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Beyond Swarthmore

Swarthmore employees are engaged in numerous interesting activities when not at work. This new, interactive *Garnet Connection* feature highlights some of them. Your mission (should you choose to accept it) is simple: Match the individual with the activity. Consulting with others constitutes cheating. The answers—plus a few additional details—are on page 6. Your report card is here.

1 Appearing in the play *The Dining Room* in November at the Players Club of Swarthmore

☐ Gina Myers

2 In early October, ran the 5K Race for Hope in Philadelphia to raise money for the National Brain Tumor Society

☐ Mike Gillum

3 Directing the musical *The Who's Tommy* Nov. 4–19 at Narberth Community Theatre

☐ Christina Webster

4 In September, did the Run the Vineyards 5K in Chadds Ford

☐ Randy Frame

5 Did a 65-mile charity bike ride in July

6 Has spent some free time recently canvassing Philadelphia neighborhoods in support of Hillary Clinton and Pennsylvania Democrats

☐ Joan Scheer

7 Composed the 12-part canon *Look back on time with kindly eyes*, performed in late September and early October at Manhattan Historic National Park in Washington state

☐ Brad Kane

8 Part of the cast in the musical *The Who's Tommy* (see 3 above) at Narberth Community Theatre in November

☐ Linda Hunt

9 Did the Travis Manion 9/11 Heroes (5K) Run on Sept. 11 in West Chester to benefit the Travis Manion Foundation

☐ Joe Gregorio

10 In May, went whitewater rafting on the Black River in Watertown, N.Y., about 30 miles south of Canada

☐ Daniel Alamia

11 Had a book review published on the popular arts website Hyperallergic

☐ Peggy Seiden

12 In two days, rode 160 miles on a bike to benefit the National Multiple Sclerosis Society

☐ Kozue Tsunoda

☐ Mark Anskis

REPORT CARD

- ☐ 9–12 right: You know your co-workers well.
- ☐ 5–8 right: Not bad!
- ☐ 0–4 right: Good news! (You've left yourself plenty of room for improvement.)



Calendar of Events

Nov. 1 – 15
Benefits Open Enrollment

Nov. 9
Benefits/Wellness Fair: Upper Table, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Nov. 10
All Staff Meeting: Lang Center, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Nov. 16
New Hire Reception: Bond Hall, 3:30 to 5:00 p.m.

Dec. 1
Interactive Theater Troupe: Kohlberg Hall, Scheuer Room, 9:30 a.m.

Dec. 6
Winter Gathering: Lang Center, 9:30 a.m.

Submit items of interest to
humanresources@swarthmore.edu

Open Enrollment

As a reminder, this year's Benefits Open Enrollment period runs from Nov. 1 to 15. The annual Benefits/Wellness Fair is scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 9, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Upper Table. This is a great opportunity to learn more about your benefits and to meet representatives from the College's benefits providers.

The annual Open Enrollment period is generally the only time during the year when you can make changes to your benefit elections and enroll or disenroll yourself and/or your dependents. This year's Open Enrollment will be *active*, meaning that **all employees are required to participate by confirming elections and dependent information online**. Please note that this change has

been implemented in order for the College to comply with Affordable Health Care reporting requirements. If you have dependents covered on the College's plan, your dependent information must be updated in order to receive a correct Form 1095-C.

As in years past, for full-time, benefits-eligible employees enrolled in the high deductible health plan (HDHP), the College will make an annual contribution to their health savings account (HSA) in the amount of 50 percent of the medical insurance deductible.

An HSA allows employees to save pretax money through payroll deductions and to use those funds to pay for qualified medical expenses. Attend the fair on Nov. 9 to learn more and get your questions answered.



Going Strong!

Last year, the Committee for Work Life Initiatives, in collaboration with Athletics and Student Wellness, launched the SwatFit program for the Swarthmore community.

Due to the highly successful no-cost classes, the schedule has been expanded to include new offerings such as Pilates and SwatHIIT.

These are listed at swarthmore.edu/work-life-initiatives and take place on the third floor of the Matchbox.

