



Dec. 16, 2015

Between the Lines

A publication of the Baylor Alumni Association

With just a few weeks left in the 2015 tax year, please consider a tax-deductible contribution to the BAA Legacy Scholarship Fund. We provided 55 Legacy Scholarships to the children and grandchildren of Baylor alumni for the current school year. [You can read more about our terrific Legacy Scholars here.](#) There's a link to a page within each post that will enable you to make a contribution. \$500 will pay for a Spring Semester Scholarship, and \$1,000 will provide a student with a full-year Legacy Scholarship. If you received help when you wrote *your* Baylor story, please consider helping a student write his or her Baylor story. [Here's a direct link to our donation page.](#) Thank you.

By the way, GuideStar Exchange recently designated the BAA as a [“Silver Participant,”](#) based on our demonstrated “commitment to transparency.”

Recently Published on our Line Notes Blog

- [Four things we learned from our Publications Survey](#)

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Alumni (and Future Alumni) News

- **Mark P. Yablon, '88**, began his first semester of law school in August 2015 at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock Bowen School of Law. He and his two youngest daughters, Reagan and Lilly, moved from McKinney, Texas, to Little Rock so he can attend full-time to earn his J.D. degree in three years. He wants to continue working with entrepreneurs and the middle class. Mark can be reached at 5400 Chenonceau Blvd, Apt. #632, Little Rock, AR 72223 or markyablon@gmail.com.
- **Dr. Jason Smith '93**, a cardiothoracic surgeon and a professor at the University of Washington, is among an elite group of surgeons at seven institutions nationwide testing what some call a “heart in a box” — [a device that can preserve a heart awaiting transplant for up to 11 hours](#), dramatically increasing the window of opportunity to get the heart to the patient in need. [Here's a link to a BaylorProud article.](#)
 - **Hunter M. Barrow '95** has been elected a director of the Baptist Foundation of Texas and will serve a three-year term ending in fall 2018. Barrow is a partner in Thompson & Knight's Trial Practice Group in the Firm's Houston office.
 - **Autumn D. Highsmith '99, JD '05**, was promoted to partner at Haynes and Boone, LLP. Highsmith is a member of the Bankruptcy and Business Restructuring Practice in the Dallas office.
 - **Matthew Fry '04** was promoted to partner at Haynes and Boone, LLP. Fry is a

- member of the Capital Markets and Securities practice group in Dallas.
- **Evan K. Hall '04, JD, '07** was promoted to partner at Haynes and Boone, LLP. Hall is a member of the Investment Management Practice Group in the Dallas and Austin offices.
 - **Robert Askins '04** the playwright for the Tony-nominated Broadway production of Hand to God, is working with HBO on a half-hour comedy called Brotherhood that takes place at the largest Baptist university in the world and focuses on “a young man who joins a secret organization that has two goals – party harder than anyone else and write the funniest, most incisive campus humor magazine in history,” according to The Hollywood Reporter.
 - **Pam McKown, MS '04**, was [highlighted in the Waco Trib](#) for co-founding a non-profit organization called Take Heart Ministries that supplies free hygienic items, including a month’s supply of pads and tampons, bottled water, granola bars, and cleansing wipes.
 - **Cory Duncan, MBA '12**, has bought a long-vacant structure in the 700 block of Waco’s Washington Avenue and will move his Wildland Supply Co. to the building and offer another 10,000 square feet for use by tenants with a passion for the inner city.
 - **Anntasia (Anna) Copeland '12** is now an Enforcement Officer at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.
 - **Dustin Rutledge '13** is now HR Analyst for Digital Networking at NXP Semiconductors.
 - **Kendra (Collette) Robertson '13** is now a revenue analyst at ConocoPhillips in Bartlesville, OK.
 - **Spencer Drango '14**, an offensive tackle for the Baylor football team who is working on his MBA at Baylor was named to the Associated Press first-team All-American team for the second straight year and was also named to the 2015 Academic All-America first team by the College Sports Information Directors of America. He was also a finalist for the Outland Trophy as the nation’s top lineman.
 - **Denise Gomez '14** is now a Research Assistant for Baylor Scott & White Health in Waco.
 - **Tajwar Majeed '15** is now Junior’s Sales Manager at Dillard’s Inc.
 - **Stephen Minnaar '15** is now the Director of Sport Management at the Colleton River Plantation in Bluffton, SC.
 - **Richard Davis** is part of a Dallas-based investment group that will open Urban Air Trampoline Park in Waco, next to Richland Mall, within the next week or two.
 - **Jacob Imam**, a senior University Scholar, has been selected as one of 32 American university students – and the only student from a Texas school – to receive the 2016 Marshall Scholarship. The scholarship may be used for study at any university in the United Kingdom. Imam will pursue a master in philosophy degree in Islamic studies and history at Oxford University. For a lot more on Imam’s accomplishments, [here’s a link to a story](#) by Baylor Communications on him.
 - **Naya Johnson**, a senior point guard, set the Baylor and Big 12 single-game assist mark with 19 to lead the Lady Bears basketball team to a 105-46 win over McNeese State on December 12.
 - **Junior wide receiver Corey Coleman** made Baylor history when he won the school’s first Biletnikoff Award as the nation’s top receiver. Coleman, who has announced he will declare for the NFL draft once the season is over, also was named to the Associated Press first-team All-American team. He has 74 catches for 1,383 yards and a nation’s best 20 touchdown receptions prior to the team’s Dec. 29 bowl game against North Carolina. He now holds Baylor’s

