



imPULSE

A Periodic Newsletter of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission ISSUE 44 • DECEMBER 2015



Mr. LaRue with grandson, Aiden

FAMILY'S TWO DEATHS PROMPT DROWNING AWARENESS EFFORTS

Brittany Bulkley wants to honor her late father's attempt to rescue her son from drowning to encourage children's safety near water.

Ronald LaRue, 54, of Mayfield, Ky., was a posthumous recipient of the Carnegie Medal in September for trying to save his grandson, Aiden Bulkley, 5, from drowning after the boy fell from a municipal dock into the Penobscot River in Bucksport, Maine, while fishing on Aug. 8 last year. Jumping into the river after Aiden, LaRue reached the boy and tried to swim with him against a strong current. They soon separated and drowned.

In the aftermath of their deaths, Bulkley, of Cedar Hill, Mo., created a drowning-awareness page on Facebook to share news stories about other incidents of drownings or near drownings. The page also serves as a resource for safety tips and a tribute to her father and son.

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For better, for worse: Married couple join forces to effect frigid water rescue

The couple that saves together, stays together.

For **Liane Heather Wood** and **Daniel Marvin Wood** of Frankford, Ont., their marital bond of 25 years went beyond a vow of "for better, for worse." In September, they became the latest husband-and-wife team that the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission has recognized for performing an extraordinary act of heroism together.

On the evening of Feb. 6, 2013—a *very cold* evening at 13 degrees—they joined forces to help Megan J. Barr, 13, escape an overturned sport utility vehicle that was partially submerged in the Trent River in Frankford and get back to her relieved parents. "We're honored," Daniel said upon learning that they were receiving Carnegie Medals (see pages 12-16). "It's very meaningful."

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In addition to the Carnegie Medal, Daniel Marvin Wood and his wife Liane Heather Wood each received Canada's Medal of Bravery in May from His Excellency the Right Honorable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada. Photo by Sgt. Ronald Duchesne, Rideau Hall ©OSGG, 2015.



Ms. Hills, in photo by Filip Wolak.

**CARNEGIES' DYNAMIC LEGACY:
GIVE PASSIONATELY, GENEROUSLY**

The following is an excerpt of remarks made by Commission member Linda Thorell Hills of Littleton, Colo., during the placement of a memorial wreath on the grave of her great-grandparents, Andrew and Louise Whitfield Carnegie, on Oct. 13, 2015. Andrew Carnegie died in 1919, and he and his wife—along with household staff—are buried in Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, near Tarrytown, N.Y. The full text of Hills's remarks can be found on the Commission's website, www.carnegiehero.org.

By Linda Thorell Hills
Carnegie Hero Fund Commission

In his 84 years on earth, Andrew Carnegie made a difference of extraordinary magnitude, and then he left a legacy that is a living, relevant, dynamic force almost 100 years later. I don't think he could have imagined this and certainly would not have expected it. Few individuals who died a century or more ago still exert the same degree of influence on life in the 21st century as does my great-grandfather. He keeps company with a rare circle of individuals whose influence was so far-reaching as to be woven into the very fabric of American life—past, present, and future.

This, I am positive, was never a goal for him during the years he was engaged in building a transformational basic industry, and then at the pinnacle of his career, when, true to his own words and self-promise, he went about disposing of his personal fortune for the good of humankind. Within the flexible mandates of his philanthropy, he concentrated on what he strove to make happen in his lifetime, the things he felt would carry the most benefit: Education opened to those who sought it, world peace, the pursuit of scientific and technical research, recognition of the sacrifices of civilian heroes, and the study and promotion of ethics to be used in international relations to "help create a more peaceful and just world." His vision was a watershed moment for social responsibility because it has charged those

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For better, for worse

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After hearing a booming crash outside the church where Daniel ministered, the Woods separately waded into the biting 32-degree chill of the fast-moving river to reach Megan. She was alone inside her family's vehicle after it broke through a fence atop a retaining wall. Megan's parents, who had attended a church program that evening, were inside the building talking with the Woods when the accident happened. Megan's mother called 911 while Megan's father and Daniel placed a ladder into the river.

With her background as a competitive swimmer in high school, Liane, then 42, initially entered the water alone after removing her shoes and jacket. Daniel, then 43, was a former volunteer firefighter, but his mobility was limited because of a rotator cuff tear about two weeks earlier. "Without a plan of what I was going to do once I got in the river, all I had was the trust I placed for my life and Megan's life in God's hands, and the incredible peace that He was giving me in that moment," Liane told the Hero Fund in response to her nomination for the medal.

There were a few flood lights in the church's parking lot, but the vehicle floated downstream into darkness until it struck a rock and stopped moving. Liane waded through 3.5 feet of water to reach the car. She tried to open a door, but couldn't. She waded back to get a shovel-like tool to try to break a window, but then she fell when trying to establish leverage.

That's when Daniel decided he had to act, too. Discarding a protective sling, he climbed down the ladder and waded to Liane. Rethinking the broken-window plan because of the anticipated difficulty of helping Megan through a submerged window, they moved toward the rear of the vehicle with the hope that the hatch window wasn't entirely below the water.

Feeling along the vehicle to the back, they realized that the hatch was open. From the front compartment, Megan answered their frantic calling of her name with a simple response: "I'm here." Following her rescuers' voices, Megan dipped her head under water to reach the Woods. Liane, by then unable to move on her own after the long exposure to the frigid water, held onto the vehicle while Daniel took Megan to the retaining wall. Megan's father helped her out of the river while Daniel returned to the vehicle to help Liane wade back. The rescue concluded before firefighters arrived.

"They were extremely brave," the fire chief told a newspaper reporter after the incident. "The current is really fast at that section of the river. It's a wonder they were not swept down the river."

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Overtured vehicle in Trent River from which Daniel Marvin and Liane Heather Wood rescued a teenage girl on a cold winter evening.

PRESENTING



BITTERSWEET MOMENT

Ryan Thomas Nelson, third from right, was named an awardee of the Carnegie Medal in June for pulling his good friend and college roommate, Matthew J. Heisler, from their burning off-campus house in Grand Forks, N.D., on March 16, 2014. The medal was presented to him in August by **John P. Williams**, third from left, deputy investigator for the La Crosse County (Wis.) Sheriff's Department; Williams himself was awarded the medal, in 2012, for a drowning rescue, and he has subsequently volunteered his services to make presentations to new awardees in his area. Ryan's parents, Tom and Carla Nelson, right, were on hand for presentation, as were Matthew's, Jared and Cheryl Heisler. The fathers of both young men are also close friends and were college roommates. As Matthew died of his injuries after the rescue, the event "brought a few tears but was a great moment," according to Williams, who said that he and his wife got to meet "another incredible family." Photo by Patricia Williams.

Not the absence of fear, but the mastery of it

By **Charles S. Harris**, *Doltewah, Tenn.*
Carnegie Medal awardee #4675

One of the proudest moments of my life was being able to make the presentation of the Carnegie Medal to **McKenzie McKay Guffey**.

The concept of a hero has often been diluted by some in our culture. Their heroes are singers, sports standouts, or someone who posts diatribe on social media. In my opinion, these are not heroes. They are merely people who have a talent and climb to the top of their abilities in the eyes of their followers, often for money.

Heroes are those who put their lives on the line to save the lives of others. They may have had training in the use of their abilities such as a soldier, a firefighter, or a police officer would receive, but likely these heroes have had very minimal training of their abilities to carry out their feats.

A real hero has had a disastrous situation presented to him or her with no warning. Basically, he or she has three choices: run away, freeze and be able to do nothing... or without thought of consequences run into the midst of it, jump into action, and take charge. This is exactly what Mac Guffey did on July 17, 2014, in Rye, N.Y.

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BOARD NOTES

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who have created great wealth to recognize the potential of their opportunities and responsibilities.

In his lifetime, Andrew Carnegie pursued industry and industrious work with exceptional vision and energy, knowing that this was the path to empowering lives, including his own. In this endeavor he built for America an infrastructure that gave new opportunity to untold numbers of people. America as we know it today would not look the same if Andrew Carnegie had not lived. He held many core values of America close to his heart: entrepreneurship, hard work with a strong work ethic, respect for one another, the granting of an equal chance for all people, a strong belief in progress and change as the road to better one's life and the lives of others, and an optimistic approach to the future. He did not pursue wealth as an end in itself; for him it became a by-product of his determination and hard work, albeit a desirable one.

On a more personal level, I think as we stand here at his gravesite, we should recognize also the immense support given to Andrew Carnegie by his wife, Louise Whitfield Carnegie. She was amazing woman, 21 years his junior, about whom he wrote, "I first discovered she had a mind and heart alone, and beyond those of others her own age, and from that day to this, I have kept on discovering new beauties of mind and character in her, and day by day, I find the list is yet unexhausted. She seems to have been made to

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Linda Thorell Hills at Carnegie gravesite with Vartan Gregorian, president of the Carnegie Corporation of New York. Photo by Filip Wolak.



'If it has the potential to do good, then we should do it'
 —2015 Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy awardee Paul G. Allen

**PREVIOUS AWARDEES OF THE
 CARNEGIE MEDAL OF PHILANTHROPY**

2001

Leonore and Walter Annenberg
 Brooke Astor
 Irene Diamond
 The Gates Family
 The Rockefeller Family
 George Soros
 Ted Turner

2003

Kazuo Inamori
 The Sainsbury Family

2005

The Cadbury Family
 Sir Tom Farmer
 Agnes Gund
 The Hewlett Family
 His Highness the Aga Khan
 The Packard Family

2007

Eli Broad
 The Heinz Family
 The Mellon Family
 The Tata Family

2009

Michael R. Bloomberg
 The Koç Family
 Betty and Gordon Moore
 Joan and Sanford Weill

2011

The Crown Family
 The Danforth Family
 Fiona and Stanley Druckenmiller
 Fred Kavli
 Evelyn and Leonard Lauder
 Jo Carole and Ronald Lauder
 Li Ka-shing
 Pamela and Pierre Omidyar
 The Pew Family
 The Pritzker Family

2013

Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser
 Sir Tom Hunter
 Marilyn and James Simons
 The Wolfson Family
 Dmitry Zimin



Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy awardees for 2015 include Jon M. Huntsman, Sr., center, shown with his wife, Karen, and their son, Jon M. Huntsman, Jr. The elder Huntsman keeps an essay by Andrew Carnegie at his desk as a reminder to live modestly and act as a trustee for the less fortunate. The younger Huntsman is a former governor of Utah and was a 2012 candidate for the Republican presidential nomination. Photo by Filip Wolak.

The Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy, given to those who dedicate their private wealth to the public good, was awarded in New York City in October to eight individuals and families who are among the most charitable and visionary philanthropists in America. The awards, created by the Carnegie Corporation of New York in 2001 during the centennial of Andrew Carnegie's official career as a philanthropist, are given to those who have a vision of philanthropy like Carnegie's.

Carnegie Corporation President Vartan Gregorian said the 2015 awardees share Carnegie's ideals, "that the rich are trustees of their wealth and are under a moral obligation to reinvest it in society in ways that promote the progress of society." He said it was heartening to see Americans' sustained and growing engagement with philanthropy: "Since the days of Andrew Carnegie and John D. Rockefeller, Americans' collective charitable giving has risen immensely, to \$358.38 billion in 2014." Carnegie's own \$350 million in philanthropic giving would equal about \$4.8 billion today.

