

Fall 2004

Department of Communication

Purdue University

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Communicator  
Staff

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## 1960

**Joanne (Joey) Kubesch**, B.A., and husband Sid received the Indiana Landmarks Foundation's Rural Preservation Award for 2003, for the restoration of the historic Westleigh Barn at the farm where Cole Porter's parents lived southeast of Peru, Ind. The



17-acre property also was named to the National Register of Historic

Places.

## 1962

**Larry A. Samovar**, Ph.D., with Richard Porter and Edwin McDaniel, authored "Intercultural Communication: A Reader," 11th edition, Wadsworth Publishing; "Public Speaking in a Multicultural Society," Roxbury Publishing; and is working on a sixth edition of "Communication Between Cultures," Wadsworth.

**Phillip K. Tompkins**, Ph.D., had "Apollo, Challenger, Columbia: The Decline of the Space Program," published by Roxbury Publishing Co. It was dedicated to W. Charles Redding of Purdue and discusses Redding's contributions to the field of organizational communication.

## 1966

**Ronald J. Matlon**, M.A., Ph.D., recently retired as chairman of the Department of Mass Communication and Communication Studies at Towson

## Alumni Notes

## 1988

**Christopher Oneal**, B.A., is the assistant program director of Douglas Young Youth and Family Services in San Diego, Calif. The clinic offers individual, group and family counseling to children from low-income families.

## 1989

**Teresa Bennett**, B.A., is the new assistant vice chancellor for outreach and director of the new Solution Center at IUPUI.

**Linda Benjamin**, B.A., was recently promoted to regional operations manager by PepsiCo. She is responsible for managing sales volume and direct customer contact in the area of Florida and southern Georgia as part of the Wal-Mart team.

## 1991

**Lara O'Grady**, B.S., is a stay-at-home mom in Arlington Heights, Ill., to Matthew, 6, Colette, 4, and Bridgett, 8 months.

## 1992

**Peter Greenley**, B.A., manages media relations for the western region of Reed Smith, a global corporate defense law firm.

**Paula L. Nuspl**, B.A., is expecting her second child in March.

University in Maryland. Previously, he had served as a professor at the University of Arizona and the University of Massachusetts. He continues to serve as the Executive Director of the American Society of Trial Consultants, a position he has held for 22 years. Also, he is the CEO of Matlon & Associates, a litigation consulting firm assisting law firms and courts nationwide. His Web site is [www.matlonlitigation.com](http://www.matlonlitigation.com).

### 1969

**David Schuelke**, Ph.D., is a professor emeritus at the University of Minnesota and is currently an adjunct professor of Communication at Bethel University.

### 1975

**Doreen Fitzgerald**, B.A., published a book of poetry, "Cake." Two of the poems were chosen by Garrison Keillor for presentation by him on his PBS program, "Writer's Almanac": "Dog Days" was read June 26; "Sisters," July 9. The book is published by Ester Republic Press in Fairbanks, Alaska. Fitzgerald is currently a science writer and information officer at the University of Alaska Fairbanks School of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences.

### 1978

**Kathleen J. Turner**, Ph.D., left her position as Knight-Crane Professor of Communication and Chair of the Department of Communication at Queens University of Charlotte to become Director of Oral Communication and Professor of Communication Studies at Davidson College in North Carolina.

**Jennifer Warner**, B.A., has been a finalist in the Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce Small Business Success Award competition the last four years. Warner operates [First Farm Inn](#), a bed and breakfast, which also was recently named "Best for Rest &

Have personal or professional news you'd like to share? Drop us an [e-mail](#) or fill out our [online form](#)!

### 1993

**Robert Spalding**, M.A., recently authored a book titled, "The Essential Guide to Touring Washington Wineries." This 240-page paperback book covers 225 wineries with suggested itineraries, lodging, dining and other tourist activities. "My Communication degree has finally paid off by allowing me to travel around Washington state, tasting great wines, dining at great restaurants and getting paid to do it!" In conjunction with the book, he and his wife Kim are also getting ready to release their 2003 vintage from their new winery, [Seia Wine Cellars](#).

**Melanie Doupe**, B.A., is a news anchor and reporter for WBZ Newsradio 1030 in Boston. She is also studying for her master's in public health at Tufts School of Medicine in Boston.

### 1994

**Melissa Meade**, B.A., received a Ph.D. from the University of Washington in 2004 and accepted a position as assistant professor of Humanities at Colby-Sawyer College.

**Krista Bona Lam**, B.A., has been an account executive in the staffing industry for eight years. She gave birth to daughter Jessica five months ago. She also has a son, Nicholas, who is 29 months old.

### 1995

**Stephanie Lewin-Smith**, B.A., joined Zeeland, Mich., based Herman Miller Inc., a leading global provider of office furniture and services, as an attorney. She is also vice president of Holland Junior Welfare League in Holland, Mich., and a member of the finance committee for the Center for Women in Transition. Stephanie has been married to Dan Smith (CE 1995) since 1999.

