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VOL.22, NO. 4 WINTER 2017



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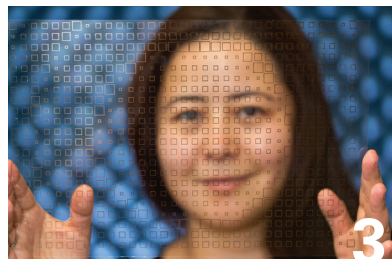
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How do you equip a satellite with a high-gain antenna without adding excessive weight? You call USU's Reyhan Baktur, who has developed a clear, innovative solution.



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"An honor beyond anything I could have imagined." Those were the words of Pres. Stan L. Albrecht when he saw his name become permanently attached to USU's Agricultural Sciences Building and all that it stands for.

22 GOING ANTIVIRAL

West Nile, Zika, SARS, since 1977 Utah State University's Institute for Antiviral Research has studied what sounds like an international "Most Not Wanted List." And it recently surpassed a notable milestone, that's growing and growing ...



STORIES OF HOPE, HEALING AND HEART 14

During her days as a Utah State University journalism student, RaeAnne Thayne '88 would sometimes brainstorm possible pseudonyms with friends and fellow staff members at *The Utah Statesman*. She never got to use any of those well-crafted gems, but she *has* written 54 books, five of which have reached the *New York Times* bestsellers list in the last few years. And your fearless editor thinks he knows a thing or two about what such an accomplishment might require. Really?

ON THE COVER

A proven leader and enduring USU treasure, Noelle Cockett was recently appointed to serve as the institution's 16th president. Donna Barry, university photographer.

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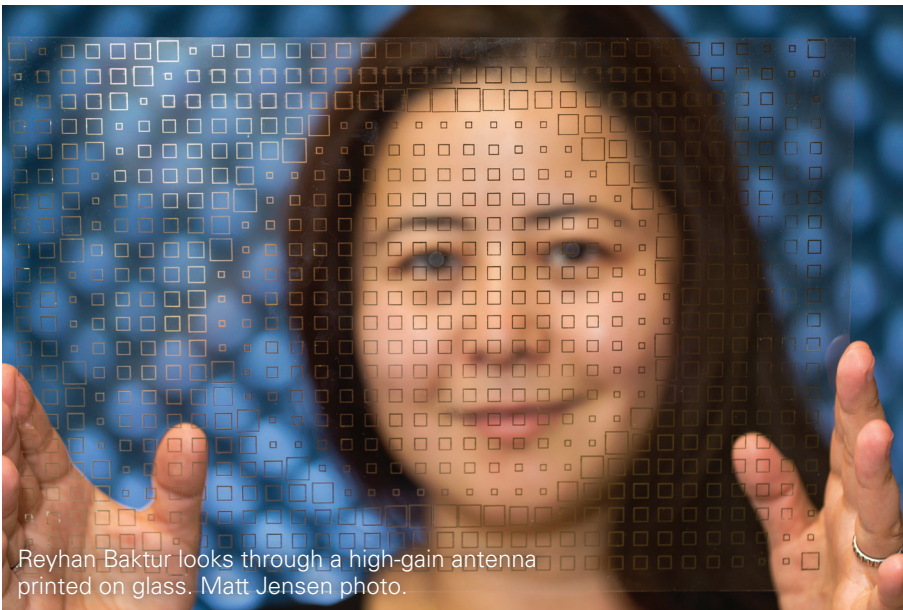
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Reyhan Baktur looks through a high-gain antenna printed on glass. Matt Jensen photo.

Clear Solution: An Antenna On Glass

A researcher at Utah State University is one step closer to solving a complex problem that has puzzled the space industry for decades: How do you equip space satellites with high-gain antennas without the added weight and mechanical complexity of a bulky dish?

Reyhan Baktur, an associate professor of electrical and computer engineering at USU, has developed an innovative solution. She demonstrated how a high-gain antenna can be printed directly onto a satellite's solar panel. Using a materials printer and conductive ink, she and her team can print a variety of antennae onto virtually any surface, including glass solar panels that power communication and small research satellites, known as CubeSats.

"This concept could eventually replace the heavy, complex antenna structures that are currently used on hundreds of satellites," she said. "The problem with using conventional antennas and their reflective dishes, is that they're heavy and they create an additional layer of complexity in which something can go wrong."

Baktur's design is simpler. She uses silver-based ink to print antenna elements onto a thin layer of glass that covers the solar panel. The printed antenna weighs much less than the alternative and retains 95 percent or more of the solar panel's transparency. Printed antennae are also capable of higher data transfer rates — up to 50 megabits per second — much faster than today's S-band or UHF antenna systems. And they are less expensive to make and can be readily produced in a lab. The units are adaptable and occupy much less surface area on the satellite.