The medals were presented at the New York Public Library on Oct. 15 in an impressive ceremony, a biennial event that has come to double as a family reunion of sorts, with representatives of Carnegie's 22 institutions established in the U.S. and Europe taking part in the presentation and related activities. Four of the institutions are permanent members of the medal's selection committee, and two additional of the institutions rotate with each award cycle. Gregorian serves as the committee's chair, and William Thomson of Bonar Bridge, Scotland, one of the Carnegies' great-grandchildren, serves as honorary chair.

Eight of Carnegie's nine existing hero funds were represented at the events, with the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission of Pittsburgh sending 10 board and staff members: Mark Laskow, chair; Sybil P. Veeder, chair of the executive committee; Linda T. Hills, another of the Carnegie great-grandchildren; Dan D. Sandman, treasurer;

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If it has the potential to do good

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Nancy L. Rackoff; Nathalie Lemieux; Joe C. Walton; Ann M. McGuinn; Susanne C. Wean; and Walter F. Rutkowski, president. Two of them played prominent roles in the week's activities, with Hills giving remarks at the Carnegies' gravesite (page 2) and Laskow chairing a meeting of the hero funds, which have come together over the past few years to form the Carnegie Hero Funds World Committee (page 10).

The 2015 awardees of the Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy:

Paul G. Allen, a cofounder of Microsoft, is working to save endangered species, fight Ebola, research the human brain, support the arts, protect the oceans, and expand educational opportunity for girls, all through his company, Vulcan, Inc., and the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation. He has committed to giving away the majority of his fortune, having already donated more than \$2 billion to worthy causes around the world.

Charles F. Feeney, founder of Duty Free Shoppers, the world's largest luxury goods retailer, quietly transferred virtually all of his assets to The Atlantic Philanthropies in the 1980s. Atlantic has since made more than \$7 billion in grants to promote education, health, peace, reconciliation, and human dignity throughout the world. Feeney's "giving while living" philosophy has been credited by Bill Gates and Warren Buffett as inspiration for starting The Giving Pledge, an effort to help address society's most pressing problems by inviting the world's wealthiest individuals to commit to giving more than half of their wealth to philanthropy or charitable causes either during their lifetimes or in their wills.

Jeremy and Hanne Grantham are co-chairs of the Grantham Foundation for the Protection of the Environment, into which they have poured ever-increasing shares of their personal wealth to bring more and better awareness of environmental challenges. They believe that mitigating and adapting to a changing climate will lead to a more sustainable and prosperous future. From their perspective, if earth's environmental crises aren't dealt with quickly, nothing else they do will really matter. Jeremy Grantham is cofounder and strategist of the investment firm Grantham, Mayo, Van Otterloo & Co.

The Haas Family, descendants of Otto and Phoebe Haas, created the William Penn Foundation, which is dedicated to improving the quality of life in the Greater Philadelphia, Pa., region. For more than 70 years and over four generations, the Haas Family has been committed to fostering learning, protecting the environment,

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FAMILY'S TWO DEATHS

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"I would love for people to know the story and how to further protect their loved ones," Bulkley wrote to the Commission after her father was named among the latest awardees (see pages 12-16). "We will be starting a non-profit organization in their honor in the next couple years. We have been doing lots of research and will start fundraising next year."

LaRue's final act also resonated in the Bucksport community even though he didn't live there. In April, the American Red Cross, Greater Bangor Region, recognized LaRue posthumously with the "Disaster Hero Award" for trying to save Aiden. The local chapter also honored three first responders who went into the river to try to rescue Aiden and LaRue shortly after witnesses reported the incident to 911.

There also have been improvements made to the dock, which, at the time of the accident, did not have any flotation devices available because of repeated thefts. The municipality has worked with a group organized by Aiden's father, Chad Bulkley, who lived in Bangor, Maine, to install life jackets there.

Despite the family's pain, Bulkley said she was "very overwhelmingly proud" of her father's Carnegie Medal, which was awarded to his widow, Lillian. "I can't tell you how much this means to me, personally, even that he was nominated."

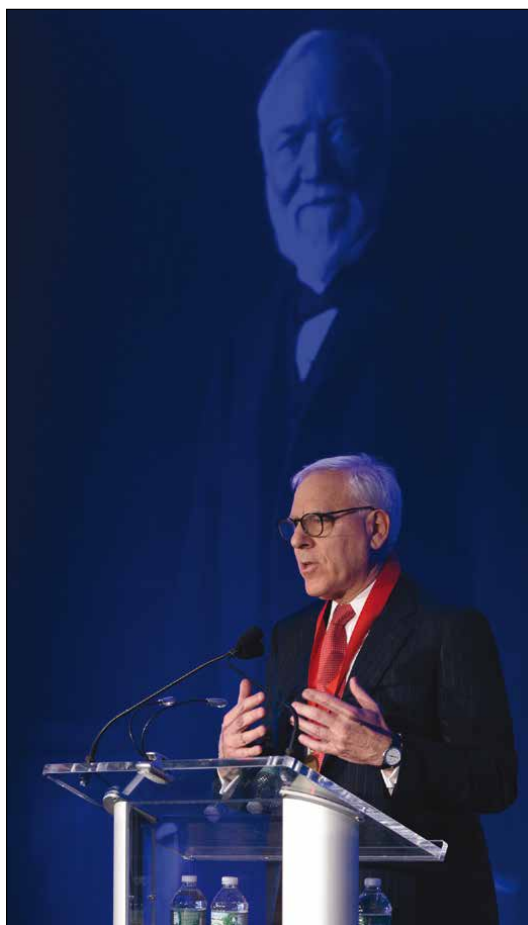
Bulkley's page can be found at [facebook.com/aidenandrondrowning](https://www.facebook.com/aidenandrondrowning).—Chris Foreman, *Case Investigator*

BOARD NOTES

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turn this Earth into a heaven for me." The quote is handwritten on the front page of the book, *The Light of Asia*, by Edwin Arnold, the first gift that my great-grandfather gave to his wife.

Louise played a critical role in supporting her husband's philanthropy. She wanted to be a wife who could help her husband, and it was his promise and passion to give away his wealth that gave her this purpose and fueled their love for one another. As Andrew and Louise lie here together, we honor their living and dynamic legacy and can each reflect upon our own lives: What are our talents? What is our own wealth—is it money, time, skills, the willingness to take risk, vision? Do we not all have the responsibility to humanity to give passionately and generously of our own gifts to enrich others with what we have? I think my great-grandfather's response would be an emphatic yes!



Passion for history drives philanthropic giving by David M. Rubenstein. Photo by Filip Wolak.



HERO FUND RECIPIENT OF GENEROUS FISHER FAMILY GIFT



A generous donation of \$25,000 was made to the Hero Fund in October by long-time friend Lilian H. Fisher of Naples, Fla. Mrs. Fisher is the widow of Benjamin R. Fisher, Sr., and the mother of the late Benjamin R. Fisher, Jr., both of whom served on

the Commission board, and the gift was made in their memory.

Mrs. Fisher also wanted to honor Priscilla J. McCrady, the Commission's vice chair, with the gift, as McCrady is a Fisher family friend. McCrady joined the board in 1989 and has been actively involved with the Hero Fund's work throughout her tenure.

Benjamin R. Fisher, Sr., joined the Commission in 1976 and served until his death at age 70 in 1987. He was the retired board chair of Fisher Scientific Co., which was founded in 1902 in Pittsburgh by his father. Son Benjamin, Jr., joined the Commission in 1993 and served until his death at age 50 in 2002. At that time, he was the chair of the Hero Fund's centennial committee, its activities, including a video history of the Commission, culminating with events in 2004. A grant from the Fisher family went toward the production of the film, which can be viewed on the Commission's website (www.carnegiehero.org).

The younger Fisher was vice president of corporate marketing and communications at PPG Industries, Inc., and was widely known in Pittsburgh's philanthropic circles. Former Commission member Alfred W. Wishart, Jr., eulogized him: "He's a Fisher, a family of civic-minded men and women highly sensitive to the needs of others."



Ms. McCrady, center, shown with Hero Fund board members Sybil P. Veeder and Mark Laskow at the time of her 25th anniversary with the Commission in 2014.



The Celeste Bartos Forum of the New York Public Library was filled to almost overflowing for the presentation of the 2015 Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy. The Brooklyn (N.Y.) Youth Chorus opened the ceremony. Photo by Filip Wolak.

If it has the potential to do good

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and cultivating creative communities. Their legacy includes the transformation of Independence Mall, support for the Philadelphia Orchestra, and protection of the Delaware River watershed.



Photo by Filip Wolak

Jon M. Huntsman, Sr., founder of Huntsman Corp., a global manufacturer and marketer of specialty chemicals, focuses his giving on higher education, the rebuilding of Armenia after its devastating earthquake in 1988, homelessness, hunger, and abused women and children. In 1993, he and his wife, Karen, founded

the Huntsman Cancer Institute, the major focus of their giving, to accelerate the work of curing cancer through human genetics. The institute is now one of America's few comprehensive cancer centers, featuring leading-edge research laboratories, a hospital, outpatient clinics, an education center, and the world's largest genetic database.

Irwin and Joan Jacobs are partners in philanthropy, having given to the engineering school and medical center of the University of California at San Diego, the San


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If it has the potential to do good

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Diego Public Library, the Jewish Community Foundation of San Diego, the La Jolla Playhouse, the San Diego Symphony, and the Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego. They have given also to Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cornell Institute of Technology, and the Salk Institute for Biological Studies, funding a professorship in genomics and neuroscience.

New York-based brothers **Richard L.** and **Robert B. Menschel**, senior directors of Goldman Sachs, have been “giving back” in countless ways for decades. Richard is a sponsor of health, education, and the arts, supporting the American Civil Liberties Union, the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health, and the International Rescue Committee, and he has been a partner in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. Robert is committed to education and social reform as well as health and the arts. Through Vital Projects, the foundation he started more than 50 years ago, he has been a major supporter of photography and has established galleries and programs at the Museum of Modern Art, the National Gallery, Syracuse University, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and his foundation is also leader in criminal justice reform.

David M. Rubenstein, founder of The Carlyle Group, a private equity firm, practices what he calls “patriotic philanthropy,” purchasing and gifting historic documents and supporting historic landmarks and national cultural institutions like presidential homes Montpelier and Monticello, the Washington Monument, and the National Zoo. He purchased the last privately owned copy of the Magna Carta and lent it to the National Archives, while other historic documents he owns—the 13th Amendment, the Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, and the Emancipation Proclamation—are on permanent loan to the U.S. government or historic sites. He has also made major contributions in health, higher education, and the arts, including to the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., and Lincoln Center, New York. 



The Hero Fund's board chair, Mark Laskow, and his wife, Lisa, left, attended the Medal of Philanthropy presentation along with board member Nathalie Lemieux, shown with her husband, Mario.



HERO FUND ON SOCIAL MEDIA: BEST OF HUMANITY FEATURED

From the very first email sent in 1971 to yesterday's trending four-second Vine video, the social purpose of the World Wide Web has remained unchanged: To connect people seeking information with those sharing information. Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr, YouTube, and the hundreds of other social media platforms have just streamlined this connecting, and it's now easier than ever to find and share content. In addition, technology has evolved to make devices more portable so that connecting online has become part of the action instead of an afterthought.



The Hero Fund has over the recent past established the information-sharing part of the equation, and, modesty aside, it has the best content to share: Humans saving other humans in extraordinary acts of bravery, courage, kindness, and, sometimes, at a great sacrifice. It is an honor to showcase a daily account of the best of humanity.

