HUMAN-CENTERED DESIGN

RESHAPING A CHICAGO NARRATIVE

INSIDE WILDCAT DAYS AT MEDILL
Create a Legacy That Transforms Students’ Lives

Our charitable gift annuity is a win-win arrangement, providing tax-advantaged income during our lifetimes and support for Medill’s traditional and exciting new programs down the road. Just as important, it’s a way to say thank you to Northwestern for all it has meant to me over the years.”

DAVID MAZIE, BSJ ’55, MSJ ’56

Students at Medill will have an edge thanks to David ’55 BSJ, ’56 MSJ and Maris Mazie. Through their charitable gift annuity, David and Maris will support future generations of students interested in sports journalism and international study.

This is David and Maris’s legacy. What legacy will you leave?

Create a charitable gift annuity today and receive income for life, along with an immediate tax deduction.

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DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT
Bella Lichby Clarke (MSJ ’94)
MANAGING EDITOR
Katherine Deppey (BSJ ’05, MSJ ’15)
DESIGN
Amanda Good
FACULTY ADVISER
Charles Whitaker (BSJ ’04, MSJ ’07)
COVER PHOTOGRAPHER
Jenna Braunstein
PHOTOGRAPHERS
Jenna Braunstein
Peter Barreras
Staton Rabin
Morgan Elise Johnson (COM ’15)
Chantal Redmond
CONTRIBUTORS
Anna Keller (MSJ ’09)
Kaitlyn Thompson (BSJ ’11, IMC ’17)
Gail Shister (MSJ ’77)
Nicole Jordan (BSJ ’08)
Erlin Ding (BSJ ’03)

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“
Four years ago, we developed a plan to significantly strengthen and expand this great school. Our aim is to be, and to be recognized as, the best school in our field in the world.

Today, I’m proud to report that we have accomplished nearly all of those goals.

First, we were expected to raise $60 million in the Northwestern We Will Campaign by September 2018, by far the largest goal in Medill’s history. Our current total is $64 million with 19 months remaining, all through the generosity of our alumni, friends and foundations.

I can’t thank you enough for this incredible support.

The gifts improve all aspects of the school, from high school programs (Cherubs and Medill Media Teens) through our graduate and research initiatives. The results: A 50-percent expansion in financial aid for students. A new research center. A new endowed chair. Funding for students in “Medill Experiences” such as Journalism Residency, course-based domestic and international travel, internships and professional conferences. And much more.

Second, we want to be the leader at the intersection of innovation and technology to keep Medill at the forefront of changes in our field. Our expansion in San Francisco is a bold step. We designed and opened an academic site in 2016 at 44 Montgomery, an ideal location. More than 100 undergraduate and graduate students studied in San Francisco in our first year.

The San Francisco and Chicago sites offer more than classroom work. We’ve held conferences, workshops and alumni events for hundreds of guests in the first year alone. We can link our students and faculty across all four Medill locations—Evanston, Chicago, San Francisco and Washington—through technology. There is no doubt Medill is ideally positioned to work with leaders in the city and Silicon Valley on technology issues and innovation.

Third, we are hiring and retaining top faculty and staff. In the past year, we recruited Patty Loew, the new director of NU’s Center for Native American and Indigenous Research and a former broadcast journalist, from the University of Illinois; Doreen Weisenhaus, global media law expert with Till’s mother, from the University of Hong Kong (in a joint appointment with NU Law); and Jim Lecinski, vice president of U.S. sales and service for Google.

We also hired Tim Franklin, president of the Poynter Institute and former editor of the Baltimore Sun and Orlando Sentinel, and Lawrence Patrick, former journalist and Silicon-Valley based entrepreneur. We are seeking the first Renberg Chair in the area of journalism and sexuality and a joint appointment with the McCormick School in a Computer Science + Medill initiative.

Fourth, we are establishing and supporting specific areas in Journalism and IMC where Medill, within a great university, can excel. We established the Spiegel Research Center, an innovative digital and database research initiative that received a 2017 national education award in New York City. We developed a unique set of domestic and global travel programs tied to the curriculum that will enroll more than 300 undergraduate and graduate students this year alone. We developed specializations in the MSJ program where we believe Medill can be a national or world leader.

Fifth, we are working to improve our academic spaces. The Chicago and Washington sites were functional, but not the quality we need going forward. We designed and opened the new Chicago space at 303 E. Wacker, a strikingly modern teaching and learning center for our MSJ and part-time IMC programs. It is one of the best spaces for graduate education in the country.

Washington is next. We are reviewing locations for a match to the Chicago site. We will stay in the same area near the White House.

