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February 2010

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Alumni News

Grant Tidemann '70, Valley Center, Kan., received the prestigious Walter Morris Broker of the Year Award recently at the annual Wichita Area Association of Realtors awards luncheon.

Andy Carrier '81, is now the winningest coach in Ottawa University Men's Basketball history. Carrier assumes the top spot on the win list which was previously held by the legendary Bill Frear, who led OU from 1955 to 1978 and posted an overall record of 267-265. [Read More>](#)

Jamie (Haigler) Downs '85, Benton, Kan., recently completed the requirements to become a Certified Breastfeeding Educator.

Miki (Sothers) Voelker '99, Concordia, Kan., is the Preschool Director of Stepping Stones Preschool in Concordia.

Marc Svaty '99, Halstead, Kan., is the Health and Physical Education teacher for USD 440.

Wayne Ryan '99, Bixby, Okla., is the Eastern Oklahoma Manager for American Fidelity Assurance. **Molly (Walter) Ryan '99**, is a Special Education teacher for the Bixby Public Schools.

Perry Walton '99, Martinez, Ga., is an Emergency Room Physician at Trinity Hospital in Augusta, Ga. Perry graduated from Emergency Medicine Residency at the Medical College of Georgia in June 2009.

Jennifer (Engler-Key) Meeks '04, Dallas, Texas, is the Learning & Development Consultant at The Bank of New York Mellon.

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Jessica (Penka) Schneider '04, Osawatomie, Kan., teaches at Holy Trinity Catholic School in Paola, Kan.

Cara Geyer '04, Grinnell, Kan., is the Preschool and 2nd grade teacher for Grinnell Grade School.

Baylee (Blanks) Schmidt '04, McPherson, Kan., is a Case Manager with Choices Network in Salina, Kan.

Afton (Eye) Linderer '08, Larned, Kan., is the ELL Aide and Title I Reading and Math Aide for the Fort Larned Unified School District.

Joshua Lindgren '08, Deephaven, Minn., is the Director of Music at Cross Lutheran Church in Maplewood, Minn.

Kari (Shannon) Schmidt '08, Salina, Kan., is a Special Education teacher at Southeast of Saline, Gypsum, Kan.

Births

A son, Triston Robert, was born July 10, 2009 to **Samantha (Corwin) Kraft '07**, and **Faron Kraft '06**. Faron is a football coach, track coach, and P.E./Weights teacher at Dighton High School.



A daughter, Amelia Christine, was born July 23, 2009 to **Melissa (Vignery) Ollenberger '99**, and Ben Ollenberger. Melissa is the Literacy Coach at Sunset Elementary School in Salina, Kan.



A daughter, Lillian Ro, was born January 17, 2010 to **Katie (Bishop) Grover '00** and Travis Grover.

A son, Cody Mark, was born on August 28, 2009 to **Amy (Soukup) Charvat '99**, and Jacob Charvat. He was welcomed home by his big brother Connor.



A daughter, Lily Kay, was born September 23, 2009 to **Tara (Barnett) Conley '05** and Nate Conley.



A daughter, Kinsley Noel, was born December 28, 2009 to Tiffany Rohr and **Scott Rohr '06**.

Deaths

Mildred C. (Aspelin) Nelson '31, died November 11, 2009 in Overland Park, Kan.

Ralph Berggren '58, died January 22, 2010 in Mitchell, S.D.

Sibyl (Lorson) Gunnerson '33, died January 21, 2010 in Salina, Kan.

Marriages

Jessica Dickinson and **Justin Rohrberg '04** were married November 7, 2009. They are at home in Wichita, Kan., where they both work as Physical Therapists.

Upcoming Events

February 25-27

KMEA Convention
(Kansas Music Educators Association)

March 1

Deadline for Athletic Hall of Honor and Coach of the Year Awards

March 1-3

Encounters Series with Dr. Larry Rasmussen
For more information, visit www.bethanylb.edu/events.

March 4-5

Spring Theatre Production - *In the Wake* by Greg LeGault and Michael Speller and *Leaving* by Carl Isaacson
7:30 p.m., Burnett Center
Tickets available at the door

March 28 – April 4

[129th Messiah Festival of the Arts](#)

*Free Messiah Festival tickets are available to prospective students interested in the arts, as well as their teachers.

Bethany News

***Messiah* soloists announced**

The 129th Messiah Festival of the Arts will welcome back soloists from the past as well as introduce a new performer to the Presser Hall Stage. Soprano Maureen Sorensson, mezzo soprano Jean McDonald, tenor Jeffrey Brich, bass-baritone Dashon Burton and Evangelist and tenor Christopher Cock will join the Bethany Oratorio Society March 28-April 4 for the longest running *Messiah* performances in North America. [More>](#)

Board of Directors sets tuition, approves sabbaticals

On Feb. 20-21, the Bethany College Board of Directors set tuition for the 2010-11 academic year, approved two sabbaticals and three faculty promotions, and discussed the financial state of the college. [More>](#)

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Send your news to [Molly Johnson](#), director of alumni relations.