But the Commission's social media coordinator, Julia Panian, wishes that the Hero Fund had a few more connections across social media platforms. “We've gotten a few requests to share specific cases from the archives,” she said, “and we've been tagged a couple times in news stories to alert us to a recent act of heroism we might have missed. But there's not been the awareness I've hoped to garner. In fact, our case investigators often hear from their contacts that they had never heard about the Hero Fund or its awardees.”

Panian said she is struggling to determine how to simply get the word out. So she is asking for help.

Users are asked to like the Hero Fund's Facebook page ([facebook.com/carnegiehero](https://www.facebook.com/carnegiehero)), visit its website (carnegiehero.org), share its content, and spread the word. “Tell the story of our heroes,” she says. “Make it clear that there are good news and good people in the world.” Panian is open to all suggestions and can be reached at: jewels@carnegiehero.org.



HERO'S ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENT RECOGNIZED BY HIS ALMA MATER

Carnegie Medal awardee **Billy A. Nix**, given posthumous recognition by the Commission in 1972 for his heroic actions at Sullivan's Island, S.C., was inducted into his alma mater's athletic hall of fame during a ceremony on Oct. 9. Nix



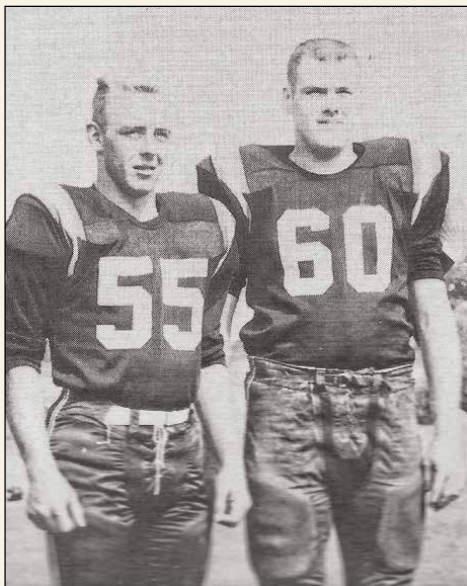
Mr. Nix

attended Gardner-Webb College, now Gardner-Webb University, Boiling Springs, N.C., which cited his contributions as a student-athlete in football and baseball during the years 1958 to 1960. A "versatile talent" named a Wigwam Wiseman All-American, Nix

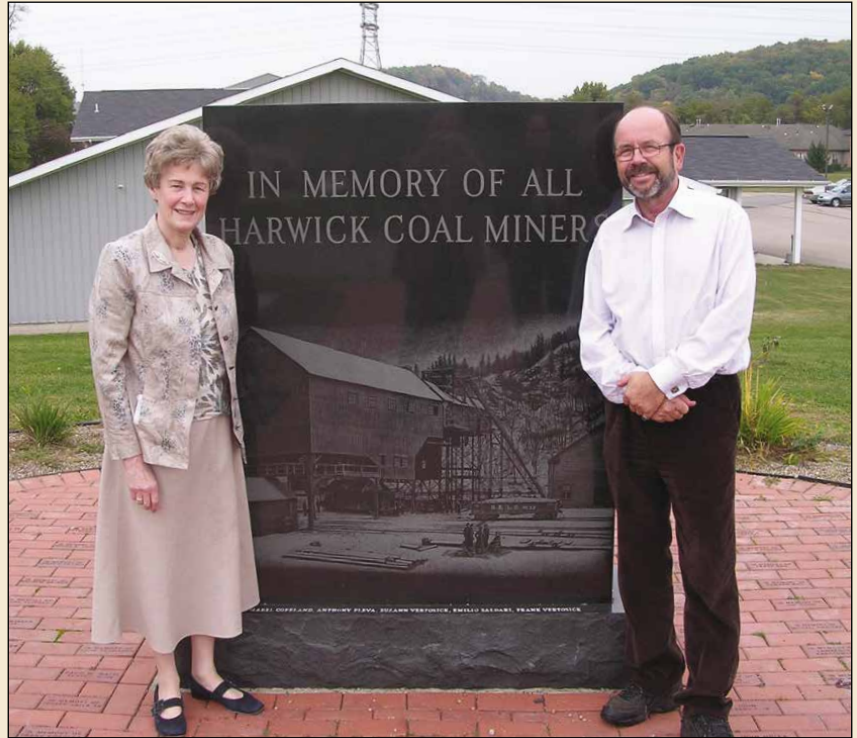
played both offense and defense in football and was team co-captain in 1959. He was one of five athletes inducted into the university's athletic hall of fame this year.

Traveling from her home in Southlake, Texas, to attend the ceremony, one of Nix's three daughters, Sonya L. Torti, described the event as very touching and said she was pleased to meet some of her father's old friends, including Bob Lohr, who knew Nix in high school; Lohr's brother, Ed Lohr, played football at Gardner-Webb with Nix. Torti's younger

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Billy A. Nix, No. 55, and Ed Lohr were co-captains of the Gardner-Webb football team.



Jessie Spittal, 76, left, of Dunfermline, Scotland, died Oct. 10. She became a trustee of the Carnegie Dunfermline and Hero Fund Trusts in 1974 and retired from them in 2005. Her commitment to both was unwavering, and she was involved in all areas of their work, serving as Hero Fund convener from 1983 to 1989 and going on to become the trusts' vice chair (1989-92) and chair (1992-95). She represented the trusts in Pittsburgh in 2004, when the Commission held its centennial observance, and in 2007 she visited again, meeting up with her new friends at the Hero Fund. The photo was taken during the latter visit, when she and Gustaf Taube, then chair of Carnegie Stiftelsen, Carnegie's hero fund in Sweden, were a part of a tour of the site of the 1904 Harwick coal mine explosion. Andrew Carnegie was inspired to establish his hero funds by the sacrificial actions of two men who died in rescue attempts in the Harwick mine.



Mr. Gooch

Raymond F. Gooch, 93, of Evansville, Ind., died Sept. 16. In 1941, he was awarded the Carnegie Medal for helping to save three friends from drowning in the Ohio River at Cypress, Ind., on Nov. 3, 1940. Gooch, then 18, was one of five young men in a rowboat that capsized about 1,300 feet from the bank. After they had been in the water for an hour and drifted a mile downstream, Gooch swam to the bank and walked and ran a half-mile to alert help. Launching a leaky rowboat, he and another man paddled and bailed water as they made their way to the remaining victims. They took them aboard and returned to the bank. One of the young men drowned, and Gooch, suffering from exposure, was exhausted. He went on to serve as a paratrooper during World War II and then had a long career at Evansville Sheet Metal.

Randell Ranson, 44, of Heber City, Utah, died July 1. An Army veteran of Operation Desert Storm, where he was an instructor and drill sergeant, he worked as an aircraft mechanic at Salt Lake City International Airport. There, on July 16, 2010, he attempted to save a man who had been struck by helicopter, which then crashed and leaked fuel. Ranson grasped the man to remove him, but the fuel ignited explosively, throwing him back 10 feet and setting fire to the helicopter wreckage. Ranson sustained burns, up to second-degree, to his legs, left arm, and face. The victim died at the scene.

Chris Mintz defies the age of the 'beta male:' Hope for courage and selflessness to endure

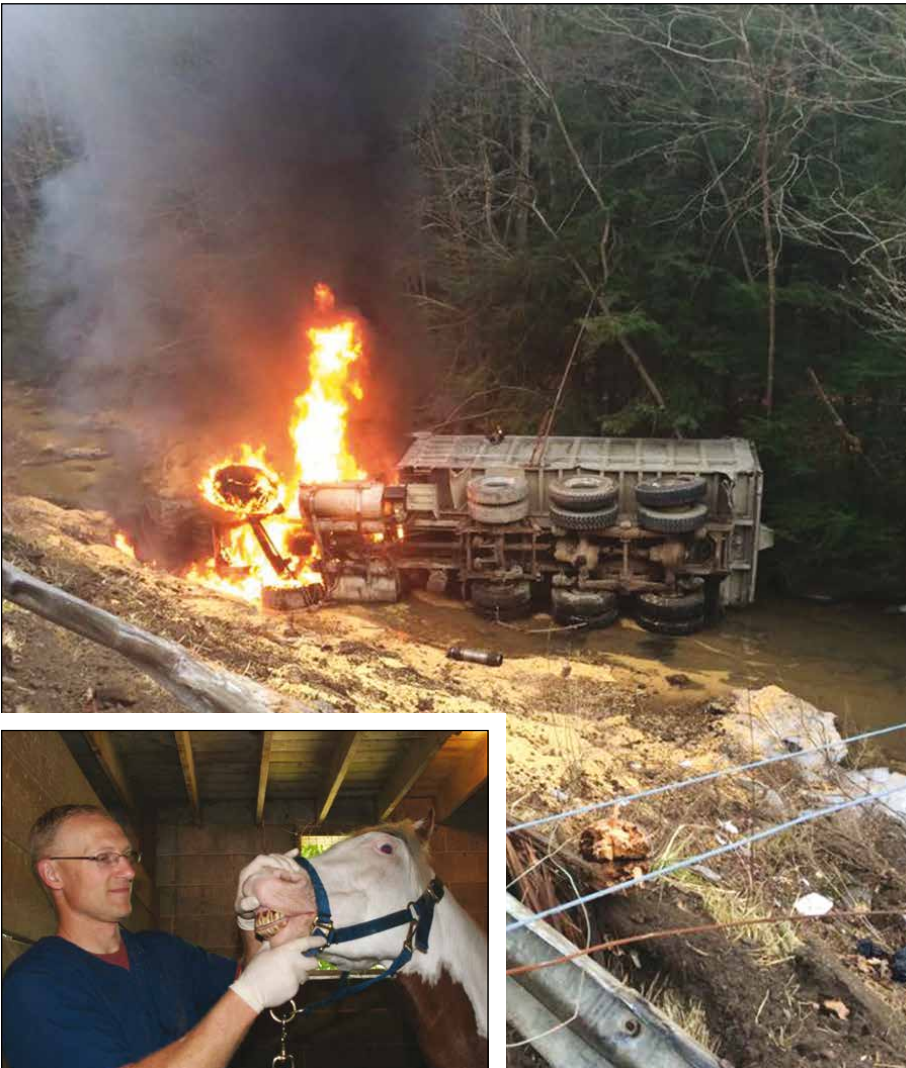
By John Daniel Davidson
The Federalist

Among the survivors of the mass shooting at an Oregon community college on Oct. 1 is one man whose heroic actions have gained national attention. Chris Mintz, a 30-year-old former Army infantryman, was shot five times while attempting to protect his fellow students.

According to one eyewitness, when the shooting began Mintz ran into the school library, pulling fire alarms and warning others to get out. He then ran back toward the building where the shooter was and tried to barricade a classroom door. He was shot three times through the door. When the gunman entered, Mintz, wounded and lying on the floor, tried to reason with him. "It's my son's birthday, don't do this," he said. The gunman shot him two more times and moved on.

Mintz was hit in the upper back, abdomen, left hand, and upper and lower leg. Both his legs were broken in the attack. His family has said he'll have to learn to walk again. The media have hailed Mintz as a hero, and by all accounts he is. The day after the shooting, he told ABC News, "I just hope that everyone else is okay."

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No 'beta male' here: Charles E. Wyant, an equine dentist from New Bethlehem, Pa., jumped atop an overturned and burning tri-axle dump truck and with difficulty removed its driver, whose clothes were aflame. Photo of Wyant by Deborah Deasy of the Pine Creek Journal and provided as a courtesy by Trib Total Media.