Our ultimate goal is a new building in Evanston along with a renovation of Fisk Hall. We have planned for the construction of both buildings, but must wait for the university to complete several major projects on campus. This renovation and expansion is crucial to the long-term success of Medill.

Across the school, faculty and students are working on important projects that reflect the daily experience and commitment in Medill. More prospective faculty and students want to join in our work. For fall 2018, for example, undergraduate applications for Medill increased by 24 percent, a remarkable number.

Thank you for your support of Medill.
The Medill Justice Project receives journalism awards for its investigations

The Medill Justice Project has been honored recently with a number of regional, national and international journalism awards. MJP received two EPPY Awards from Editor & Publisher and was named a finalist for a Chicago/Midwest Emmy for the second consecutive year and an Online Journalism Award for the third time. MJP also won its third consecutive Salute to Excellence in Collegiate Journalism Award from the National Association of Black Journalists, among other accolades.

Medill senior LOUISA WYATT, faculty member J.A. ADANDE (BSJ’92) and Medill Hall of Achievement 2017 honoree MARA BROCK AKIL (BSJ’92) spoke to students, faculty and alumni on Oct. 5 in the McCormick Foundation Center Forum in Evanston. Photo credit: Jenna Braunstein

WASHINGTON NEWS CHIEFS PAGE, BUMILLER AND PACE TALK TRUMP AT MEDILL

Susan Page of USA Today, Elisabeth Bumiller of the New York Times and Julie Pace from the Associated Press in Evanston on Nov. 7. Photo credit: Jenna Braunstein

Medill hosted a panel discussion with Medill alumni JULIE PACE (BS’04), the Associated Press Washington bureau chief; ELISABETH BUMILLER (BS’77), Washington bureau chief of The New York Times; and SUSAN PAGE (BS’73), the capital bureau chief of USA Today, on Nov. 7 in Evanston. Medill senior associate dean Tim Franklin moderated the discussion, which focused on how covering the White House has changed since the 2016 election.

MEDILL IMC SPEAKER DRAWS RECORD CROWD AT 303 E. WACKER

More than 125 Medill students, faculty and alumni gathered on Wednesday, Oct. 25 in the Medill Chicago space for a special talk by alumnus Akash Pathak (IMC’06), Director, McDonald’s, U.S. Brand Marketing and Digital Strategy.

LEFT: AKASH PATHAK (IMC’06).
Photo credit: Jenna Braunstein

ABOVE: Pathak spoke to an at-capacity crowd at 303 E. Wacker on Oct. 25. Photo credit: Jenna Braunstein

LEFT: From left to right: Preston Purchase (guest), PAIGE G. WALUS (BSJ’07), LIBBY WALKER (BSJ’07), Ethan Fife (guest) and KALLE EKO (MSJ’12). Photo credit: Jenna Braunstein

Medill senior LOUISA WYATT, faculty member J.A. ADANDE (BSJ’92) and Medill Hall of Achievement 2017 honoree MARA BROCK AKIL (BSJ’92) spoke to students, faculty and alumni on Oct. 5 in the McCormick Foundation Center Forum in Evanston. Photo credit: Jenna Braunstein
BY ANNA KELLER (MSJ09)

HUMAN-CENTERED DESIGN
KATE GARMNEY (IMC06) TAKES TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION EXPERIENCE TO NORTHWESTERN’S SAN FRANCISCO CAMPUS.

IN SOME WAYS, SIGNING ON AS AN ADJUNCT professor at Medill was a kind of coming home for Kate Garmey, who is herself a 2006 graduate of the IMC program. So far, however, her instruc- tional role has actually been a couple thousand miles away from the full-time program she once attended in Evanston. Garmey (still a Chicago resident herself), teaches at Northwestern’s new campus in San Francisco, where she brings her expertise in technology and innovation to the classroom.

At Medill, Garmey focused her coursework on digital media management, which eventually brought her to a role leading digital marketing strategy for a Chicago technology consultancy. Being part of Chicago’s tech ecosystem, she found herself drawn to the “design thinking” movement, a framework for innovation rooted in the needs of people, the possibilities of technology, and the requirements for business success, which she says is a natural bridge between the client-centered marketing strategies she’d learned at IMC and her perceptions of real-world needs in Chicago. Garmey is now the founder of Drink Tank, a community-powered innovation consultancy.

The company designs and executes experien- tial, multi-disciplinary sessions for its clients in order to generate and distill insights and develop marketing strategies. Through guided workshops that teach and encourage design thinking, Garmey’s company intends to help clients unlock creative ideas and opportunities from within their own communities of employees, customers, or other stakeholders. In her first engagement with Northwestern’s San Francisco campus in March 2017, she merged her current work with her alma mater.