Relaxation for 2005" by Arrington's "Bed & Breakfast Journal."

**Kenneth Lavenberg**, B.A., recently expanded his Purple Mountain Greenery Inc. in Avon, Ind., from landscaping and design to include handyman and organizing services.

### 1979

**Debra S. Alexander**, B.A., is the new executive director of human resources of Delphi Corp.

### 1983

**Nahid S. Khan Mulla**, B.A., graduated in August with an M.A. in Mass Communication from the School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Minnesota, and is continuing her studies in the doctoral program. She previously worked as a staff writer at the Moscow (Idaho)-Pullman (Washington) *Daily News*.

**Steve May**, B.A., M.A., an associate professor of Communication Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, published "Engaging Organizational Communication Theory and Research" with co-editor Dennis Mumby. He also was recently named a Leadership Fellow by UNC and is currently an Ethics Fellow with the Institute for the Arts and Humanities.

### 1984

**Vincent J. Sampugnaro**, M.S., accepted a position at the Catholic Health Care System as corporate vice president of human resources, overseeing all HR functions for eight nursing homes and long-term care facilities in the New York metropolitan area.

### 1996

**Tanya Jordan**, B.A., is the marketing & communications specialist for the PACE Program at General Motors in Warren, Mich.

### 1997

**Amber Kinser**, Ph.D., is the recipient of the 2004 Feminist Teacher/Mentor Award, given by the Organization for the Study of Communication, Language and Gender. She directs the Women's Studies program at ETSU and was tenured and promoted last year to associate professor.

### 1998

**Brett Creech**, B.A., is pursuing a master's degree in Student Affairs and Higher Education at Indiana State University; he is scheduled to complete his degree in May 2005. He is also an Assistant Hall Director in Residential Life at ISU.

### 2000

**Sophie Malik**, B.A., completed an M.A. in English Literature from Queen's University, Canada, and joined Unilever Pakistan Ltd. to develop their fledgling internal communications department. She now heads the recruitment function for the company as well.

**Carrie Muehl**, B.A., was promoted to client services manager at Buckingham Asset Management in St. Louis. She also was appointed chairwoman of the firm's newly formed Community Action Committee, with the goal of leading the firm to become an outstanding citizen in the St. Louis community.

**Eve Scrogam**, B.A., is training to run in the Disney Marathon with the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team in Training program on Jan. 9. She is running on behalf of her dad, who was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma earlier this year.



**Bradford Anderson**, B.A., accepted a position as executive director of human resources and labor relations at Cuesta College in San Luis

Obispo, Calif. He also has a law degree from State University of New York, and practiced law for 17 years, most recently as general counsel of Samsung Semiconductor Inc. in San Jose, Calif.

**Claire Lega Jones**, B.A., was promoted to associate vice president for college relations at Buffalo State College. She leads a 10-member team responsible for image and marketing, the Web site, publications and internal communication.

### 1985

**Barb Walters Harris**, B.A., is co-founder of PRConsultants Group, a national network of independent PR consultants. Recently, the network completed the national network by bringing on its 33rd consultant, providing local power to corporations in all states and major markets. The group has plans to go international soon. In their fifth year, the group will hold their national conference in New Orleans in January.

**Patricia Geist Martin**, Ph.D., will be traveling to Costa Rica for a six-month sabbatical from January-July 2005 to study communication and healing. Her research investigates the way holistic healing and modern medicine are integrated in Costa Rica's community-based health care system.

**Nicole E. Visnyak**, B.A., began a new job at Corporate Creations in Chicago. The main focus of the company is to consult with small business owners and law firms to help them with the process of starting a new business. She also aids in creating new marketing strategies and PR ideas to help grow the company. Visnyak also sits on the associate board of L.E.A.R.N. Charter school in the Lawndale community of Chicago and is vice president of membership in her local Toastmasters chapter.

**Brian Remsberg**, B.A., was recently promoted to senior account executive at Imre Communications in Baltimore. Remsberg is responsible for the public relations efforts of the Ryobi and Homelite brands as well as The Home Depot landscape supply.

### 2001

**Anne Shipman Claussen**, M.A., is a senior healthcare consultant with Deloitte & Touche, based in Chicago.

**Molly J. Ankney**, B.A., is the Associate Director of Development for the College of Engineering at the University of Arizona. She resides in Tucson with daughter Hannah.

**Tara M. Stevens**, B.A., joined Cima Communications in Puerto Rico as an account executive.

### 2002

**Amy Beth Lemire**, M.A., currently part of the Global Learning Solutions department at Kimberly-Clark Corp., has accepted a promotion to HR Specialist-Training Leader at a Kimberly-Clark manufacturing facility in Everett, Wash.

*The Communicator* is the official alumni publication of the [Department of Communication](#) at [Purdue University](#). It is published twice yearly by students in COM252 under the supervision of adviser [Jane Gibson Natt](#).