15:13

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Two of Nix's daughters, Sonya L. Torti, left, and Sharon L. Cox.

sister, Sharon L. Cox, as well as a cousin, also attended the event. Nix graduated from Gardner-Webb in 1960 and moved on to attend and graduate from the University of Richmond, Va., before starting a career in the insurance industry.

On the day of his death, July 18, 1970, Nix, a 32-year-old insurance adjuster then living in Greensboro, N.C., had traveled to Sullivan's Island with a friend to fish in the Atlantic Ocean. While in shallow water, he was alerted to the plight of two schoolgirls, ages 11 and 6, both nonswimmers, who had been carried away from shore into deeper water by a strong current and were calling for help. Dropping his fishing pole, Nix swam to a point about 150 feet from shore and made contact with the older girl. With difficulty, he towed her against the current to a point near shore and handed her off to another man. Nix, who could swim a half-mile under normal conditions, then immediately turned and began to swim toward the younger girl, who was being carried seaward by the current. He was last seen approaching her. Their bodies were later recovered from the ocean, more than a mile from the scene.

Nix left a widow and three young daughters, all of whom received a degree of tuition assistance from the Hero Fund in the early 1980s.—Jeffrey A. Dooley, Investigations Manager

15:13 calls to mind those in the Hero Fund's 111-year history whose lives were sacrificed in the performance of

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Representatives of eight of the nine existing hero funds established by Andrew Carnegie met in New York City on Oct. 14. They are, seated from left: Gabor Toth (Italy), Hans-Ruedi Hübscher (Switzerland), Ann-Christine Lindeblad (Sweden), Sybil Veeder (U.S.), Linda Hills (U.S.), Bente Flindt Sørensen (Denmark), and Nathalie Lemieux (U.S.). Standing, from left: Daniel Biedermann (Switzerland), Andrew Croxford (U.K.), Douglas Scott (U.K.), David Walker (U.K.), Theo Van Santen (Belgium), Bart Brands (Netherlands), Agneta Ahlbeck (Sweden), Ulf Köping-Hoggård (Sweden), Henning Fode (Denmark), Boi Jongejan (Netherlands), Nora Rundell (U.K.), Ann McGuinn (U.S.), Dan Sandman (U.S.), Joe Walton (U.S.), Angus Hogg (U.K.), Mark Laskow (U.S.), and Walter Rutkowski (U.S.). Not pictured is Nancy Rackoff (U.S.). Photo by Fabrizio Toth of Rome.

**ANDREW CARNEGIE'S
ENDURING INFLUENCE**

Here are the 22 extant institutions founded by Andrew Carnegie, nine of them hero funds. They are his most significant contribution, both in terms of money and in enduring influence, as their continuing work reflects his generosity.

- Carnegie Belønningsfond for Heltemod**
(hero fund), Denmark
- Carnegie Corporation of New York, U.S.
- Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs, U.S.
- Carnegie Dunfermline Trust, U.K.
- Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, U.S.
- Carnegie Foundation/Peace Palace, Netherlands
- Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, U.S.
- Carnegie Hall, U.S.
- Carnegie Hero Fund, Belgium**
- Carnegie Hero Fund Commission, U.S.**
- Carnegie Hero Fund Trust, U.K.**
- Carnegie Institution for Science, U.S.
- Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, U.S.
- Carnegie Mellon University, U.S.
- Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, U.S.
- Carnegie Rescuers Foundation**
(hero fund), Switzerland
- Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland, U.K.
- Carnegie U.K. Trust, U.K.
- Carnegies Heltefond for Norge**
(hero fund), Norway
- Carnegiestiftelsen** (hero fund), Sweden
- Fondazione Carnegie** (hero fund), Italy
- Stichting Carnegie Heldenfonds**
(hero fund), Netherlands

Carnegie's nine worldwide hero funds seek to strengthen bonds, sustainability

Representatives of eight of the nine existing hero funds established more than a century ago by Andrew Carnegie in the U.S. and Western Europe met in New York City in October to begin the work of their new viable consortium, the Carnegie Hero Funds World Committee.

The 25 delegates, who had gathered for the biennial awarding of the Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy, came from the U.K., Sweden, Denmark, Italy, Belgium, Switzerland, and the Netherlands, joining those representing the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission of the U.S. Held in the offices of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the meeting was conducted by Mark Laskow, Commission chair, who noted that the assembly was a major milestone for the group, as personal contact had recently been established for the first time with all of the funds, including a visit by him and colleague Walter Rutkowski to the hero fund of Norway in May.

Laskow set out goals for the committee, whose essential purpose is to support the continuity of its members' work in carrying out Carnegie's intention of honoring civilian heroes in their respective countries. "Heroes in civic life should be recognized as well as those whom governments call heroes because they have distinguished themselves in battle," Carnegie said, and while each of the funds is independent of the others, all are united by that mission.

Noting that the committee's progress was greatly enhanced by nearly all of the delegates being fluent in English, Laskow suggested that the funds create data resources by which the broad prospects for the strength of the hero-recognition programs could be deduced. The funds are in varying degrees of sustainability—two of Carnegie's original 11 have ceased to exist—but Laskow is convinced that they can learn from, and help, each other.

"What we are not about," he said, "is to alter anyone's way of doing business. What we need to do is to learn the state of the hero funds." Toward that end, he asked each of the funds to cooperate in supplying information—the metrics of which would range from organizational structure to awarding requirements and spending rates—with the goal of having the data assembled within six months. "The time to do this is now," Laskow said. "There are not a lot of obstacles."

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Carnegie's nine worldwide hero funds

(continued from page 10)

The project is a “fabulous idea,” according to Commission member Linda T. Hills, great-granddaughter of the founder. “We have an interest in keeping everyone going.” The Danish representatives were in full agreement, immediately pledging their support, and the Dutch and Swiss delegates followed up within days with recommendations of what type of data should be sought. The survey “will not only allow us an overview regarding the state (of the funds) in the different countries,” wrote Daniel Biedermann of the Swiss fund. “It will first of all help us identify best practices and strengthen communication beyond the funds.”

During the meeting, each of the funds was given the opportunity to update the others on recent activities, and first-time attendees were introduced, including Biedermann; Bente Flindt Sørensen and Henning Fode of the Danish Fund; Boi Jongejan and Bart Brands of the Dutch fund; and Ulf Köping-Höggård, secretary of the Swedish fund. Of the eight members from the Commission attending the meeting, two, Nathalie Lemieux and Joe Walton, were new to the proceedings. Jongejan and Brands reported on their fund’s “National Heroes Day” held the previous week in The Hague, informing that they want the event to be annual to communicate the underlying message of being present for one’s fellow man.

Chairing the committee’s meetings alternates between the U.S. and the U.K., with William Thomson of Scotland filling the U.K.’s role. Recuperating from surgery, Thomson could not be present in New York, but he provided a statement of greeting:

“It is wonderful that so many of the hero funds are able to be present, and special appreciation must go to those who have made the long journey from overseas.

“The concept of recognizing civilian heroic endeavor is fundamental to the fabric of a caring civil society. While each of the funds has its own individual constitution, we all have a common objective to honor and celebrate the selfless sacrifice of our heroes, and we all share a common link through our founder, Andrew Carnegie. We also share common problems. For some funds, the problem might be financial, for some it might be lack of public awareness, for others it might be lack of management resources. Working together through the Carnegie Hero Funds World Committee to develop closer cooperation, we can help each other resolve many of these problems.” ❏

For better, for worse

(continued from page 2)

As married recipients of the Carnegie Medal, the Woods join a roster that includes:

- **Anna and Joseph A. Buttaccio, Jr.**, of Lyons, N.Y., who helped to rescue a man from a burning car in Palmyra, N.Y., on June 10, 2010.
- **Marc A. and Margareta E. Dilley** of Wenatchee, Wash., who helped to save a woman from a burning sport utility vehicle in Skykomish, Wash., on March 14, 1998.
- **Theodore and Lisa Marie Griffith** of West Liberty, Iowa, who helped to save an elderly man from being struck by a train in Fairport, Iowa, on July 25, 1992.
- **Terrance W. and Marianne R. Coleman** of Hilton, N.Y., who saved two men from a burning car in Greece, N.Y., on Nov. 12, 1985.
- **Neil A. and Anna G. Swayze**, of Renfrew, Ont., who rescued a man from a burning van in Mount St. Patrick, Ont., on July 30, 1976.
- **Lois M. and Jack C. Anderson, Jr.**, of Anchorage, Alas., who saved several people from an impending explosion after two fuel tankers collided in an inlet one mile off Anchorage on Oct. 19, 1964. Their son, **John Conrad Anderson III**, participated in the rescue and was also cited by the Hero Fund. ❏ —Chris Foreman, Case Investigator



THREAD FOR THE WEB

As its investigations manager, Jeffrey A. Dooley, left, starts the awarding process for the Hero Fund by overseeing the development of all acts of heroism called to the Commission’s attention—more than 22,000 over the 25 years that he has held his title. At the Sept. 17 Hero Fund board meeting, Dooley was at the receiving end of recognition when Commission Chair Mark Laskow cited him for 30 years’ faithful service. A graduate of the University of Pittsburgh, Dooley joined the Hero Fund in the summer of 1985 as a case investigator and five years later was named manager. In addition to supervising four case investigators, he is the office’s computer network administrator and the Commission’s assistant secretary. Placed on his service commendation was an appropriate proverb, favored by Andrew Carnegie: *The gods send thread for a web begun.* Other staff service anniversaries being recognized in 2015 are Myrna Braun’s 60 years, Walter Rutkowski’s 40, and Melissa McLaughlin’s 10. Braun is the Hero Fund’s awards coordinator and Rutkowski, who like Dooley started with the Commission as a case investigator, is president and secretary. McLaughlin joined the investigative unit in 2005. Hats off!

LATEST AWARDEES OF THE CARNEGIE MEDAL

SINCE THE LAST ISSUE OF *imPULSE*, THE FOLLOWING 22 INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN AWARDED THE CARNEGIE MEDAL, BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS TO 9,797 SINCE THE HERO FUND'S INCEPTION IN 1904. THE LATEST AWARDS, WHICH WERE ANNOUNCED ON SEPT. 24, ARE DETAILED ON THE COMMISSION'S WEBSITE AT WWW.CARNEGIEHERO.ORG. THE NEXT ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDEES WILL BE MADE ON DEC. 17.

Liane Heather Wood and her husband, **Daniel Marvin Wood**, of Frankford, Ont., saved Megan J. Barr from drowning in the Trent River at Frankford on Feb. 6, 2013. Megan, 13, was trapped inside her family's vehicle after it entered the river and was carried a distance by the strong current. Overturned, it was lodged against a rock in water about 3.5 feet deep at a point about 13 feet from a retaining wall at the bank. Liane, 42, insurance broker, and Daniel, 43, minister, responded from nearby. With the air temperature at about 13 degrees, Liane descended a ladder into the 32-degree water and waded in darkness about 33 feet to the vehicle, but she could not gain access to it. Although he was recovering from a shoulder injury, Daniel entered the river and waded to the car. When he and Liane found that its hatch was opened, they called for Megan to move toward them. Daniel then entered the rear of the vehicle, and he and Liane aided Megan from it. As Liane



In addition to receiving the Carnegie Medal for saving a woman from a polar bear attack, William Ayotte, left, of Churchill, Man., was cited by His Excellency the Right Honorable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, right.

held to the car, unable to move on her own, Daniel carried Megan to the ladder and then returned and supported Liane as both waded back to the ladder and climbed to safety. Liane and Daniel suffered hypothermia and had difficulty breathing, for which they later sought treatment. They recovered.