“I had the chance to join Russ Nelson and Josh Grau in the San Francisco campus for a course called Technology and Innovation Trends. The San Francisco campus is an incredible petri dish of innovation, experimentation, and forward-thinking ideas, and it was incredible to be a part of. During the course, I led a five-day module that took students through the entire human-centered design process to identify new market opportunities for a Bay Area client,” she said. “Over the course of the week, we looked at familiar marketing problems in new ways. We reframed the challenge, hit the streets to gain insights, and rapidly prototyped new concepts and ideas. In the process we were able to get feedback and iterate much more quickly than students are typically used to.”

Garmey’s students worked with an Entrepreneur in Residence at Accel, whose startup was aimed at the health and fitness space. Their goal was to help him understand the needs and motivations of potential users, and to develop prototypes and strategies to bring the product to market.

Garmey says she was impressed by the creativity, enthusiasm, and expertise students brought to the challenge. “Since the part-time and online students were mid-career, they brought a diverse set of skills and experiences to the table, which made the collaboration that much richer,” she said.

Garmey’s instruction brought a hands-on approach to the forefront, because she believes in providing stu- dents the opportunity to learn by doing. She guides them through lectures and workshops, but ultimately students learn from going through the human-centered design process themselves.

Garmey headed back to San Francisco in December to lead a class called Insight to Innovation: A Design-Thinking Approach. This time students worked with Basis Set Ventures, mapping the innovation landscape and exploring the applications for blockchain technologies.

“There are strong parallels between the work I do with clients and what the IMC program teaches,” Garmey said. “Medill already focuses on a customer-centered approach—really understanding the needs of your audience so you can better serve them. Human-centered design is similar in that it relies on a deep sense of empathy to discover pain points and innovative ways to address them. These days, it’s not hard to get clients on board with this approach. I think we all can agree that the world could use more empathy. Through empathy we can find deeper, more meaningful ways to connect.”

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Kate Garmey
Finding Their TRiiBE

Northwestern alums create a media platform with the goal of shifting the narrative about black people in Chicago.

BY NIEMA JORDAN (BSJ08)

NIEMA JORDAN IS A JOURNALIST AND FILMMAKER FROM OAKLAND, CALIF.

Photo credit: Chantel Redmond
“EXCUSE ME SIR, DO YOU MIND IF WE TURN this down,” Morgan Elise Johnson (COMM11) asks an older gentleman as he takes a puff of his cigar. He hands her the remote and she hits mute to the basketball game before Tiffany Walden (BSJ11, MSJ12) launches into her spiel.

They’re in a smoke-filled room at Keyman’s Club, a members-only venue in Chicago’s South Loop. The team works out of the multi-use space and gallery, but tonight there’s a 45th birthday party complete with food, drinks and dancing, and 50 Cent’s “In Da Club” is playing in the next room.

On January 25 he even tweeted that he would “send DNAinfo and Gothamist a week after New York offices unionized.

They mentioned that just upstairs, there is a music studio where the owners let them work for free during the summer months. They eventually moved to the Keyman’s Club, which donated office space to The TRiiBE because they support the vision.

“Community, it’s strong here,” said Johnson. “And that doesn’t get talked about enough.”
James L. Mateja Memorial Scholarship: FOSTERING JOURNALISTIC GROWTH

CAMPAIGN SEEKS TO RAISE FUNDS FOR UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP THAT RECOGNIZES AUTOMOTIVE JOURNALIST JAMES L. MATEJA.

EARLIER THIS YEAR, THE MIDWEST Automotive Media Association (MAMA) set out on a fundraising campaign to endow a scholarship—the James L. Mateja Memorial Scholarship—to honor a longtime member, Jim Mateja. Mateja, who served as MAMA’s first president, passed away on January 30, 2017, after a battle with cancer.

“Jim was an icon in the automotive industry and, at one point, he was probably the most-read automotive journalist in existence,” said Jill Ciminillo, current MAMA president. “As the founding president of MAMA, he was one of the biggest supporters of the organization as well as one of our biggest cheerleaders. He was a role model and a mentor as well as a shining example of what a journalist should be.”

Although Mateja didn’t attend Northwestern (his degree was from Western Illinois University), MAMA is a Chicago-based organization, and the group wanted to keep Mateja’s scholarship “close to home,” said Ciminillo. That proximity will allow MAMA to connect with the scholarship recipients and to invite them to their events and help introduce them to other journalists in the field.

“We hope that a scholarship in Jim’s name will keep his legacy alive as it gives aid to the next generation of journalists.”

