- Benefactors — cumulative commitments of $100,000 or more (listing is carried in perpetuity)
- Honor Council — annual gift of $5,000 or more
- Annual Members — contribution of $1,000 to $4,999
- Young Associates — contributions of $500 to $999 from individuals age 39 or younger

FALL/WINTER 2007
Old Main Society

The Old Main Society recognizes alumni and friends who have made arrangements to provide gifts through their estate plans or other planned giving options and provides the opportunity for Western to acknowledge donors' generosity during their lifetimes. These gifts promise a future transforming impact and are an important source of funding for Western Washington University.

Membership in the Old Main Society begins once documentation is completed naming Western as a beneficiary through a bequest, trust, annuity or life insurance plan. If you have included Western in your estate plans, please notify us so we can also recognize and thank you through the Old Main Society.

For more information, contact Deborah DeWes at (360) 650-3622 or email deborah.dewees@wwu.edu.
Honoring Our Distinguished Alumni

In November, at a recognition dinner held during Western's Really Big Weekend, the WWU Alumni Association very proudly announced the Distinguished Alumni and Distinguished Alumni Lifetime Achievement Awards for 2006.

Horst-Otger Bered asthma

Distinguished Alumni Award

Horst-Otger Bered asthma (79) is vice chairman of Synnott GmbH & Co. KG in Heidelberg, Germany, a world leader in the flavor and fragrances industry. Gerberding is a member of Western's College of Business and Economics Board of Visitors.

Dr. Raymond Albert Samoa

Distinguished Alumni Award

Dr. Raymond Albert Samoa ('94) is a medical doctor working at the UCLA Medical Center. He was recently accepted to do research at the Mayo Clinic to study pediatric obesity with a focus on how communities of color are affected.
Alumni Share in Metropolitan Opera Debut Celebration

By Dee Johnson

Last spring, WWU President Karen W. Morse began re-arranging her mid-November calendar, clearing her West Coast appointments and meetings and scheduling others on the East Coast.

She made plans then to be in New York on November 18 for a very special Metropolitan Opera debut.

It was the confirmation of her belief, stated more than 10 years earlier, that Aaron St. Clair Nicholson ('96) would have a starring role in a Metropolitan Opera performance.

She had seen him perform in student productions at Western, and she was there when he made his professional operatic debut as Figaro in the Tacoma Opera production of Rossini's II Barbiere di Siviglia.

President Morse invited Nicholson and members of his family to join her for breakfast the morning following that performance. She told him then that she would be watching his career.

"Aaron, when you have your debut at the Metropolitan, I will try to come," she said.

Nicholson and President Morse both remember that she said when, not if.

A few months later, Nicholson received his bachelor of arts in music from Western. He was named as the Music Department's Outstanding Graduating Senior.

"I kept President Morse apprised of my whereabouts," Nicholson says. He told her about his Metropolitan Opera debut as soon as the date for his performance as Schaunard in Puccini's La Bohème was confirmed.

"I knew she would be coming, and I knew there were some Western alumni who would be there," he says. "I knew Jessica Israels ('04) would be there. And of course my father, Bruce St. Nicholson ('84) and my wife Elaine (Tamaru) Nicholson ('96) would be there. But I didn't know that President Morse would be bringing other alumni with her. It was just an amazing experience to be able to perform at the Metropolitan Opera for friends and family and to be supported by them. I felt really honored and valued."

"This was a very big event. There was a lot of excitement about honoring one of our own at the Met," says Stephanie Bowers, Western's vice president for university advancement.

"Aaron did a fabulous job on stage. He also invited us backstage—an experience in itself," Bowers says. "We traipsed through the guard system, and then he came out of his dressing room and gave President Morse this great big hug.

"After the performance, we went across the street for dinner at Café Florello. Aaron introduced himself to everyone in the party and spent time talking with everyone. There were about 15 alumni who responded to President Morse's invitation to attend the opera, plus a few of us who came out from Bellingham, and about 25 family members and friends who also came especially to see Aaron's performance."