Postal supervisor **Earl Heath Wickline**, 62, of Londonderry, N.H., rescued Robert S. Braley from a burning sport utility vehicle after an accident in Londonderry on Jan. 26, 2013. Braley, 58, lay unconscious on the vehicle's front seats after it left the roadway, struck a tree, and broke into flames at both its front and rear ends. Wickline drove upon the scene and attempted to open further the vehicle's driver's door, but it was jammed. After using a fire extinguisher against the flames, which were extending to the vehicle's soft top and entering its passenger compartment, Wickline opened the front passenger door, patted out flames on Braley's shirt, and then pulled Braley out and to the ground. A responding police officer helped take Braley to safety, flames spreading quickly on the vehicle. Wickline was burned on his right hand and needed medical treatment. He recovered.

Phillip Ashley Grigg, 63, a construction truck driver from Phoenix, Ariz., went to the rescue of Scott B. Sefranka, who was under assault by an armed-robbery suspect in Phoenix on Dec. 31, 2013. Sefranka, 34, a police officer, was pursuing the suspect's vehicle when it collided with Grigg's pickup truck. Drawing his pistol, Sefranka ordered the driver out. His hands raised, the driver exited his vehicle but then began to struggle against Sefranka. Grigg exited his truck, approached, and attempted to restrain the assailant, who was larger than both him and Sefranka. At some point the assailant obtained control of Sefranka's gun. He fired three shots, striking Grigg in the chest and Sefranka in the abdomen, felling them. The assailant then fled but was later arrested. Both Sefranka and Grigg were hospitalized for treatment of extensive injuries, Grigg requiring numerous surgeries.

Gary A. Golding, Jr., and **Kevin Patrick Cotter** attempted to save a man from drowning in the rough surf of a cove off the Pacific Ocean at Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif., on July 6, 2014, and **Robert McNulty** saved him. An 18-year-old man jumped from a cliff into the narrow cove and became caught in the turbulent water created there by the surge and retreat of series of large waves. In another party, Golding, 46, self-employed, of Redondo Beach, Calif., twice tried to reach for the man from the edge of the cove but was swept into it by a surging wave. Struggling in the rough water, he was carried into a cave beneath the cliff and then washed from it. From a point on the



Joel Kevin Kyle, Jr., needed hospital treatment for smoke inhalation after running to the second floor of a burning house to save a toddler. Photo by the Altoona (Pa.) Mirror and provided as a courtesy.

opposite side of the cove, Kevin, 17, a high school student from Palos Verdes Estates, Calif., jumped into the water and swam to the man, but they too were swept into the cave. Kevin grasped the man, by then unconscious, and swam with him before they were separated by waves. Tiring as they were buffeted by the surf, Golding and Kevin reached safety at the sides of the cove. The larger waves subsiding momentarily about then, McNulty, 39,



Mr. McNulty

a broadcast systems technician from Burbank, Calif., dove into the still turbulent water and swam to the man, who was then about midway across the 30-foot-wide cove. He towed him to the opposite side of the cove and worked with Golding to revive him.

William Ayotte, 69, a retired water treatment plant operator from Churchill, Man., rescued Erin A. Greene, 30, from an attacking polar bear outside his home on Nov. 1, 2013. Greene was walking through the residential neighborhood when a 275-pound, male polar bear approached and attacked her, taking her to the ground and biting her about the head. Ayotte heard her screaming and then saw the bear thrashing her about. He advanced to the bear and struck it once, hard, about the face with a snow shovel. The bear released Greene, who then fled into Ayotte's house, but as Ayotte retreated, it took him to the ground and began to maul him. Neighbors attempted without success to

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LATEST AWARDEES

(continued from page 12)

scare the bear away until one of them approached in his pickup truck. The bear then left the scene. Ayotte and Greene were hospitalized for treatment of numerous bite and claw wounds, Ayotte's including a nearly severed ear. He fully recovered.

Tou Hu Vang, 21, a college student from Coon Rapids, Minn., died attempting to save Calvin Yang from drowning in the St. Croix River at Taylors Falls, Minn., on May 25, 2014, and **Kenphenyeehu Hawj**, 44, a truck driver from Ham Lake, Minn., saved him. Calvin, 11, was on a family fishing outing when he fell into the river, which was swollen from recent rains, and was carried away by a very swift current. Vang, his uncle, jumped in after him but did not reach him and began to struggle in the water as Calvin drifted downstream. In another party at the scene, Hawj saw Calvin in the water. He removed his outer attire and from atop a cliff, about 30 feet above the water, jumped into the river and swam to Calvin, who was about 60 feet from the bank. Hawj started to swim toward the bank with Calvin, but halfway there he tired. After resting on a submerged boulder, he towed Calvin the rest of the way and aided him from the water. Vang's body was removed from the river five days later at a point about seven miles downstream. He had drowned.



Passerby Earl Heath Wickline, shown with his wife, Dianne, stopped at the scene of a one-vehicle roadway accident and, despite flames issuing from both the front and rear of the soft-top, sport utility vehicle, removed its unconscious driver.



Kirby Crump, left, of West Jordan, Utah, and others responded to a soccer field after a six-seat airplane crash landed there and broke into flames at its front end. In the plane were its pilot, Steven G. Sedlacek, who was unconscious, and wife, Kathleen, both of whom are shown with Crump. After another man removed Mrs. Sedlacek to safety, Crump entered the fuselage, freed Sedlacek, and started to pull him out. The other man rejoined him and helped remove Sedlacek from the wreckage. Photo provided as a courtesy by the West Jordan Journal.

Mark James Hoffman of Aristes, Pa., helped to save Virginia B. Lindenmuth from drowning in a campground lake in Catawissa, Pa., on Aug. 14, 2014. Lindenmuth, 79, was in the front seat of a car parked by the lake when the vehicle started to roll toward the water. From nearby, Hoffman, 50, ran to the car and crawled into it through the opened window of the driver's door. The car entered the lake and began to fill with water as it drifted to a point about 100 feet out. After Hoffman released Lindenmuth's safety belt, she held to him as he maneuvered through the window, pulling her. Requiring repeated attempts, Hoffman pulled Lindenmuth through the window and took her to the surface of the water. She was unconscious by then, and the car was completely submerged. Hoffman started to swim back to the bank with Lindenmuth and about halfway there was relieved of her by those who removed her from the lake. Hoffman followed, nearly exhausted. Lindenmuth was taken to the hospital but died there several hours later.

Kory Kern Kocher, 37, a refuse truck driver from Waialua, Hawaii, helped to save his neighbor, Isa I. Degener, 90, from her burning house on Aug. 16, 2014. Degener was on the second floor of the two-story, wooden structure after fire broke out on the first floor. Kocher entered the house and searched



Mr. Cotter

the first floor in light smoke for her before climbing the stairs to the second floor. Dense smoke there limited his visibility and impeded his breathing, but he saw Degener standing near the top of the stairs. Kocher put her over his shoulder and started to descend the stairs but fell to a landing halfway down. His wife also responded, and she climbed to the landing to help. Regaining his footing, Kocher dragged Degener down the remaining steps as flames quickly advanced. He and his wife removed Degener from the house shortly before flames engulfed and destroyed it. Degener and Kocher required hospital treatment, Kocher for smoke inhalation, from which he recovered.

Isaac G. Pinsonneault, 16, a high school student from Chatham, Ont., helped to save Joshua B. Martin, 21, from drowning in Lake Huron at Goderich, Ont., on Aug. 15, 2014. While swimming, Martin found he was unable to return to shore against rough water and a strong undertow. From

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LATEST AWARDEES

(continued from page 13)

another party on the beach, Isaac entered the lake and, taking a boogie board from another responding rescuer, swam about 200 feet to Martin, who was struggling to stay afloat. Martin lay across the board as Isaac held to it. They attempted to kick toward shore but made little progress until they timed their efforts to take advantage of the advancing four-foot waves. After several minutes they reached wadable water, from which men responding with a small inflatable boat returned Martin to shore. Nearly exhausted, Isaac followed.

Ronald LaRue, 54, a disabled truck driver from Mayfield, Ky., died attempting to save his grandson, Aiden A. Bulkley, 5, from drowning in the Penobscot River at Bucksport, Maine, on Aug. 8, 2014. Aiden, LaRue, and other family members were fishing from a floating dock just off the bank when Aiden fell into the water. A very swift tidal current started to carry him away. LaRue immediately jumped into the river, swam to Aiden, and grabbed him. He held to Aiden with his right arm as he tried to swim toward the bank with his left arm, of which he only had partial use. Struggling in the water, LaRue was pulled downstream and was seen floating on his back lifting Aiden with both arms. They then submerged and were separated. First responders removed



Michael T. Landsberry was a beloved math teacher at Sparks, Nev., Middle School. He died there of a gunshot wound while protecting students from a 12-year-old boy armed with a nine-millimeter handgun. Shown here with his wife, Sharon, Landsberry was a posthumous recipient of a Citizen Service Before Self Honors Award, given at Arlington Cemetery, Washington, D.C., in 2014 by the Congressional Medal of Honor Society.

Aiden from the river at a point about 300 feet downstream of the dock, and LaRue's body was recovered from the same area a few hours later. Both drowned.

Kirby Crump, 53, of West Jordan, Utah, helped to save Steven G. Sedlacek from a crashed and burning airplane in West Jordan on Aug. 10, 2014. Sedlacek, 56, was the pilot of a six-seat airplane that crash landed in a park after taking off. It came to rest upright and started to smoke at its engine area. Crump was nearby and saw the plane descend. He drove to the scene, went to the right side of the plane, and stepped onto its wing. A door to the fuselage opened off the wing, which held one of the plane's fuel tanks. Crump fully entered the fuselage and searched for the release of Sedlacek's safety belt. By then, flames were issuing from the engine area and advancing to the cockpit. Crump released Sedlacek's safety belt and with difficulty pulled on him as he backed from the plane. Standing on the wing, he pulled Sedlacek closer to the door and with another man removed him from the plane. Flames grew, soon engulfing the cockpit.

Michael T. Landsberry, 45, a teacher from Reno, Nev., died attempting to save an indeterminate number of people from an assault by a boy armed with a gun in Sparks, Nev., on Oct. 21, 2013. A 12-year-old boy carrying a nine-millimeter handgun entered the play yard at the rear of his middle

school and shot one of the many students gathered there. Landsberry and another teacher, at the opposite end of the yard, heard the gunshot and advanced toward where it originated as students were fleeing. At a point about 15 feet from the assailant, Landsberry stopped and then slowly approached him with his hands up. He was heard asking the assailant to put the gun down. When the assailant told Landsberry to back away, Landsberry took a step backward, but the assailant pointed the gun at him and fired, fatally wounding him. The assailant then shot another student before turning the gun on himself. The two wounded students recovered.