Jill Ciminillo

Currently, MAMA is in the process of raising a minimum of $100,000 to endow the scholarship. $50,000 was raised by a $25,000 lead gift from MAMA, which was then matched by a second donor. Ciminillo says other pledges have been made, and the organization is on track to secure three-quarters of the funding by the end of 2017. Once this scholarship has been fully funded, it will be awarded annually to an undergraduate journalism student at Medill. The goal is to award the first scholarship in September of 2018. The intent is that this scholarship can be a lasting way for Mateja to continue to nurture journalists, since he can no longer do that in person.

“Jim was very good at finding talented journalists and helping to bring them along in their careers as a mentor and a friend,” Ciminillo said. “We hope that a scholarship in Jim’s name will keep his legacy alive as it gives aid to the next generation of journalists.”

If you are interested in giving to the James L. Mateja Memorial Scholarship, please visit the following link to donate securely: http://bit.ly/2AdOKqk

BY ANNA KELLER
(MSJ09)

ANNA SWINDLE KELLER is the Marketing & Communications Manager for an after school enrichment company, Alphabet Education, and also works as a part-time freelance writer, blogger, and Pure Barre teacher.

ABOVE: Jim Mateja (front left), pictured with other past presidents of the Midwest Automotive Media Association (MAMA); Mateja was a co-founder of the association and remained a loyal and active member throughout his career. Photo courtesy of MAMA

"Jim was very good at finding talented journalists and helping to bring them along in their careers as a mentor and a friend," Ciminillo said. "We hope that a scholarship in Jim’s name will keep his legacy alive as it gives aid to the next generation of journalists."
BEGINNING THE MEDILL STUDENT ADVENTURE

WILDCAT DAYS GIVE ADMITTED UNDERGRADUATE JOURNALISM STUDENTS THE CHANCE TO SEE WHAT THE MEDILL EXPERIENCE IS LIKE.

BY KAITLYN THOMPSON (BSJ11, IMC17)

FOR NEARLY 100 YEARS, MEDILL HAS set the standard for journalism education. Through an elevated program dedicated to prospective students, Medill is helping those new to the family see that their adventure in journalism is only just beginning.

Wildcat Days welcome admitted undergraduate journalism students on campus to participate in a variety of activities during the spring quarter. A key component is the involvement of volunteer Medill ambassadors, current students from the Medill Undergraduate Student Advisory Council (MUSAC) and Wildcat Welcome Peer Adviser Program.

These leaders share their perspective on Medill through panels, in luncheons, during tours and at other touchpoints along the admitted student journey, said Daniel MacKenzie, an Associate Director in Medill’s Office of Student Life. During Wildcat Days, MacKenzie said, admits can develop bonds with current students who could later become their mentors, classmates and friends. He believes it’s an essential part of the process that both the admitted and current students mutually enjoy.

“The current students have that authentic desire to help prospective students make an informed decision about Medill, highlighting all of the opportunities that exist for students here,” MacKenzie said. “It’s great to see students forging these close relationships and helping to shape the community.”

The intention of involving Medill ambassadors in new student recruitment is to add context and richness behind the collegiate experience. For Peer Adviser Anabel Mendoza (BSJ20) and MUSAC member Tyler Kendall (BSJ18), a central part of learning journalism is getting outside the classroom. Both enjoy telling prospective students about the unparalleled opportunities they’ve had to fully immerse.

“I spent an entire quarter in Washington, D.C. as a fully credentialed freelance reporter through the Medill On The Hill program,” Kendall said. “I was able to see cast members of Hamilton perform at the White House and was in the chamber for President Obama’s last State of the Union address. I heard oral arguments at the Supreme Court and rode the halls of Congress on my own. I learned so much [that] it spurred my passion to go into political reporting.”

“I think something that makes Medill incredibly unique is how much the professors believe in a hands-on learning experience,” Mendoza said. “Whether you’re interested in magazine or design, entertainment or pop-culture, sports reporting or international relations, health or environmental policy, Medill really cares about making sure you have the chance to explore your interests.”

In Jacob Meschke’s (BSJ18) time at Medill, he has served both as a MUSAC member and as a Peer Adviser. He believes what makes Medill different is the incredible strength and diversity of student media, the Journalism Residency program and the commitment to helping students go abroad. An additional benefit of choosing Medill for Meschke is that the support doesn’t end after graduation.

“The [Medill] alumni network is very real and very important,” Meschke said. “I’ve seen countless examples of it helping people get jobs.”

Relationships fostered during Wildcat Days don’t have to stop after the festivities end. Mendoza says she sees her role as a mentor that continues through a prospective student’s decision to come to Northwestern and beyond. For her, the continued connections she’s fostered in and out of the classroom with advisees like Lark Breen (BSJ21) have been particularly valuable.

Breen agrees, saying Mendoza is an inspiring role model who helped her test out different experiences and relate to both students and faculty on campus.