The "Get to Steppin'" program was launched last spring with eight teams and 70 participants. Free Fitbits were distributed, and some healthy competition began: The winning team consisted of Marie Mancini, Christie Ashton, Allison Hudak, Jane Pedrick, Philip Kudish, Silvia Porello, Thomas Limouze, and team captain Carrie Compton.

According to the captain, Marie is "a monster walker." In April, she walked an average of 48,000 steps—the equivalent of 21 miles and approximately six hours—per day.

As a team, this group walked 301,134.5 steps in February (10,380 average steps per person per day); 3,492,637 steps (14,083 average steps per person per day) in March; and 3,507,879 steps (14,616 average steps per person per day) in April.

Later this fall, there will be another lottery for the distribution of 50 more free Fitbits.

We are pleased to announce that **Maxwell Miller** has joined the College as assistant athletics director for recreation and wellness. Max comes to Swarthmore from Villanova University, where he served as the coordinator of intramurals and recreation, managing the daily operations of the



IN REMEMBRANCE

We lost a much-admired member of our community when Bill Costello, Grounds Department Gardener III and IPM Coordinator, died Saturday, Oct. 1, after battling cancer.

Bill's career with the Grounds Department began in July 2002 when he started as Gardener II. After two years, he was promoted to the new position of Gardener III/IPM coordinator. In this role, he acted as assistant crew leader and led the integrated

pest management program, which greatly decreased the use of pesticides on College grounds and in the arboretum.

Bill participated in a regional research program involving the collection of growing degree-day information (a heat measurement used to predict plant development rates) to see how it correlates to the stages of insect life. This data helps those responsible for landscape maintenance and has greatly simplified the monitoring necessary to locate destructive insects.

Bill was known as a giving and caring man who was always willing to lend a hand. He enjoyed working at the College. On one occasion, upon returning to work after being out for an extended period, he commented, "Coming in to work and being with everyone was the best therapy I had."

Bill is survived by his wife of 34 years, Lynn, and also by a daughter, Megan; a son, Brian; and their spouses and two grandchildren. Because Bill's son is in the U.S. Air Force and was recently deployed, Bill's memorial service was delayed till Oct. 30. It is scheduled for 2 p.m. at the Mount Holly Masonic Lodge, 15 Garden St., in Mount Holly, N.J.



Max Miller:
"I am very excited to join the Swarthmore family and promote recreation and wellness to the students, faculty, and staff."

institution's club sports program and helping to oversee recreation programming for more than 6,500 students, employees, and community members.

Max earned his master of science in recreation and leisure services from Texas State University in 2013 while serving as the institution's graduate research assistant of sport clubs for two years. At Texas State, he coordinated the daily operations of 27 clubs for a student body with more than 35,000 students.

As an undergraduate student at Rutgers, Max held the role of intramural sports official and student director for four years, during which he managed eight sports leagues. He graduated from the university in 2011 with a B.S. in exercise science and sports studies.

"I am very excited to join the Swarthmore family and promote recreation and wellness to the students, faculty, and staff," Max said. "I am looking forward to unifying the recreation program under one umbrella and developing the offerings to better the College community." Max will be coordinating many of the SwatFit programs and will work with the committee to continue to expand offerings.

Meanwhile, **Chris McPherson** has also joined the Athletics staff as head strength and conditioning coach. For the past year, Chris has served as an assistant strength and conditioning coach at La Salle University, where he developed programs for the softball and volleyball teams while also collaborating with the head strength and conditioning coach on regimens for 20 Olympic sports. Dur-



Chris McPherson:
"I'm incredibly honored and excited to be joining the Swarthmore College community."

ing this time, Chris also worked as the strength and conditioning coach and fitness director for Germantown Friends, overseeing programs for the school's 18 varsity sports.

He also interned at St. Joseph's and at his alma mater, Temple, where he was on the track and field team, graduating in 2013 with a B.S. in kinesiology. A New York City native, Chris holds a master's in exercise science and health promotion from California University of Pennsylvania as well as certifications from the National Strength and Conditioning Association and USA Weightlifting, among others.