Brian Wargo, 45, a fisherman from Kailua-Kona, Hawaii, rescued McKenzie N. Clark from an attacking shark in the Pacific Ocean off Kapá'au, Hawaii, on Oct. 31, 2014. Clark, 34, was surfing about 450 feet from shore when a shark, about 12 feet long and later determined to be a tiger shark, bit her left hand and that part of the surfboard to which she was holding. She freed her hand, but the shark kept its bite on the board, taking it a short distance and towing Clark, who was tethered to the board. Surfing nearby, Wargo, Clark's friend, saw the attack. As he paddled toward Clark, Wargo saw the shark swimming alongside him. He grabbed the shark's dorsal fin with both hands to stop it. Pulled off his board, which then came between him and the shark, Wargo kicked and punched the shark repeatedly until it turned and swam away. Clark and Wargo returned to shore atop their boards, Clark requiring hospital treatment for injuries to two fingers.



Charles E. Wyant, 39, an equine dentist from New Bethlehem, Pa., rescued Michael L. Wiant from his burning truck in Rimersburg, Pa., on Jan. 2 of this year. Wiant, 53, was the driver of a dump truck that left the roadway and overturned onto

its side in a shallow creek. One of its fuel tanks ruptured in the accident and soaked his clothing with diesel fuel, and flames broke out in the engine compartment and grew and spread. Wyant drove upon the scene and stopped. Despite flames nine feet high issuing from the truck's engine area, he climbed up its exposed underside and advanced to the driver's window, where Wiant was supporting his upper body outside the vehicle, his lower body suspended inside, amid flames that had entered the cab. Wyant grasped Wiant and, pulling hard, lifted

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At age 16, Isaac G. Pinsonneault, left, whose water safety training was provided by his grandmother, braved the rough surf of Lake Huron to save Joshua B. Martin. "It was cool, actually," he told a reporter. "I'm really thankful for sure that she taught me all that and that I remember it."

LATEST AWARDEES

(continued from page 14)*Mr. Hawj**Mr. Grigg**Mr. Hill**Mr. Hoffman*

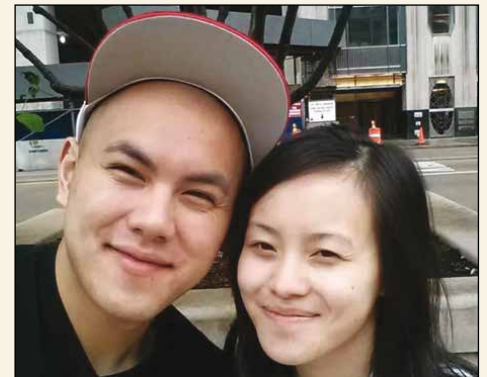
him onto the side of the truck, although Wiant outweighed him. Both men then jumped into the creek, where Wyant splashed Wiant to extinguish flames on his attire. He then helped Wiant away from the truck as flames grew to engulf the cab.

Joel Kevin Kyle, Jr., 29, a cable construction employee from Tyrone, Pa., saved Giovanni A. Bongiorno from a burning house in Altoona, Pa., on May 4, 2014. Giovanni, 23 months, was in his crib in a bedroom on the second floor of his family's two-story house after fire broke out in the adjacent bedroom, grew quickly, and filled that floor with dense smoke. Kyle was visiting on the first floor when he was alerted to the fire. He ran up the stairs and through a smoke-filled hall, having to pass the room of origin, which was nearly engulfed

by flame. He entered Giovanni's room, located the crib, and, tucking the boy under an arm, retraced his course through the hall as flames were starting to breach the burning room. Kyle ran down the stairs with Giovanni as flames spread to enter the attic and burn through the roof, destroying the structure.

Karen Wessel, 47, an administrative assistant from Arlington Heights, Ill., died after helping to save a boy from drowning in Star Lake, at Star Lake, Wis., on July 22, 2014. While swimming, an 8-year-old boy struggled in deep water just off a submerged sandbar while trying to return to the bank. After a woman from his party swam out to him but struggled with him, the woman's sister, Wessel, entered the water and swam out, reaching

them at a point about 100 feet from the bank. She grasped the boy, allowing her sister to return to safety, and repeatedly pushed him up to keep him at the surface of the water until both submerged. A man responded to the scene in a pontoon boat and secured both until another boater arrived and took them to a dock. Wessel was then taken to the hospital, but she could not be revived, as she had drowned. The boy was hospitalized for observation, and he recovered.

*Mr. Vang, with fiancé Jewelly Lee*

Gregorio V. Monge, 35, of San Bernardino, Calif., attempted to rescue his neighbor, Jack D. Stine, 91, from a burning house on May 4, 2014. Stine was in a bedroom of his ranch house after fire broke out in that room and filled it with dense smoke. Monge responded to the scene and learned that Stine was still inside the structure. He entered the house through its front door, which opened to a hall that accessed Stine's bedroom, but after proceeding a few feet he was repulsed by the smoke and retreated outside. After breaking out windows in the bedroom to vent it, he sprayed water into the room to fight the flames and then re-entered. Reaching the door to Stine's room, Monge saw Stine on the floor but was again repelled by the smoke and retreated. He removed his sweater, soaked it with water, and, holding it to his face, again re-entered. He proceeded into Stine's room and, grasping Stine by an arm, pulled him to the hall and then to the front door. Stine died at the scene, and Monge suffered smoke inhalation, later seeking treatment.

Handyman **Russell Allen Hill** of Indianapolis, Ind., rescued Jalon J. Lewis, 12, from attacking dogs in Indianapolis on Nov. 2, 2014. Jalon was walking through a residential neighborhood when two pit bulls, weighing about 65 and 70 pounds, attacked him, pinning him against a fence and biting him repeatedly. Hill, 60, was seated in his truck, parked about 110 feet away, when he was

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Karen Wessel, left, and Janice Potocki were sisters, next-door neighbors in Arlington Heights, Ill., and best friends. Wessel, a mother of two, died after helping to save an 8-year-old boy from drowning in Star Lake, Wis. "She was the caretaker for everybody," Potocki told a reporter. "She volunteered for everything to make life better for everybody."



Mr. Bowen

CARNEGIE MEDAL AWARDEE GIVEN FEDERAL RESEARCH GRANT

A fellowship from the U.S. Dept. of Defense is funding a University of Kansas graduate student's research in nuclear physics and will guarantee him a two-year appointment with a federal office upon graduation.

James Lee Smith Bowen, a doctoral candidate in the university's department of physics and astronomy, received a Science, Mathematics, Research, and Transformation Scholarship, which covers tuition and other education expenses and provides an annual stipend of \$38,000. The grant was effective in August and will extend to May 2017, and after graduation, Bowen will work for two years in the U.S. Naval Oceanographic Office at the John C. Stennis Space Center. Doing research in experimental high-energy nuclear physics, he is currently in residence in Switzerland at CERN (the European Organization for Nuclear Research).

Bowen received the Carnegie Medal in 2012, as well as the Navy-Marine Corps Medal, the Navy's second highest noncombat medal, for saving a 68-year-old woman from drowning in Ames, Iowa, on Aug. 11, 2010. The woman's car had been washed into a cornfield by floodwaters of the South Skunk River and began to submerge. Bowen waded and swam to the vehicle, removed the woman, and took her to safety, having to swim across a flooded ditch.

LATEST AWARDEES

(continued from page 15)

alerted to the attack. He grabbed a log from nearby, ran to Jalon, and swung it a few times, striking the dogs until they stopped attacking the boy. Hill then grabbed Jalon and pulled him to the street, but the dogs then attacked Hill. They knocked him to the pavement, repeatedly bit him about the arms and legs, and chewed off most of his clothing. A police officer responded about four minutes after that attack commenced and stopped it by shooting one of the dogs. Hill was hospitalized 15 days for treatment of significant bite wounds, resulting in tissue loss.

Beta male

(continued from page 9)

The age of the beta male

Too often these days we hear about weak modern men, so-called beta males who are unwilling to risk their safety on another's behalf. The embodiment of this new archetype was the man who did nothing as a man stabbed another man to death with a pocket knife on a crowded Washington, D.C., subway car the afternoon of July 4, and then took to Reddit to justify his cowardice.

Some readers were outraged when I wrote about that—not at the bystander but at me, for suggesting he was a coward and that I would have reacted differently. I do not claim to know how I would have reacted, either in that subway car or the community college in Oregon. None of us do. But every man and woman should be able to say, clear-eyed and without hesitation, that we hope we'd react the way Mintz did. He is the opposite of the beta male who defends his refusal to act, utterly dependent on the courage of others.

I say "beta male" to provoke, but also to describe. In our egalitarian age, it's in vogue to say men should not be manly, they should not necessarily possess virtues like courage or valor, they should not "mansplain" things. Manliness is the legacy of a sexist past, we're told, the mark of white male privilege, and should be discouraged from a young age. Indeed, many of our schools buy into this and punish boys, and sometimes prosecute them, for behavior that in an earlier time was rightly understood as natural and mostly harmless.

Expect more from men

In fact, *The New York Times* style section recently ran an odd piece entitled "27 Ways to Be a Modern Man" that exemplifies this view of masculinity. "The modern man has no use for a gun," opines the author. "He doesn't own one, and he never will." "The modern man cries. He cries often." In case it isn't perfectly clear that this modern man is a rather fragile creature: "On occasion, the modern man is the little spoon. Some nights, when he is feeling down or vulnerable, he needs an emotional and physical shield."

This is nonsense—and not because "real men don't cry" or some such, but because it assumes there is no significant difference between men and women, no virtues or qualities that can properly be called masculine or feminine. In an era when identity is ever malleable, when Bruce Jenner can decide one day he is Caitlyn, or when marriage between a man and woman is no different than marriage between two men, it's understandable that some would deny there is any such thing as "masculine" traits or virtues.

But it is nevertheless wrong. Most men have a natural instinct to protect others, in part because men are naturally stronger than women, as a recent Marine Corps study found when comparing the performance of all-male units with mixed-gender units. That doesn't mean women can't be strong or heroic, but it does mean that in a mass shooting on a college campus it's most likely the men who will need to rush ahead and barricade the door. America should expect that from her men, and men should expect that of themselves.

Modern heroes still exist

We should also remember that the courage of people like Chris Mintz is not as rare as it sometimes appears to be. Ordinary people, men and women alike, perform heroic acts every day across our vast country. The Carnegie Hero Fund Commission recognizes some of those who have risked or given their life trying to save another. In September, the commission announced its most recent awardees, and their stories are amazing.

There is **Charles E. Wyant**, an equine dentist in New Bethlehem, Pa., who came upon a dump truck at the bottom of an embankment, overturned on its side and engulfed in flames. He climbed up the exposed underside of the truck as flames

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Beta male

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nine feet high raged from the engine and pulled the driver out, saving his life.

There is **Brian Wargo**, who leapt onto the back of a 12-foot tiger shark, attacking it with his bare hands to save his friend while surfing off the coast of Kapa'au, Hawaii. The shark relented.



Mr. LaRue

Ronald LaRue, a 54-year-old disabled truck driver, drowned last summer in Maine while trying in vain to save his five-year-old grandson, who had fallen off a floating dock into the Penobscot River.

Karen Wessel, a 47-year-old administrative assistant from Arlington Heights, Ill., drowned while saving the life of an eight-year-old boy in Star Lake.



Ms. Wessel

Then there is **Michael T. Landsberry**, a 45-year-old teacher and former Nevada Air National Guardsman, who died trying to save his students in a school shooting in Reno that barely made national headlines. On the morning of Oct. 21, 2013, a 12-year-old boy came to school armed with a nine-millimeter handgun he'd taken from his parents. He shot one student in the shoulder on the playground. As the others fled for cover, Landsberry ran toward the shooter. He stopped about 15 feet away, put his hands up, and approached slowly. He asked the boy to put the gun down. The boy shouted at Landsberry to back away. Landsberry took one step backward and the boy fired, fatally wounding him. The boy shot one other student and then turned the gun on himself.