“I have continued my relationships with both my Peer Advisers, especially Anabel,” Breen said. “I met my best friend through my group, and continue to rely on them for help, friendship, and just having a general sense of community at Northwestern.”

When Wildcat Days come to a close, prospective students leave Evanston with lots of new information and personal connections to consider. But what is undoubtedly clear is the love current Medillians have for this place.

“Beyond its prestige, Medill really is a place where you can build life-long relationships with your peers and professors,” Mendoza said. “You’ll feel prepared and confident knowing that, along with your extensive educational education, the Medill community is always here to support you.”

The current students have that authentic desire to help prospective students make an informed decision about Medill, highlighting all of the opportunities that exist for students here.

Daniel MacKenzie
Breaking Balls

GAIL SHISTER (MSJ’75) LEARNED TOUGH LESSONS ABOUT WORKING AS A FEMALE SPORTSWRITER IN THE 1970S AND 1980S.

BY GAIL SHISTER (MSJ’75)

WHEN BETH MOWINS DEBUTED ON ESPN’S “Monday Night Football” in September as the first female play-by-play announcer on a nationally televised NFL game, it was personal for me.

I was thrilled that one of ours was finally breaking into the NFL’s video man cave, coast to coast. Still, it brought back a flood of unhappy memories from my days as one of the first female sportswriters in the country.

At The New Orleans State-Item (now Times-Picayune) in the mid-’70s and early ’80s, I quickly learned that breaking balls was the only way for a woman to survive in the sports world.

I faced open hostility from the athletes I covered (all male), their coaches (all male), my editors (all male), and my fellow sportswriters (take a guess). And if that’s not enough to shiver a girl’s timbers, I was once compelled to take on the parents of a team I covered. (More on that later.)

The popular assumption was—and still is, to some degree—that women wanted access to men’s locker rooms in order to ogle naked jocks. In reality, all I cared about was filing my game story before deadline. And, truth be told, not slipping on a player’s sweat in the hallway outside Navy’s locker room? he asked. Pause. “Either I go in or nobody goes in,” I said, my voice rising. “It’s the law.”

Next thing I knew, there was an announcement over the PA system in the press box. Since it was against Naval Academy regulations for women to be in the men’s locker room, and since there was a woman reporter who insisted on doing so, no one would be allowed in.

Suddenly, 99 hatefiul stares stared onto me. I began to sweat. I knew I had to stand my ground. If not for me, then for the women to follow. I kept my head down and beamed the press elevator for the bowels of the Vet.

I was informed that the parents of Temple University’s men’s basketball team didn’t want me near their naked sons.

Time to bring in the law, I decided. It wasn’t until The Inquirer’s counsel intervened that accommodations were made. The schools had two options—let outsiders go, or have players cover their man parts. If the latter, provide a neutral site for interviews.

A sympathetic publicist might bring out a player or two, but only after the men had left. Sometimes I had to wait until players had showered and dressed, then frantically file. Good times.

Because I mostly worked nights and the sports department was a floor below the newsroom, I didn’t even meet another female colleague for six months. And then it was only because she had reached out to me. Going on the road was worse.

Between the isolation and the anxiety, I was going mad.

As the games wound down, I dreaded the locker room confrontation I knew was coming. I would have to stand in the hallway, my deadline fast approaching, as my male competitors got the fresh quotes. A sympathetic publicist might bring out everyone in or no one in. If it the former, have players cover their man parts. If the latter, provide a neutral site for interviews.

My biggest test of wills occurred during the 1982 Army-Navy game at the old Veterans Stadium in Philadelphia. With Navy about to crush the Cadets, 24-7, the Navy publicist made his way to me through the 100-plus reporters in the press box—99 of them men.

Which players did I want brought out of the locker room? he asked. Pause. “Either I go or nobody goes in,” I said, my voice rising. “It’s the law.”

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In the hallway outside Navy’s locker room, it was pandemonium. Angry reporters shoved and body-blocked each other, trying to get within earshot of players. I slowly snaked my way through the scrum, bombarded by vile epithets. I don’t even remember how I filed my story, but I did. With quotes. It was a victory, but not one I would ever want to repeat. Soon afterwards, I transferred to features.

GAIL SHISTER WAS TV COLUMNIST FOR THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER FOR 25 YEARS. SHE IS A SENIOR FELLOW IN CRITICAL WRITING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

I quickly learned that breaking balls was the only way for a woman to survive in the sports world.

BLEND IN SEAMLESSLY WITH THE GOOD ‘OL BOYS.

Because I mostly worked nights and the sports department was a floor below the newsroom, I didn’t even meet another female colleague for six months. And then it was only because she had reached out to me. Going on the road was worse.

Between the isolation and the anxiety, I was going mad.