Nicholson discounts any suggestion that his career has been exceptional. "I just want to enjoy myself, meet good people and do good work," he says. "Opera speaks to me on several different levels. It's dance. It's theatre. It's music. It's art. I feel honored to be able to perform."

"I'm very proud of the many successes our graduates have," President Morse says. "One of the most rewarding aspects of being at Western is having opportunities to share in some of these successes. It was thrilling, for example, to see one of our students performing at the Met. Aaron glowed. He looked like he was enjoying himself. He is a talented performer, gifted musically and as an actor. Aaron is also a warm, generous person," she says. "Well," she adds, "he is a Western graduate. Hopefully we had something to do with that."

Nicholson says setting goals and working toward them one by one is what has defined him as an artist. "My father impressed upon me that the process of how you reach your goals is really who you are."

In 1998, Nicholson started a musical theater workshop in Binghamton, NY. His schedule is demanding—he tours about nine months out of the year—and he says the workshops, which are held each summer for youths ages 12 through 18, "help tie the stay connected to what is important. They are not about business or money, but about performing, creating art and having a good time."

"Students are selected by audition. So far, none have been turned away.

The workshops are hosted at the University of Binghamton by the Department of Music and Continuing Education and Outreach. The program is being expanded in 2007 to include an overnight schedule so students from a larger geographical area can participate.

Western's Jim Lortz, associate professor of theatre arts, served this past summer as the workshop's guest director.

Nicholson's awards include the Richmond F. Gold Career Grant, the Karl Muller Performance Award, the Seattle Opera Career Incentive Award and the Sullivan Foundation Award. He received a master of music degree in opera from the University of Binghamton.

Nicholson performed a benefit concert at Western last spring honoring Virginia Hunter. Hunter, who taught voice as an adjunct member of WWU's music faculty from 1989 to 2006, was Nicholson's voice instructor in high school and at Western.
Audiences and critics are not shy in praising the operatic talent Erin Wall ('98) brings to her performances.

The Calgary Herald says "she delivers the kind of vocal thrills possible only to those kissed by the divine."

In Chicago, The Daily Southtown reported that Wall showed such "delicacy and superb vocal passion that she almost stopped the show, moving the audience to wild bravos and thunderous applause."

The Bellingham Herald, writing about her benefit recital in December, declared that "Opera houses throughout the world should be grateful to Western Washington University."

The understated Opera Magazine says simply that she is "destined to go far."

Wall has performed with major opera companies in Europe, Canada and the United States. Her awards and career grants include membership in the Lyric Opera of Chicago's Center for American Artists, an ARIA Award, a Richard Tucker Award and a Sara Tucker Study Grant.

Her December recital benefited the Bellingham Festival of Music.

Wall presented a benefit concert at Western in May 2005 honoring her voice teacher, WWU adjunct professor Virginia Hunter. Proceeds were used to establish a vocal performance scholarship in Virginia Hunter's name.

Heidi Grant Murphy ('87) is performing in one of six operas the Metropolitan Opera is bringing to select movie theaters this year. She is a featured performer in Puccini's Il Trittico, which will be broadcast to theaters on April 28 at 1:30 p.m. EST.

A winner of the Metropolitan Opera's Young Artist Development Program, Murphy made her Metropolitan Opera debut in the 1989 production of Strauss' Die Frau ohne Schatten. She has performed with many of the world's finest opera companies and symphony orchestras.

Metropolitan’s opera performances are being broadcast live into select movie theaters equipped with high definition screens and surround sound. Location and ticket information is available at www.metoperafamily.org/metopera.

This is the first season that Metropolitan Opera performances have been broadcast to movie theaters. The first Metropolitan Opera radio broadcast aired Christmas Day 1931.

Renewing Connections To Western

Chris Abbott ('97), a private investment manager for Lehman Brothers in New York, attended Aaron Nicholson's Metropolitan Opera debut. "My father shared a table with Dr. Morse at a Battle in Seattle event and brought her up to date on what I'm doing," Abbott says. "When Aaron's debut was announced, Dr. Morse was nice enough to extend a personal invitation to me to participate in this celebration."