Step forward, men

As these examples show, courage in the face of danger is not a uniquely male trait. However, all but two of the 22 recent Carnegie Medal winners were men. In moments of crisis or carnage, we should expect men to step forward first. They tend to be stronger and more aggressive. It is in their nature to confront and defend.

As we mourn the dead in Oregon and as we debate, as we always do, what our political leaders should do about it, we should take heart in the heroics of ordinary Americans like Mintz and all these others. *The New York Times* and our coastal elites may long for the age of the beta male, for a docile and dependent populace, but if men and women like these are held up as heroes for our children, there's hope that virtues like courage and selflessness will yet endure. ❧



Mr. Landsberry

Reprinted with permission. John Daniel Davidson is a senior contributor at *The Federalist*. Follow him on Twitter: @johndavidson. Based in Austin, Texas, he is the director of the Center for Health Care Policy at the Texas Public Policy Foundation. His writing has appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, *National Review*, *Texas Monthly*, *First Things*, the *Claremont Review of Books*, *The LA Review of Books*, n+1, and elsewhere. Mr. Mintz has been nominated for the Carnegie Medal.



OVERHEARD

My time in the water is a blur of adrenaline and terror.—Kevin Patrick Cotter, Carnegie Medal awardee #9781, who attempted to save a teen from drowning in rough surf.

Its intent was to eat my friend right in front of me and I wasn't going to let that happen.—Brian Wargo, Carnegie Medal awardee #9792, who rescued a woman from an attacking shark.

Though our heroes typically dwell among us unexceptionally day-in, day-out, when their moment is at hand, their inspiring courage is the antipode of fear.—Tod Lindberg, research fellow at Stanford's Hoover Institution, in "Defining Heroism Up Once Again," *The Wall Street Journal*, Aug. 24, 2015.

It's an honor to be called a hero, but in reality it's being at the right place at the right time and taking action.—Cesar Andy Garcia, Carnegie Medal nominee #87014, who helped to save a boy from drowning.

You don't learn courage safely.—Headline of an editorial in *The Dominion Post*, Morgantown, W. Va., on the actions of Twila Dawn Smith, Carnegie Medal nominee #87699, a teacher who negotiated with an armed student.

It was my birthday. I cannot let anyone die on my birthday because it would ruin it for the rest of my life.—Carnegie Medal nominee #87136 Jennifer Curley, who helped to save a man from drowning on her 47th birthday.

A shroud has no pockets.—Vartan Gregorian, President of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, at the 2015 presentation of the Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy.

The ultimate in philanthropic planning is to have your last check—to the undertaker—bounce.—Former New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, a 2009 awardee of the Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy.

May God give you four hands, one for you and three for us.—"Greg" to "Mike" at the Medal of Philanthropy presentation.

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their heroic acts. The name identifies the chapter and verse of the Gospel of John that appears on every medal: "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." Of the 9,797 medal awardees to date, 2,008, or 21% of the total, were recognized posthumously. **They are not forgotten.**



SECRET SERVICE AGENT, HEALTHCARE EXECUTIVE NEW TO HERO FUND BOARD

Pittsburgh natives **Evan S. Frazier**, senior vice president of community affairs for Highmark Health, and **Eric P. Zahren**, special agent in charge of the Pittsburgh field office of the U.S. Secret Service, have been elected to the board of the Carnegie Hero Fund. In announcing their election in September, Commission Chair Mark Laskow said that each would serve on the Commission's executive committee, which is the Hero Fund's awarding body.



Mr. Frazier

At Highmark, Frazier oversees corporate giving, sponsorships, community programs, employee volunteerism, and the Highmark Foundation. He has a bachelor's degree from Cornell University's School of Administration and a master's from Carnegie Mellon University's H. John Heinz III School of Public Policy and Management and has taught international business and marketing at Point Park College, Pittsburgh.

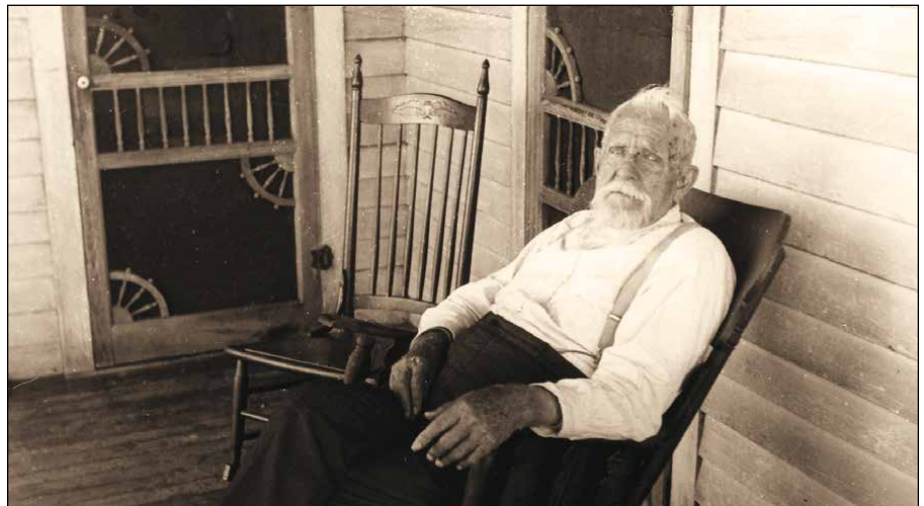
"The idea behind recognizing everyday heroes who risk their lives to help others is truly inspiring to me," Frazier said. "I'm honored to be on the board of the Hero Fund, as it carries out Andrew Carnegie's vision to recognize outstanding acts of heroism from more than a century ago." Frazier's other board affiliations are with the Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Central Catholic High School, the Jefferson Regional Foundation, The Pittsburgh Foundation, The Shyne Foundation, and the University of Pittsburgh's Institute of Politics. He is the author of *Most Likely To Succeed: The Frazier Formula for Success*, which introduces his personal framework to inspire and motivate youth and adults to achieve.



Mr. Zahren

A Secret Service special agent for more than 24 years, Zahren was named to head the Pittsburgh field office in 2010. In his position, he oversees all of the service's protective activities and criminal investigations throughout Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Past assignments were with the Newark, N.J., field office and the presidential protective division, in which he served Presidents William J. Clinton and George W. Bush. Supervisory assignments were as resident agent in charge/attaché in

(continued on page 19)



Mr. Campbell

Local man's Carnegie Medal 'back home' for display by historical society museum

Alexander James Campbell made a heroic drowning rescue nearly a century ago, and his actions continue to receive accolades by his family and the Mt. Sterling, Ill., community where he lived on his 240-acre farm.



Whistle Stop Depot Museum

Campbell was awarded the Carnegie Medal in 1920 for rescuing a 15-year-old girl from a creek while the girl and others were on a picnic. An exhibit featuring the medal was put on display at the Whistle Stop Depot Museum, which is on the grounds of the Brown County (Ill.) Fairgrounds, and coincided with the Aug. 4-9 dates of the fair. In addition to the medal, the exhibit included the Hero Fund's award certificate and a copy of its special agent's 1920 "case minute" on the rescue. The timing of the exhibit also fell in line with the anniversary of the rescue act, which took place on Aug. 8, 1918.

On that day, Campbell, 69, was near the bank of Crooked Creek about 10 miles northeast of Mt. Sterling when he heard screaming and became aware of the girl's plight. The girl, Bernice M. Kirkham, and another girl, both non-swimmers, were struggling in water eight feet deep about 20 feet from the closer bank. Campbell entered the creek and waded and swam to Bernice. Bernice got a hold of him and submerged him to the bottom of the creek, but he was able to swim five feet toward the bank while under water. Another man entered the creek and assisted Campbell and Bernice to shallow water, but the other girl drowned.

When awarded the medal for his actions, Campbell informed the Hero Fund that he was not interested in a monetary grant. A later biographical account said that the medal "carried national publicity with it, which in the tranquil precincts of Brown County was a source of pride to all. Many medals have accrued in the family since, but none has had the impact of this one."

Campbell's great-grandson, John Campbell of Redmond, Wash., said he has heard the story of the rescue many times, but that it never gets old. "I learn something new every time I hear it," he said.

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Local man's Carnegie Medal 'back home'

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Campbell medal display

The medal was passed down through the family after Campbell's death in 1944 at age 95. John Campbell gained possession of the medal in 2007 and this year decided to give it to the Brown County Historical Society. "It was so nice to be able to do this for our family," he said. "I know it would mean a lot to my father and his brothers."

Margaret Scranton, chair of the depot museum and member of the historical society, assembled the exhibit, finding out in the process that her great-aunt, Meribah Clark, was the person who nominated Campbell for the award. "I came to the bottom (of the Commission's case report) and saw that it was submitted by (Clark),

our dearest great aunt, who was responsible for gathering, writing, and editing wonderful Brown County history books," Scranton said. "What a treat for me!"

"We treasure having the story and medal back 'home,'" Scranton said. "It is so rewarding to see how appreciative the family is." ❧ —Melissa A. McLaughlin, *Case Investigator*

PRESENTING

(continued from page 3)



Carnegie heroes Harris, left, and Guffey. Photo by Teresa Harris.

Mac, a truck driver, came upon an overturned and burning sport utility vehicle. Without thought, he locked his big rig down and jumped out with his fire extinguisher. Emptying its contents on the fire without results, he used it to break out the passenger window, which was then on the top of the wreckage. Then, despite flames burning at Mac's feet, he stepped onto the wreckage at the windshield, reached in, grasped the driver, pulled him through the opening, and dragged him to safety. The vehicle was quickly filled with flames and was destroyed.

A quote from James M. McPherson's book, *For Cause & Comrades, Why Men Fought in the Civil War*, comes to mind. Using the soldiers' letters and diaries, McPherson wrote, "Many Civil War soldiers grasped it intuitively, and more acquired it by experience, the modern thought that courage is not the absence of fear, but the mastery of it."

Congratulations, Mac. You deserve this Carnegie Medal, which is the civilian equivalent of the military's Congressional Medal of Honor.

Guffey, of Gainesboro, Tenn., was named a medal awardee in June, and the medal was presented by Harris in August. The above was taken from Harris's remarks during the event, held in a church in Cookeville, Tenn. Harris was awarded a silver Carnegie Medal in 1962 for saving a young girl from a vehicle that had submerged in Big Spring Creek at Guntersville, Ala., on Sept. 2, 1962, and attempting to save the girl's sister. He was 21, a junior in college.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

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Berlin and special agent in charge of both the office of government and public affairs and the international programs division.

Zahren, a graduate of Indiana University of Pennsylvania and the University of London, has long been committed to civic and non-profit work and has partnered with the Make-a-Wish Foundation, Boys and Girls Clubs of Western Pennsylvania, and Special Olympics, among others. He is a member of the Pittsburgh advisory committee of the Jefferson Awards Foundation and an advisory board member for the criminal justice program of the Community College of Allegheny County.

"I am honored and humbled to join the Hero Fund," Zahren said. "I have long held it in the highest esteem. For the past 111 years it has recognized and supported civilian heroes, whose selfless acts bring hope and exemplify the very best of ourselves and our society."

TO THE HERO FUND

ENSURING THE VISION

I have spent almost 20 years working as a police officer and volunteering as a firefighter and paramedic. I have witnessed incredible acts of courage and valor and know firsthand how important recognition is (especially in a world full of negative news stories). Thank you for recognizing everyday heroes and for the important work you do. I have become quite a fan of Andrew Carnegie as I have read numerous stories about his life and benevolence.