As the games wound down, I dreaded the locker room confrontation I knew was coming. I would have to stand in the hallway, my deadline fast approaching, as my male competitors got the fresh quotes. A sympathetic publicist might bring out everyone in or no one in. If it the former, have players cover their man parts. If the latter, provide a neutral site for interviews.

My biggest test of wills occurred during the 1982 Army-Navy game at the old Veterans Stadium in Philadelphia. With Navy about to crush the Cadets, 24-7, the Navy publicist made his way to me through the 100-plus reporters in the press box—99 of them men.

Which players did I want brought out of the locker room? he asked. Pause. “Either I go or nobody goes in,” I said, my voice rising. “It’s the law.”

Next thing I knew, there was an announcement over the PA system in the press box. Since it was against Naval Academy regulations for women to be in the men’s locker room, and since there was a woman reporter who insisted on doing so, no one would be allowed in.

Suddenly, 99 hateful stares stared onto me. I began to sweat. I knew I had to stand my ground. If not for me, then for the women to follow. I kept my head down and beamed the press elevator for the bowels of the Vet.

In the hallway outside Navy’s locker room, it was pandemonium. Angry reporters shoved and body-blocked each other, trying to get within earshot of players. I slowly snaked my way through the scrum, bombarded by vile epithets. I don’t even remember how I filed my story, but I did. With quotes. It was a victory, but not one I would ever want to repeat. Soon afterwards, I transferred to features.

GAIL SHISTER WAS TV COLUMNIST FOR THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER FOR 25 YEARS. SHE IS A SENIOR FELLOW IN CRITICAL WRITING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.
**Impact Award winner for MSU's College of Communication Arts and Sciences.**

**2000s**

ELLEN CARPENTER (BSJ02) was named the editor-in-chief of Hemisphere, the in-flight magazine for United Airlines. She also will continue to be editor-in-chief of Rhapsody, an online magazine for first and business class, which she has run since 2015. Ellen lives in New York City with her husband, Chris, and five-year-old son, Calder.

WA LIN WONG (BSJ03, MSJ03) launched a new business podcast called Rework, based on the best-selling 2010 book of the same name by the co-founders of Basecamp, the Chicago-based software company. This year marks her fourth anniversary at Basecamp, where she previously co-produced and hosted The Distance, a narrative podcast about long-running businesses. That show was a finalist in the Chicago Headline Club's 2017 Peter Davis Theater.

JAMES EDWARDS (MSJ08) joined Chicago Public Media as a podcast producer for its Content Development Unit. Recently, he has worked as a researcher on two projects: a feature documentary about Tupac Shakur being regaled as the world's greatest rap artist and a documentary on Chicago blues. His work has appeared on WGN and Public Radio International.

JOSH FREUND (BSJ12) and SAN RUDATZKY (COMM12) began producing a political podcast, “Do U Want It?”, an exploration of the musical culture of New Orleans, shortly after they graduated five years ago. The film, which follows the career of the band, Papa Grove Park, won an audience award in the Louisiana Features category of the New Orleans Film Festival. “Do U Want It?” had its Chicago premiere in November at the Davis Theater.

MARIAM KHAN (MSJ13), a Capitol Hill producer for ABC News, won a Daytime Emmy Award this summer for “Golden Age of TV.” His original job title of radio-TV editor later was transposed to reflecting the changing influence of TV. Freeman covered local and national TV for the Union under the column heading, “Point of View,” writing as frequently as five days a week. When the Union merged with the afternoon Tribune in 1992, he was appointed critic at large.

DOUG FREEMAN (BSJ43), 95, of Escondido, Calif., spent more than a half-century at The San Diego Union-Tribune, later to become The San Diego Union-Tribune, as an opinionated, humorous and whimsical writer whose graceful storytelling was admired by several generations of readers. He was among the most respected and widely read columnists in the newspaper’s history. He died in August.

Given his proximity to Hollywood, Freeman made frequent trips to network studios to interview and profile all manner of stars, including Elvis Presley. His coverage of TV survival shows was especially poignant in the early 1950s when it was among the first in the country.

Because of his engaging, friendly manner—both in person and in his writing, which was regarded as elegant and lyrical—Freeman enjoyed lasting close friendships with numerous celebrities of his era, including the late Charlton Heston, with whom he served Northwest University and later became a troopmate in the U.S. Army Air Corps. While a journalist student at Northwestern, Freeman’s college years were interrupted in 1943—two months before his graduation—when he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II.

Freeman was stationed with Heston during their Army days in Kitty Hawk, N.C., where both served as news readers for the base radio station. The resonant-voiced Heston gave the news; Freeman read the stories. Once during Freeman’s tenure, Heston even cheerfully lit Freeman’s script ablaze, chewing with delight at the sight.