Heidi Johnson ('95) and her husband Michael Hill ('97) received an invitation to attend Aaron Nicholson's Metropolitan Opera debut, they were happy to accept. "It's always wonderful to go to the Met, but this performance was very special," Johnson says. "I played flute in the pit when Nicholson performed in Western's production of La Boheme. It was great to see him perform again and to be back in touch with Western."

As an undergraduate, Johnson was interested in both music and East Asian studies. She began working with professor Kathleen Tomlunovic—a "Western treasure" she calls her—and decided to major in East Asian Studies. She moved to New York 10 years ago to work at the China Institute, a non-profit dedicated to promoting Chinese art, culture and languages. She is now the program officer for Expanding East Asian Studies, a grant-funded program at Columbia University. Hill is also at Columbia University, where he is finishing his doctorate in Chinese Literature.

Stephanie Bowers, vice president for university advancement, notes that while the majority of WWU alumni live on the West Coast, Western is well represented by alumni in every state. "I talked with several alumni in New York about how they might be more engaged with Western," she says. "We're putting plans together to help alumni connect with students and other alumni all over the country, whether in person or virtually."
Scholarship Donations Top $17,000 at Bellingham Business Forum

The sixth annual Bellingham Business Forum featured noted business strategist Kenneth Moore as the keynote speaker. The author of several bestsellers, including *Dealing with Darwin: How Great Companies Innovate at Every Phase of Their Evolution*, Moore shared strategies for staying competitive and encouraging innovation. More than 300 local business leaders attended this event. Over $17,000 was raised for student scholarships.

Moore is recognized as a leading business consultant to large companies forming strategic challenges. He is managing director of TCG Advisors.
HERE’S HOW IT WORKS: Buy a WWU Alumni license plate for just $40 through the Washington State

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Nicolay Is New EESP Director of Professional Studies

Carol Nicolay was named in November as director of professional studies at Western’s Extended Education and Summer Programs. She has over 20 years of experience in the fields of education and training and is the author of Course Manuals: A Trainer’s Action Guide. Nicolay holds an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership from Northern Arizona University’s College of Education.

Kenneth and Veronica Marshall
Robert Marshall and Virginia Marshall
Nancy Martinez
Sandra Martinez
Bruce and Helen Martin
Curtis and Beverly Martin
James Martin
Jonathan Martin
Nancy Marie Martin
Robert and Margaret Martin
Tara Hubert Martin
Charles and Elizabeth Martindale
Thomas and Tracie Martineau
Lary and Linda Martinez
Myke Martner
Nancy and Joel Mart
Charles and65
Cynthia Martens
Jere and Jerri Martin
Robert Martin
Terri Maupin
Richard and Susan Matthews
Bruce and Cheryl Maxwell
Mayflower Park Hotel
Michael R. McCullough
Marc McBride
Daniel and Catherine McCoorty
William and Carol McCann
Mark and
Cynthia McCord
Rodrick McCrae
Troy McKelvey
In Honor Of Skyler Vella
S. Lynn McLane
Dana McKenna
Beth and Dave McLean
Lucinda Dudley McLaren
Markie McRae
Rebecca MePharlin
John Charles Meagher
Thomas and Susan Melton
jean and Micheal Meier
Cary and Kathleen Meath
Joe and Rogelis and
Janis Mercker
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Tom Kerney, WWU Alumni Association board member, and President Karen W. Morse enjoy an alumni afternoon at Safeco Field in July.

WWU alumni and friends enjoy a salmon barbecue, held September 9 in Olympia.

Future alumna Sarah Beletz gets ready to cheer on the Vikings at the 4th annual Battle in Seattle held in October.

Stay connected and check out upcoming events at www.wwualumni.com

Cassandra Baddeley Receives Milken Family Foundation Award

Cassandra Baddeley ('01), a fifth grade teacher at Seattle's Thurgood Marshall Elementary School, tells her students at the beginning of the year what they're going to achieve by the end of the year. "They don't believe me," she says, "but I make it clear that I'm going to help them and, if they just listen and do what I ask, they will achieve much more than they expected. I haven't had any students who weren't able to feel successful by the end of the year."