Over 100 years ago Mr. Carnegie saw the need to find and recognize the "real heroes" among us who risk their lives so others may live. It is obvious that the Commission is doing a fine job in ensuring Mr. Carnegie's vision!

Sergeant John J. Flynn, Emergency Service Unit
New York City Police Department

ENCOURAGEMENT AND SUPPORT

We are very grateful for each and every thing Carnegie staff and family have done to help us. Thank you for your encouragement and support to help us get by. It has moved us and touched our hearts in a certain way that no word in mankind's language can possibly describe.

Lee Tou Vang and Family, St. Paul, Minn.

Vang's son, Tou Hu Vang, was awarded the Carnegie Medal posthumously in September (see pages 13 and 15).



CARNEGIE HERO FUNDS WORLD NEWS

U.S. • Sweden • Norway • Denmark • U.K. • Switzerland • Italy • Belgium • Netherlands



Carnegie's hero fund in the Netherlands—**Stichting Carnegie Heldenfonds**—is hoping to build a tradition with its first annual “heroes day,” held Oct. 7 in The Hague. The event brought together those from throughout the country who were awarded the Dutch Carnegie Medal for saving human life at great personal risk, some of the awardees dating back to 1994. Events held in the provincial parliament building included the recognition of the country's three newest heroes, shown in the photo at right. From left, they are: Sander Schönhuth, Gijsbert Paul Vroom, and Martin Snel, who rescued a woman from her car as it was sinking in a canal in Amsterdam (video coverage of the rescue can be seen at <https://youtu.be/taVZwAs64AI>). Pictured with the awardees at right are Jan van Zanen, the mayor of Utrecht and chairman of the council of municipalities, and Dr. Jaap Smit, Dutch hero fund chair and commissioner for the king in the Province of South Holland. Also participating in the event were hero fund board member Boi Jongejan (left) and Bart Brands (center photo), who the following week represented the fund in New York City at the 2015 presentation of the Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy.

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Delegates to the Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy events in New York included six from Sweden who are associated with the Swedish hero fund, **Carnegiestiftelsen**. From left, they are: Monika Köping-Höggård, Agneta Ahlbeck, Ulf Köping-Höggård, Greger Ahlbeck, Ann-Christine Lindeblad, and Bengt-Göran Bergstrand. Lindeblad chairs the hero fund; Agneta Ahlbeck is a member of the board, and Ulf Köping-Höggård is board secretary.

Carnegie's hero fund in Denmark—**Carnegies Belønningsfond for Heltemod**, based in Copenhagen—was represented at the presentation of the Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy by board members Bente Flindt Sørensen, left, and Henning Fode (not pictured). Sørensen, who is the former managing director of the state administration of greater Copenhagen, is shown with her husband, retired Danish Supreme Court Justice Per Sørensen. Fode is chamberlain and private secretary to the queen of Denmark, Margrethe II.



Douglas Scott of Dunfermline, Scotland, center, and his wife, Christine, right, visited Pittsburgh for the first time in mid-October and on their itinerary were Carnegie-related sites: the museums, the libraries, the gravesite of Carnegie's parents in Allegheny Cemetery, and of course the offices of the Hero Fund. It was a busman's holiday for Scott, who serves as the chairman of both Carnegie's **Hero Fund Trust**, which recognizes civilian heroism in the U.K. and Ireland, and the Dunfermline Trust. Commission staffers gave the Scotts a look into the Commission's operations, including its investigative processes and its evolving participation in social media. Their hosts included, from left, Jeffrey Dooley, investigations manager, and case investigators Chris Foreman and Julia Panian. Panian is the Commission's social media coordinator. Carnegie was born in Dunfermline, which is home to the four of his trusts serving the U.K.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

60th anniversary of Chesapeake shipwreck, heroism observed

Aug. 12, 1955: Alarms sounded at about 6 p.m. in North Bay Village, a summer resort town situated on the western coast of the Chesapeake Bay near Fairhaven, Md. Volunteer firemen and local residents responded to the beach after a 22-year-old woman clinging to a piece of wood was pushed toward shore.

“I’m one of 27,” the woman told a North Bay Village man who had waded out into the ocean to assist her to safety, according to an Aug. 13, 1955, edition of Washington, D.C.-based newspaper *The Evening Star*. The woman was one of 23 passengers and four crewmen aboard the three-masted schooner *Levin J. Marvel*, which was about 128 feet long and weighed 183 tons. It had capsized five hours earlier in water north of the village during Hurricane Connie.

The sinking of the *Marvel* remains one of the worst disasters in the history of the bay, according to a 2003 article on Washingtonian.com. Fourteen of the 27 aboard the schooner died. Seven passengers clinging to debris from the wreckage made it to close to shore, where residents assisted them onto the beach. The remaining six victims were rescued by two brave men using a small wooden boat after they arrived at the scene to “lend a hand,” according to the *Star* article.



Carnegie heroes William K. MacWilliams, Sr., left, and George L. Kellam, Jr., holding certificates of appreciation from Maryland Gov. Theodore R. McKeldin. Photo appeared in the Oct. 25, 1955, edition of the Evening Capital.

a duck blind some 1,000 feet from shore. He and MacWilliams looked for a boat and found a 12-foot-long wooden vessel with an outboard motor, but the motor had no gasoline. The men siphoned less than one-tenth of a gallon from a nearby automobile and added



Ricky McWilliams, son of William K. MacWilliams, Sr., holds his father’s Carnegie Medal in front of the exhibit of the sinking of the Levin J. Marvel schooner in 1955. The Bayside History Museum of North Beach, Md., recently commemorated the 60th anniversary of the sinking with a program at the North Beach Volunteer Fire Department.

Aug. 12, 2015: The Bayside History Museum of North Beach, Md., commemorated the 60th anniversary of the *Marvel* shipwreck in a program at the North Beach Volunteer Fire Department. The event, attended by 380, celebrated the heroes, including **William K. MacWilliams, Sr.**, 31, and his best friend, **George L. Kellam, Jr.**, 28, who emerged that night to assist the shipwreck victims.

It was in heavy rain with 25-m.p.h. winds gusting up to 57 m.p.h. and waves as high as 12 feet that Kellam spotted someone waving a bright yellow hat from

it to the boat’s tank before wading and towing the boat about 100 feet into the water. They were not wearing life jackets, and there were no life preservers on board.

Starting the engine, MacWilliams piloted the boat while Kellam bailed the rain water collecting inside it. In order to avoid the largest waves, MacWilliams took the boat over a zig-zag course. He later told the Commission’s case investigator that he was fearful that water repeatedly splashing over the engine would drown it or that a large wave would swamp the boat and capsize it.

When the men got to the blind and learned that six people had taken shelter there, MacWilliams was “chagrined,” according to the case report. He thought they had enough gasoline for maybe two trips, but he also knew that he could only take two people at a time or the boat would sink.

MacWilliams asked for the weakest first, and a female nurse, 33, and a male deckhand, 17, came to the doorway of the blind. As MacWilliams attempted to get the boat in position, a wave forced it into a piling, creating a deep dent in the boat’s bow, but the hull held. Kellam assisted the nurse and deckhand into the boat, and MacWilliams piloted the craft back toward shore. Despite bailing by Kellam, the deckhand, and MacWilliams—using his free hand—water in the boat grew deeper.

At a point about 150 feet from the beach, MacWilliams told the two victims to jump from the boat, as he felt confident that those on shore would wade out to help them in. Further, he didn’t want to take the time to get closer to the beach, as nightfall was approaching.

MacWilliams and Kellam returned to the duck blind to retrieve a housewife, 31, and a female copywriter, 35, next. On the return to shore, the rescuers discussed beaching the boat to empty it of water, but MacWilliams decided they didn’t have time. The housewife and copywriter jumped out at the same point as the others, and MacWilliams turned the boat for the final trip to collect the remaining victims, a male engineer, 32, and the schooner’s captain, 39. Water inside the boat continued to accumulate on the final trip, and as MacWilliams piloted onto the beach, a wave drowned the engine. About 15 minutes later, the duck blind collapsed.

On Oct. 26, 1956, MacWilliams and Kellam were each awarded a Carnegie Medal and \$500 for their actions, the Commission having first heard of the rescue from the rescued copywriter, Nancy S. Madden. “I sincerely believe their courage merits highest recognition to these two men,” she wrote to the Hero Fund six days after the rescue. “The duck blind would not last long, we were sure. But we did not think anyone could possibly reach us in time.” ❏

—Julia Panian, Case Investigator

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imPULSE is a periodic newsletter of the CARNEGIE HERO FUND COMMISSION, a private operating foundation established in 1904 by Andrew Carnegie. • The Hero Fund awards the CARNEGIE MEDAL to those throughout the United States and Canada who risk their lives to an extraordinary degree while saving or attempting to save the lives of others. • The Commission also provides financial assistance, which may include scholarship aid and continuing grants, to the heroes and to the dependents of those awardees who are disabled or die as the result of their heroic acts.

Further information is available on-line or by contacting the Commission.

Any ideas? *imPULSE* welcomes your submissions for publication, and your ideas for consideration. Be in touch!

Address change? Please keep us posted!

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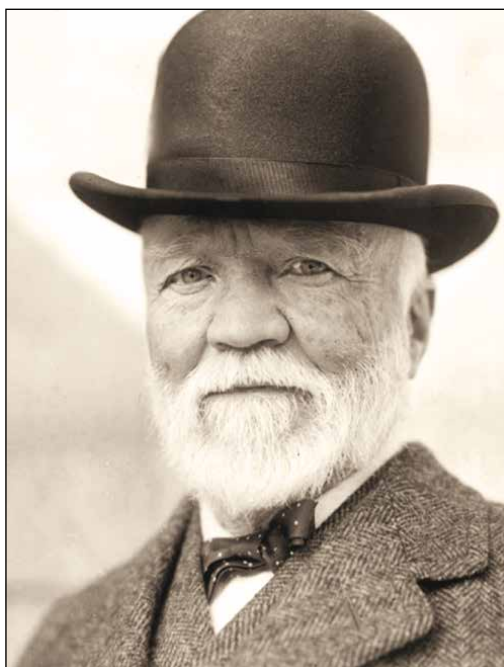
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✦ THE QUOTABLE A.C. ✦



As I grow older, I pay less attention to what men say. I just watch what they do.

✦ CONTINUUM ✦

GRAVE MARKERS Bronze grave markers (below), cast in the likeness of the Carnegie Medal, are available at no cost to the families of deceased awardees. They are designed for mounting on stone or bronze memorials. Contact Susan Rizza (susan@carnegiehero.org) or write her at the address given below.

MEDAL REFINISHING The Hero Fund will refinish Carnegie Medals at no cost to the owner. The medals are to be sent to the Hero Fund's office by insured, registered mail. Allow a month for the process. The contact is Myrna Braun (myrna@carnegiehero.org).

OBITUARIES Written accounts of the awardee's life, such as contained in an obituary, are sought for addition to the awardee's page on the Commission's website. Contact Chris Foreman (chris@carnegiehero.org).

ANNUAL REPORTS Copies of the Hero Fund's most recent annual reports (2013-2014) are available by contacting Gloria Barber (gloria@carnegiehero.org).

A CENTURY OF HEROES The centennial book describing the first 100 years of the Hero Fund is available through the Commission's website (www.carnegiehero.org).

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