Freeman also maintained professional friendships with such luminaries as Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, Jackie Gleason, Frankie Laine, Andy Griffith, Meredith Willson, Henny Youngman and Regis Philbin. Freeman also befriended many prominent sports and broadcasting figures, including Ed Sullivan, Curt Gowdy, Howard Cosell and Jim McKay.

Philbin praised Freeman in his 2011 book, “How I Got This Way.” Writing, “He had a superb way of reviewing and covering TV shows and their stars, always seeming deep-on perfect about every topic he touched. I love good writing, and from the start, I knew Don Freeman was exceptional.”

Union-Tribune Sports Commissioner Nick Canepa said, “Don was among the kind- est people I’ve ever met. He loved this newspaper game more than anyone I can think of. Most important of all, Don loved to listen. I don’t know how many con- versations we had, thousands, I’m sure, but they always began with him asking me a question. Because he really wanted to know what you had to say. That’s no greater hallmark of a great interviewer and a great writer. Don was both.”

Though no great fan of technology, Freeman was proud that he embraced TV in the early 1950s, regarded as the “Golden Age of TV.” His original job title of radio-TV editor later was transposed to reflecting the changing influence of TV. Freeman covered local and national TV for the Union under the column heading, “Point of View,” writing as frequently as five days a week. When the Union merged with the afternoon Tribune in 1992, he was appointed critic at large.

Freeman authored four books, the first with former major-league base stealer Maury Wills titled “How to Steal a Pennant.” Three compilations of his San Diego Union-Tribune columns followed—“Eye as Big as Cimarron’s,” “In a Fish’s Novel” and “Fish Don’t Applaud.”

During the 1980s, based on his national reputation, he served as a judge for the prestigious Peabody Awards. Freeman was himself nominated several times for the Pulitzer Prize.

Freeman also taught a popular creative writing course, first at University of California San Diego Extension and later at San Diego State University’s College of Extended Studies.

He often said that besides his column, teaching the craft of writing was his most rewarding role. Over his career, Freeman contributed to numerous national publications, including The Saturday Evening Post, TV Guide, Sport, Emmy and DownBeat.

A native of Canada whose parents moved from his hometown of Winnipeg, Manitoba, to Chicago when he was a young boy, Freeman moved to San Diego in 1950, when he married his wife, Mary Roe Brandell. At his passing, the couple had been married for 67 years. He is survived by his wife, Mary, and sons John and Tom, as well as three grandchildren.

This is an edited version of a story by John Freeman, Don Freeman’s son, and also a former writer for The San Diego Union-Tribune.
poetry while studying journalism at Northwestern University. The New York native later graced the pages of Denver’s newspapers for more than three decades with a style probably not seen in Colorado since famed newspaperman Damon Runyon’s heyday in the early 1900s.

On a daily basis, he could give tutorials to readers on topics ranging from baseball and the demimonde to jazz—inserting images that seared into readers’ minds. His writing elevated Denver and its culture to the sheen of Manhattan, often infused with a bit of wisecracking.

When Gallo arrived in Denver, after attending Northwestern and earning a master’s degree in creative writing at Columbia University, he merged the skills of an old-school journalist with the beat of the New Journalism exploding in the early 1970s. Gallo applied both styles, a two-finger typist pounding away furiously at a keyboard.

Gallo, who could scour a racing form with the precision of an Egyptologist reading hieroglyphics, would tick off a likely winner—and chuckle “I’ll put $10 on his nose, and hope he doesn’t develop sinusitis.”

He didn’t keep those bon mots to himself. As a Rocky Mountain News columnist, he reimagined a routine item about a squad car stuck on a snowdrift in the memorable description that “the boys in blue had gotten high-ended on an ice cube.”

Rob Reuteman, a Rocky Mountain News editor, said “whenever we needed a major profile of some new heavyweight, some reigning tyrant, deposed gangster or old lion in winter, we’d simply assign it to Bill and start worrying about something else.”

While skeptical of institutions, Gallo never grew world-weary. Instead, he dove into life with cherished friends—playing the tuba and guitar and travel for paigns, and he worked hard for causes in which he believed. She is survived by her mother; her sisters, Suzette Price and Karen Green; her brother, Herman Scott Green.

LAURIE CATHERINE CROAL (MSJ85), 62, of South Weymouth, Mass., died on June 8. Born in Fargo, N.D. on March 2, 1955, to James and Mary Croal, Laurie Croal received her bachelor’s degree from Stonehill College in 1977 before attending Northwestern. After graduation, she spent years reporting on local news and then worked for the insurance industry. She was an avid cook with a passion for creating wonderful meals for family events. She is survived by her sisters, Susan Nelson and Nancy Heinde.