"I'm incredibly honored and excited to be joining the Swarthmore College community," Chris said. "I look forward to working with student-athletes and coaches to maximize athletic potential as well as improve the health and fitness of students, faculty, and staff."

Information is always available at the Work Life website: swarthmore.edu/work-life-initiatives.

If you are interested in receiving frequent Work Life communications through email, you can register for our listserv at swarthmore.edu/work-life-initiatives.



Milestones

Linda Hunt has welcomed another grandchild into the world. On Aug. 20, Domenick Michael joined Mark Jr. and Lilyann.



Dierdre Konar gave birth to Wesley Charles Konar on May 5.



Wesley debuted at 7 pounds and almost 20 inches. Dierdre reports that at 4 months he was enjoying rolling over, being held in a standing position,

smiling, and contemplating life. Wesley is pictured here with big brother Henry (3), who loves holding his "buddy."

Jessica Lydon became the mom of a second baby girl on Dec. 8, 2015. Mia came in at 5 pounds, 15 ounces and 19 inches long. Here she is at 9 months.



Christina Webster will marry Paul Joslin on Nov. 26 at St. George's Episcopal Church. For the record, Christina will hold on to the surname "Webster."





New Hires

Join us in welcoming these individuals who began working at the College between March 1 and Oct. 1, and who have not already been recognized in the *Garnet Connection*:

Reshma Ajayan, International Student Coordinator, International Student Adviser

Alexis Bacon, Education Intern, Scott Arboretum

Andrew Barclay, Assistant Director, Student Activities & Leadership, Dean's Office

Andrea Baruzzi, Science Librarian, McCabe Library

Stephanie Buonadonna, Cashier, Board Operation

Anthony Condo, Director of One Card Services, Treasurer's Office

Kathleen Corbett, Dining Assistant, Board Operation

Randall Doyle, Production Intern, Theater Department

T. Shá Duncan Smith, Associate Dean of Diversity, Inclusion, and Community Development, Dean's Office

Danielle Fitzgerald, Admissions Counselor, Admissions Office

Sarah Foster, Residential Communities Coordinator, Dean's Office

Nathaniel Graf '16, Climate Action Senior Fellow, Sustainability

Karen Hammond, Dining Assistant, Board Operation

Brian Herzog, Mechanic, Maintenance

Asraa Jaber, Residential Communities Coordinator, Dean's Office

Manjit Kaur, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Physics/Astronomy

Nancy Kremmel, Accounting Assistant/Cashier, Business Office

Danielle Ledford, Academic Support Coordinator, Mathematics

Eileen Leone, Dining Assistant, Essie Mae's

Shamin Mason, Residential Communities Coordinator, Dean's Office

Anna McCarthy, Dining Assistant, Board Operation

Makhshoda Mills, Dining Assistant, Board Operation

Brent Nagamine, Assistant Dean of Admissions, Admissions Office

Josh Nelson, Technician, Environmental Services

Christiana Orgera, Sports Medicine Intern, General Athletics

Sara Powell, Reference Instruction Resident, McCabe Library

Katie Price, Co-curricular Program Coordinator, Lang Center

Stefanie Ramsay, Digital Collections Librarian, McCabe Library

Jason Rivera, Assistant Dean and Director, Intercultural Center

Megan Salladino, Administrative Coordinator, VP for Advancement

Elizabeth Slocum, Writer/Editor, Communications

Elizabeth Stern, Baker, Board Operation

Julie Swierczek, Primary Collections Librarian, Peace Collection

Joshua Throckmorton, Admissions Counselor, Admissions

Anthony Weed, Administrative Assistant, Admissions

Anne Brodsky is visiting Swarthmore as an ACE Fellow for the fall semester. Established in 1965, the ACE Fellows program is designed to strengthen institutional and leadership capacity in American higher education by identifying and preparing faculty and staff for senior positions in college and university administration. During her time at Swarthmore, she hopes to learn more about models for fostering access, inclusion, and excellence in a liberal arts institution.