The goals she sets are individualized. "I would never think that what was right for one student was right for another. You have to know your students, form a relationship. You get to know what is just a little bit out of their reach so you can help them achieve it."

Baddeley always knew she wanted to be a teacher. Still, when she came to Western, she was unsure of her goal. "I don't think I believed in myself at the time, but I had great professors. I had professors who really believed in me," she says.

Baddeley has lived up to their expectations. On Oct. 4, during a school assembly, she was presented with a prestigious Milken Family Foundation Award honoring her ability to instill confidence and motivate students. The award includes a $25,000 honorarium.

The presentation caused some excitement—students knew something special was happening when cameras and reporters showed up for their school assembly—but Baddeley says things quickly settled down to normal. "We're about business. We went back to class and the first thing my kids said was, "Now, what's for homework?"
Gilman and Dietrich: Return to Campus

Roger Gilman and Bill Dietrich both received undergraduate degrees from Fairhaven College in 1973. Both returned to Western's campus this year.

Celebrating Campus Memories

Campus School Reunion
August 25 to 26 — Were you a student, faculty member or student teacher at Western’s Campus School? If so, you will want to return in August for a very special Campus School Reunion.

Generations of children were educated at Western’s Campus School, which opened in 1901 to provide practical experience for teachers in training. The Campus School moved from Old Main to the bell-tower section of what is now Miller Hall in 1942. Education majors since 1967, when the school was closed, have done their practicums in area schools.

Western’s Woodring College of Education, in partnership with the WWU Alumni Association and Wilson Libraries, has been collecting materials for a Whatcom Museum of History and Art Campus School Experience exhibit. The exhibit will run from June 10, 2007 to January 6, 2008 and will include oral and written memories, photographs, student work, curriculum materials and any other memorabilia associated with the school.

For information about events that are planned, contact Carole Morris, Woodring College of Education, (360) 650-4419 or carole.morris@wwu.edu.

To offer memories or donate items—to offer memories or donate items, contact Carole Morris, Woodring College of Education, (360) 650-4419 or carole.morris@wwu.edu. Items may be donated to Western’s Campus School, which is now Miller Hall in 1942. Education opened in 1901 to provide practicum experience for teachers in training. The Campus School moved from Old Main to the bell-tower section of what is now Miller Hall in 1942. Education majors since 1967, when the school was closed, have done their practicums in area schools.

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Golden Vikings Reunion
August 23 to 26 — If you graduated in 1957 or earlier, you are invited to come back to campus for Western’s annual Golden Vikings Reunion, scheduled this year concurrently with the Campus School Reunion. Edens Hall will be the focal point for many social events, a setting that will bring back memories as you spend time reconnecting with classmates and new friends.

You’ll have opportunities to attend educational seminars, meet with President Karen W. Morse, take a guided tour of the Outdoor Sculpture Collection, enjoy a Summer Stock production, take in a planetarium show and find out what’s happening in Western classrooms.

Watch for your special invitation this summer or contact Western’s Alumni Association. Call (360) 650-3353 or (800) 676-6885 or email alumni@wwu.edu.

Roger Gilman welcomed the opportunity to return to Western as the new dean of Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies.

“It’s very rare to get the opportunity to go home again,” he says. “Having received a wonderful education at Fairhaven, I am thrilled to come back and help build on the College’s great reputation.”

— Gilman has extensive experience in interdisciplinary studies. He has lectured at numerous universities, both in the United States and abroad, and has been recognized with several awards in teaching, service and research. While at Northeastern Illinois University, he collaborated on the invention of a new method of teaching research ethics across the curriculum. He also developed a pre-law advising program.

Like other Fairhaven students, Gilman’s undergraduate experience was writing intensive, and his interest in writing has continued. He is the former poetry editor of The Chicago Review. Currently, he is working on a book titled The Ecology of Value.