- single-season touchdown reception record and the career record with 33.
- **Junior nose tackle Andrew Billings** was named to the Associated Press first-team All-American team.

University News

- **John Barry**, Baylor's vice president for marketing and communications for the past 10 years, will leave the university in January to take on a similar role at the University of Richmond (VA). Associate Vice President for Marketing Communications Karen Kemp will serve as acting vice president until Baylor finds a replacement.
- **Dr. Heidi Bostic**, director of interdisciplinary programs for Baylor's College of Arts and Sciences and chair of its department of modern languages and cultures, will become Dean of the College of Liberal Arts at the University of New Hampshire on June 27, 2016, following the retirement of Dean Kenneth Fuld, who has served in that role, with distinction, for many years. Bostic will begin her new role after more than six years at Baylor, where she is a professor of French. As director of interdisciplinary programs at Baylor, Bostic chaired the organizing committee for the university's first two symposiums on STEM and the humanities. As chair of the department of modern languages and cultures, she leads the largest academic department at Baylor with 80 faculty members serving 3,500 students a semester.
- Students of the Baylor University Philanthropy Lab course presented \$50,335 to seven local non-profits. The Fort Worth-based Once Upon a Time Foundation operates the Philanthropy Lab and provides the money students decide how to distribute. The students actually allocated more than their \$50,000 allotment by \$335 and each donated \$16 to cover the difference personally.
- A crowd of more than 300 people prayed, sang, and showed their support Dec. 11 on the Baylor campus for Muslims at the school and in the community. University Chaplain Burt Burleson, who invited Muslim students to the event with personalized e-mails, led the program in front of the statue of Judge Robert Emmett Bledsoe Baylor on Speight Avenue.
- Fifteen Baylor students presented interior design plans for Baylor Scott & White McClinton Cancer Center on Tuesday. The cancer center has been up and running since 2013 but has unused interior space where it plans to add the elements officials asked the students to include in their designs. Five groups of three students each created floor plans that include exam rooms, infusion rooms, nurses' offices, a presentation room, a demonstration kitchen, a tranquility room, a counseling room, storage rooms, and bathrooms.

In Memoriam

Please note that we cannot always provide the deceased's graduation year from Baylor, particularly if they are not a member or their information is not available on the Baylor website. We apologize and mean no disrespect.

- **Evelyn Whitener Woodruff '39** passed away on Dec. 2, 2015, at the age of 98. Evelyn taught at every level and retired after serving as principal at Grady and Pilgrim Elementary schools in the Houston ISD. She was a charter member of the Baylor University Women of Houston Association. She is survived by son Therbert Woodruff Jr. and his wife Kathy; son Sidney Woodruff and his wife Julie; daughter Charlotte Bobbitt; and numerous grandchildren, nieces and nephews, great grandchildren, and great nieces and nephews.
- **Virginia Mitchell Fitzhugh '39** passed away Nov. 28, 2014 at the age of 99. She was an active member of St. Alban's Episcopal Church and enjoyed a rich social life in Waco for more than 65 years. She is survived by a total of five children (and their

families) with two husbands: son William H. Smith; daughter Ginny Smith Blakley; son Tim Fitzhugh; daughter Randy Ford; and daughter Wendy Crowley.