Anne is associate dean of the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences and a professor of psychology at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC).

Human Resources Welcomes:



Richard Le, who will support the College's staff employment, employee relations, and training and development initiatives.

Richard holds a master's degree in HR management from Cornell University and comes to us from Vanderbilt University.



Christopher Stack, interim HR information systems manager, brings several years of experience to the HR team, including HR management systems

implementation and project management. For 20 years he worked at Ellucian maintaining and enhancing the Banner Human Resources product line. He brings a deep understanding of payroll and has a strong technical background. Chris holds an MBA from Central Michigan University and is a certified project management professional.

A "Complete-the-Sentence" Interview with Chris Densmore



I've worked at Swarthmore since January 2001. Two of my co-workers at Friends Historical Library have been here significantly longer. Before Swarthmore I was at the State University of New York at Buffalo for 27 years.

My primary role here is curator (director) of the Friends Historical Library of Swarthmore College.

The best book I've ever read is Ecclesiastes. You know, the book in the Bible that says the sun sets, the sun also rises. But for a secular book, according to the number of times I've re-

read it, *Lord of the Rings* (except for the parts I always skip).

The person from the past I'd most like to meet is Thomas and Mary Ann M'Clintock. I know that's two, but they usually came as a package deal. You asked for one and you got the other as well. It was in their house in Waterloo, N.Y., where the Declaration of Sentiments for the first women's rights convention was drafted. So much I could ask them about abolitionists, the beginnings of the women's rights movement, Quaker politics and, most importantly where the minute books of the Junius Monthly Meeting of the Society of Friends might be. Those records should have been turned in to the New York Yearly Meeting archives, which are at Friends Historical Library at Swarthmore. They need to come home.

While not at work, I like to spend my time unscheduled. Is that even possible?

The most interesting job I've ever had is the one I have now.

My dream job would be the one I have now, maybe with a couple of additional archivists.

If I were in charge of the world for a day and could change one thing and could suspend belief in the law of unintended consequences, I'd probably go for something health-related like curing cancer or nature-oriented like bringing back the vast buffalo herds. As tempting as it is to change people and people's attitudes, I don't think there is anything to be done about people that would carry over to the next day. In truth, I'd probably be contemplating what to do until 11:30 and then decide to order pizza. Everyone in the world will get a pizza or its equivalent and be happy for a few minutes.

A "Complete-the-Sentence" Interview with Nnenna Akotaobi



My primary role here is, as associate director of athletics, assisting in the administration of Swarthmore's intercollegiate athletics, physical education, and recreation programs.

The best book I've ever read is *Half of a Yellow Sun* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. It's a novel about southeastern Nigeria's struggle for

independence during the 1960s civil war. My family is from this area of Nigeria, and both of my parents and their siblings suffered through this war. This book was an interesting narrative about a war I had rarely heard about growing up.

The person from the past (or present) I would most like to meet is Audre Lorde or Chinua Achebe. I have a great deal of admiration for individuals who can shift culture through their writing.

When I'm not at work, I like to spend my time outdoors—hiking and exploring new trails in the mid-Atlantic area; slowly regaining my love for biking; attending outdoor concerts and movies.

The most interesting or unusual job I've ever had was volunteering to give hand massages to nursing home residents.

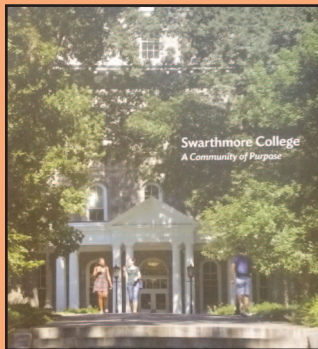
My dream job would be anything that aligns my passion for diversity and sport.

If I were in charge of the world for a day and could change one thing, I would prevent world leaders from depleting/selling their countries' resources at the expense of their citizens.

The sentence I wish they would have asked me to complete is: My favorite colors are . . . blue and orange. Go Broncos!