After receiving a bachelor’s degree with honors from Fairhaven, Gilman continued his studies at the University of Chicago, earning a master’s degree in the philosophy of science and a doctorate in philosophy. Before returning to Western, he served as associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Northwestern Illinois University.

Gilman succeeds Ron Riggins, who served as dean at Fairhaven College from 2002 to 2006, and as acting dean from 2000 to 2002. Riggins also served as interim dean from 1993 to 1994. He joined the Western faculty in 1977.

Roger Gilman

Bill Dietrich, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author, says returning to Western “is a great fit for me personally. It would be rewarding to inspire a student to become a science writer.”

Dietrich has joined the faculty of Western’s Huxley College of the Environment. He is teaching an environmental journalism class and also is serving as advisor to The Planet magazine.

The Planet, created by students at Huxley College and now supported by the University, had not yet been launched when Dietrich was an undergraduate. He did write for Western’s Klikan magazine and says it was one of the “most useful things I did in college.”

Dietrich was part of the Seattle Times team that won a Pulitzer Prize in 1990 for coverage of the Exxon Valdez oil spill. He also covered the 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens.

In 1992, Dietrich published his first nonfiction book, “The Final Forest,” which was the culmination of his reporting about the spotted owl and the old growth forest debate. His second book, “Northwest Passage,” is an environmental and cultural history of the Columbia River.

He achieved a lifelong goal to publish a novel with the 1998 release of “Ice Reich,” a World War II bio-terrorism thriller.

Dietrich continues to write part time for the Seattle Times Pacific Northwest Magazine and is working on his seventh novel. He graduated from Fairhaven College with a bachelor’s degree in journalism and was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard University from 1987 to 1988.

Contributed by Keri Neumeyer and Dee Johnson, University Communications
Anoush Shankar
Friday, April 6, 7:30 p.m.
Trained by her father, sitar virtuoso Ravi Shankar, Anoushka Shankar uses both acoustic and electric instruments to create music that transcends genre and geographical boundaries.

PAC Mainstage Theatre – Tickets: $16–$25

Ethos Percussion Group
Saturday, May 19, 7:30 p.m.
This critically acclaimed ensemble integrates global instruments and playing styles into the context of Western chamber music, creating a magical audience experience.
PAC Mainstage Theatre – Tickets: $16–$25

MARCH
2 Alumni Day at Phoenix Botanical Gardens (reception and wine tasting will follow), Phoenix, Ariz.

3 WWU Alumni Day at Spring Training Camp, Seattle Mariners vs. San Diego Padres, Peoria, Ariz.

17 South Puget Sound Chapter, Annual Theatre Performance, "Aint Misbehavin," 2 p.m., Capital Playhouse, Olympia (reception will follow performance)

APRIL
3 Seattle Business Forum, 11:30 a.m., featuring Kerry Killinger, chairman and CEO of Washington Mutual, Washington State Convention and Trade Center, Seattle

22 Alumni Volunteer Earth Day Celebration and Clean-up, 10 a.m. to noon, various Washington and California cities

MAY
5 WWU Alumni at Yankee Stadium, New York Yankees vs. Seattle Mariners, tailgate party and game, New York, NY

23 Alumni Reception and Dinner, opening performance of "The Importance of Being Earnest," 5:30 p.m. (performance at 7:30 p.m.), on campus

Tickets & Information
http://calendar.wwu.edu

 Alumni events (360) 650-3353 or (800) 676-6885
 Athletics (360) 650-3109
 WWU Box Office (360) 650-6146
 Western Gallery (360) 650-3900
 Wilson Library Hours (360) 650-3049

This photo of WWU student Sean McKllop was taken by Cole Kozioff ('05) and published in the group's specialty retailers. More information is available at www.frequencysnowboarding.com and www.theskijournal.com.

You may have had the pleasure of speaking with Sean McKllop during our annual WWU Phonathon campaign in October. McKllop was one of the friendly students calling alumni and parents for their support.