CATHERINE ANN CROWN (MSJ94), 51, of Chicago, died on July 24. A professor, creative writer and leading animal rescue advocate, Crown’s devotion and philanthropy saved hundreds of abused and neglected animals in Chicagoland. After graduating from Oberlin College in Ohio, Crown attended Northwestern for her master’s degree. She also earned a master’s degree in creative writing from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She began her career as an assistant director at WGN-TV and later worked as an executive producer on the “The Morton Downey Jr. Show.” For 17 years, Crown served as an English pro-

Note: All obituaries, unless otherwise noted, have been sourced through death notice information that has run in local media.
Taiwan and the mainland.
and tensions endure between
players. Today, the legacy of
year through the eyes of key
documents, Peraino tells
the story of this remarkable
revolution that continues to
shape East Asian politics to
Communist forces in 1949—
triumph of Mao Zedong's
written a gripping narrative of
the Truman Administration's

When journalist Marilynn
Preston (MSJ68) started her
fitness column in Chicago in 1976, most people thought
yoga and yogurt were
interchangeable terms. Everything changed. We live in
a health-conscious world now, and in "All Is Well: The Art (and
Science) of Personal Well-Being," Preston offers readers
a timely and provocative guide to lifestyle change. From eating
clean to going green, from
losing weight to adding muscle, Preston links body and mind to
culture and politics. She offers
readers a welcoming, evidence-
based path to more joy, greater
health, and sustained happiness
—three essentials of a healthy
lifestyle. Three more, she writes,
are crispy fries, good wine, and
love, love, love.

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Savages and other neighbors
Michael Chacko Daniels (MSJ68)

After his Indian-American father and his Dutch-American mother die in a Chicago convenience-store shootout in 1973, Solomon Jacob is torn between revenge and healing. Choosing the latter, he returns to his hometown, Riverside, Mich., known to locals as “God’s City by the River,” where someone is burning the houses of the poor. With Jennifer Vandenbergh’s help, Solomon leads a homesteading program for people land speculators are pushing out. But when his grandparents arrive from Kerala, India, “all hell breaks loose,” and he is caught in a journey into light and darkness.

The life of Fritz, The dog
Maria Martinez (MSJ74)

Fritz was the puppy chosen to be the birthday gift for one of the daughters of the Martan family. He did not know where he was going when the Martans’ cousin picked him up at the farm where he was born. Much to his surprise, he was heading to a big city, Chicago, where he was to learn to live in a house and be trained to behave. But Fritz was not the only one who would learn and change. His unique and warm personality would change the Martan family too. He helped them see animals in a new light and brought new pets into their lives. Maria Martinez (MSJ74) shares this memoir about Fritz, the stories behind the dogs, and often-used quotes from films. Sidebars also focus on other ways the entertainment world has changed language. For instance, they focus on the stories behind stars whose names have been used for decades, cusses and supports. Pop. Pappy is more like a ghost than a brother. Rosalia is sometimes supportive, sometimes angry sister. Anthony’s relationship with his lover Steven is falling apart. Only Doughna Mira offers unconditional love—and some grandmotherly advice.

When postpartum packs a punch
Anthony struggles to understand his family. Pop is a hard-edged man. His smiles, cusses and supports Pop. Pappy is more like a ghost than a brother. Rosalia is sometimes supportive, sometimes angry sister. Anthony’s relationship with his lover Steven is falling apart. Only Doughna Mira offers unconditional love—and some grandmotherly advice. "Tarantella" follows Anthony as his dance unfolds—circling back and forth through his childhood in New York, his teenage years in Merritt Island, Fla., and adulthood in Chicago. Anthony dances through relationships and loves that lead him nearer to healing. Anthony dances through relationships and loves that lead him nearer to healing. Anthony dances through relationships and loves that lead him nearer to healing.

Tarantella
Scott T. O’Hara (BSJ80)

How did one of the most famous black activists and professionals of the late 19th and early 20th centuries later slip into obscurity? Richard T. Greener (1844-1922) was a pioneer in education, diplomacy, and racial activism—the first black graduate of Harvard College, the first black professor at a southern university (at the University of South Carolina), the first black U.S. diplomat to a majority white country (Russia) and a law school dean. However, by the time of his retirement in Chicago, Greener was relatively unknown. Katherine Chadock (BSJ67) revives his legacy by chronicling the struggles and achievements of a light-skinned black man who was frequently caught between being viewed as too black by whites and too white by fellow blacks. Difficult identity and acceptance questions contributed to a life of significant fulfillment and significant heartbreak.
Those Medillians who worked on “The Daily” remember the long hours at The Daily Northwestern.

Photo credit: Jenna Braunstein