- **Hazel Beth McCall '50** passed away Oct. 2, 2015, at the age of 85. Her teaching career took her first to Bay City, TX, and then to the Waco ISD, where she taught school for 38 years and was named Teacher of the Year in 1970. She was elected to the Waco Women's Bowling Association Hall of Fame and to the Texas Horseshoe Pitchers Association.
- **C.W. (Wally) Christian**, professor emeritus of Religion, passed away on November 30, 2015, at the age of 88. Dr. Christian was a member of Baylor's religion faculty for more than 40 years, and was a central figure in the early history of the department's PhD program. He "worked with many graduate students in the areas of modern theology and published important work on the 18th/19th century theologian Friedrich Schleiermacher," according to Department of Religion Chair W.J. Bellinger Jr., who added that he also influenced many undergrads through his Old Testament Survey course. He is survived by Betty Purvis Christian, his wife of 63 years; four children, including two sons and two daughters; five grandchildren; and a number of other relatives and friends.
- **Yvonne Cates Garrett** passed away on November 18, 2015, at the age of 92. She taught at Baylor while her husband, Vernon G. Garrett Jr. (known by many as Mr. Baylor, one of the founders of the Hankamer School of Business, and a former Baylor Trustee, who donated his large valuable collection of Bears to the BAA) finished his degree. She was a charter member of the Baylor University Women of Houston Association and a 1986 Alumni by Choice honoree. Yvonne taught Sunday School for 35 years at South Main Baptist Church in Houston, wrote a number of books, and also wrote for the Baptist Standard for 10 years. Yvonne is survived by her children, Beth McCarty and husband Barry; Dana Werner and husband Dennis; Doug Garrett; Richard Garrett and wife Catherine; 10 grandchildren; a great granddaughter; and many, many friends and other relatives.

Russell Athletic Bowl Discounts and Notes

- The Orlando Magic is offering discounted tickets to BAA members and friends who live in the central Florida/Tampa/Jacksonville area or are visiting during the week between Christmas and New Year's. The Magic will be playing the Miami Heat (Dec. 26), the New Orleans Pelicans (Dec. 28), and the Brooklyn Nets (Dec. 30). [Click here to go to a dedicated ticket page](#) (the promotional code is Russell).
- The Florida Department of Transportation offers a toll-free 511 Traveler Information Service, which will enable visitors to stay informed on the roadways, plan alternative routes and arrive early to the Dec. 29 game against North Carolina. You can call 511, check @FL511_Central, or download the #FL511 application.
- [Here's a link to the game website on Baylor.edu](#), with information about travel packages, game-week events, and more.

BAA News

- Have you let your BAA Annual Membership lapse? Your Annual membership gives you a vote – regardless of where you live – should decisions around the BAA's future direction require approval from our membership. You can renew your tax-deductible Annual Membership (or join the BAA) [through this link](#).
- Headed to the Waco Hippodrome for a holiday movie? Show your BAA membership card and get a free popcorn. Enjoy!
- BAA members can now get two nights free at the [Lake Austin Spa Resort](#) in Austin when they purchase the two-night "Ultimate Package" and provide their BAA membership number. Lake Austin Spa Resort was ranked as the top U.S. Destination

Spa in the 2015 Travel + Leisure World's Best Awards and the No. 4 Destination Spa in the world in Conde Nast Traveler's 2014 Reader's Choice awards. [For more information, go here.](#)

- We've seen an uptick in the number of Baylor Family members in Texas taking advantage of our partnership with TicketSchool.com's Defensive Driving class. If you or a family member is in need of this service, you can [learn more here](#) or [sign up here](#).
 - If you're making a donation to the BAA, don't forget that we're a 501(c)3 organization and eligible to receive matching funds from companies. If you do submit your BAA contribution to the company, please let [Kellie Juandiego](#) know because companies will often send us checks without providing the name of the donor.
 - Miss an issue of Between the Lines? [We have them archived here](#) and are also reprinting alumni milestones and obituaries in each issue of the Baylor Line.
 - Only a small percentage of our Facebook followers (the people who "Like" you) see our updates unless we "boost" them through a paid ad. The BAA posted 23 updates in November. If you haven't seen many of them even though you've Liked our page, then you can go to our page, click on the "LIKED" button and select "Get Notifications." That way, if we post something and it does not show up in your News Feed, you will receive a notification. [And if you haven't Liked our page yet](#), isn't this a perfect time to go do that?

You can submit obituaries, alumni news, class notes or other information that we can publish in this twice-monthly newsletter to either BaylorLine@BaylorAlumniAssociation.com or by using this link to our story ideas page. In most cases, we'll save the photos you send for use in the Baylor Line. We'd also appreciate ideas for Line Notes blog posts through either of these channels. Thanks.

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