In response to the Class of 2016's request for including staff in Commencement ceremonies, three staff members marched at Commencement this year: Rosa Bernard, Off-campus Study Office; Hank Robinson, Environmental Services; and Annette Newman, McCabe Library



A Community of Purpose

Copies of the 2014 book *Swarthmore College: A Community of Purpose* are still available. If you are a fairly new employee and would like a copy (or a "veteran" who'd like an additional copy), you can pick one up from Sharon Hartley in Admissions.

W-2 Forms Going Green!

It's the moment we've all been waiting for! (Well, most of us, anyway.) Say goodbye to the days of wondering when that W-2 will show up in the mail or if it got lost. In January, you'll be able to download your 2016 W-2 via mySwarthmore. If you choose not to, you'll still get it at home, as before. But why, when downloading is quicker and greener? Stay tuned.



"Beyond Swarthmore" Answers

1 Randy Frame plays eight roles in this A.R. Gurney play, which runs Nov. 18–30 at the Players Club of Swarthmore and also features WIP sports radio talk show host Glen Macnow. For more info, go to pcstheater.org.

2 It was **Daniel Alamia's** first 5K. Way to go, Dan!

3 This is **Linda Hunt's** third time directing at Narberth, where she's appeared on stage in several other productions. *The Who's Tommy* will run weekends for eight performances in November. The theater is at Lancaster and City avenues at the Overbrook Presbyterian Church.

4 This was the first 5K for **Kozue Tsunoda**, who notes that free wine at the end of the race was a motivator!

5 Joan Scheer participated in the 29th annual Irish Pub Tour de Shore

on July 17. The yearly ride, which begins at the Irish Pub in Philadelphia and ends at the pub's original location in Atlantic City, benefits the children and families of fallen officers in the Greater Philadelphia and South Jersey region.

6 Mike Gillum notes, "Just getting into the spirit of the season."

7 Joe Gregorio's canon was performed inside a decommissioned nuclear reactor as part of the National Park Service's centennial celebrations. The performance was part of a program that explored the history of the B reactor and the implications of its role in World War II.

8 Christina Webster will get married (see Milestones, page 3) shortly after the run of this show, directed by Linda Hunt (see 3 above).

9 It was **Mark Anskis** who ran this 5K. Named for Travis Manion, who was killed in Iraq in 2007, the foun-

ation has a "mission of inspiring selfless service and assisting our nation's veterans and families of fallen heroes."

10 This was not **Brad Kane's** first time on the white waters, but it was his first time in Class IV rapids. He notes, "I didn't get tossed, but my sister ended up in the drink!" And in spring up near Canada, it was a very cold drink indeed.

11 Gina Myers reviewed Gabriel Ojeda-Sague's *Oil and Candle*.

12 Peggy Seiden did the City to Shore MS 160 ride, leaving on Saturday, Sept. 24, from Cherry Hill, N.J. and ending up 80 miles later in Ocean City, N.J., from which she returned to Cherry Hill the next day. The ride is part of a national effort to raise over \$6 million for MS research. Peggy rode with others from the Delaware Valley Bike Club. She rides to support several people she knows with MS.

Spring Gathering



Black Cultural Center Open House



The following 2016–17 holiday schedule is meant to help community members plan their schedules; it includes an additional holiday and a new alternate holiday. Most offices will be closed on the scheduled holidays. However, some offices must remain open, so staff members should check with their supervisors on departmental requirements. The holiday schedule is determined annually based on how holidays fall in the week as well as on the academic calendar.

Scheduled holidays for

Sept. 1, 2016–Aug. 31, 2017

Thanksgiving: Thursday and Friday, Nov. 24–25 (two days)

Winter Break: Friday, Dec. 23–Monday, Jan. 2 (seven days)

Martin Luther King Jr. Day:

Monday, Jan. 16 (one day)

Memorial Day*: Monday, May 29, or an alternate day (one day)

Fourth of July: Tuesday, July 4 (one day)

**Please remember that the alternate holiday option for Memorial Day must be used during the September-to-August time period and cannot be carried into the next calendar year.*

Fall Community Gathering