The idea for a new antenna came when Baktur's colleague Charles Swenson, a leading space science expert, suggested looking into a better antenna solution for small satellites. Baktur has been working on the design for several years with funding from NSF and NASA. Her current project is called the Integrated Solar Panel Antenna Array for CubeSats (ISACC) — a collaboration with NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center. She and her team are now performing rigorous testing of the antennas and are working closely with Goddard to secure a test flight on a CubeSat mission in the near future.

Baktur hopes to expand the technology and develop antennas that can be printed on paper, fabrics, balloons and more.

"We could, for example, print an antenna into a soldier's uniform so she wouldn't have to transport heavy antenna equipment into the field," said Baktur. "We could also print an antenna on a weather balloon or onto the roof of a car or plane. Printing on glass is only the beginning."

— Matt Jensen '08

The Conversations of Success

Former Utah State University student ambassadors and twin brothers Blake and Bo Nemelka have expertly figured out the path to academic success. Now the brothers — each of whom also played on the USU tennis team and were selected as Huntsman Scholars before graduating with honors from the Jon M. Huntsman School of Business at Utah State University — are inviting younger students to join them on that same, critical path. The Nemelkas first authored and self-published *The Middle School Student's Guide to Academic Success — 12 Conversations for College and Career Readiness*. The book has since been picked up and republished by Simon and Schuster.

Young students need a practical guide to achieve academic success, a guide with specific strategies and a vision, the Nemelkas have learned. And their continued shared experiences underscore that notion. After USU, Blake Nemelka earned a master's degree in education administration from Vanderbilt and is currently both working and studying at Purdue. Bo Nemelka earned a master's in healthcare management from Yale and is working in the healthcare industry in Chicago.

The brothers credit serious conversations with their parents about setting goals, grade-point averages, time management and service for helping them to realize — at an early age — just how important such efforts are in one's academic and professional success.

The book's conversations are designed to help younger students prepare for their own futures, written for the student, but with the understanding that a parent or mentor is guiding them through reading and completing the various practical worksheets included. The book details "a clear and actionable pattern" that promotes thinking, encouragement and initiative, the Nemelkas say, helping students to be more successful not only as middle schoolers, but throughout the life span.

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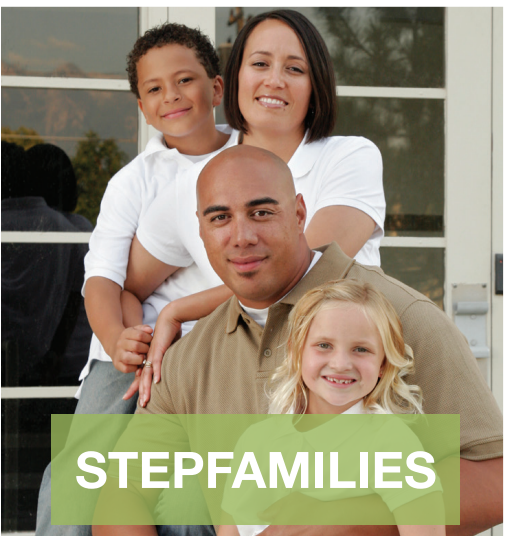
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“Learning As If You Were to Live Forever”

At the outset of his Inaugural Professor Lecture to colleagues, friends and administrators, professor Reza Oladi shared a quote from poet Louise Bogan, “The Initial Mystery that attends any journey is: how did the traveler reach his starting point in the first place?”

Oladi’s starting point was in Behbahan, in southwestern Iran near the Persian Gulf and neighboring Iraq. Oladi noted that the 1979 Iranian Revolution has made his former home a mysterious part of the world to most of his USU colleagues and friends. He traces his research interest in international economics and trade and efforts to understand connections between income levels and corruption back to his early years in Iran.

When the Iran-Iraq War broke out in 1980, Oladi was nearing the end of primary school. He referred to the span between 1979 and 1985 as “The Lost Years,” a period when school was open only sporadically. Some things were constant though: photographs in daily newspapers of people who had been hung, anyone with connections to the former government being targeted, half his province being occupied and his city being repeatedly bombed.

Oladi found being a university student in Tehran “... an escape of sorts, because Tehran was only bombed near the end of the war.” Another “escape” was also connected with higher education. Oladi took an examination and was one of four economics students to get a scholarship and allowed to leave Iran to attend graduate school.

“Getting to Canada was really sweet,” Oladi recalled. “I could say whatever I wanted to say, dress as I wanted to dress, wear my hair how I chose.”

Those freedoms may not sound like anything unusual to Oladi’s current students, but at the University of Tehran, it was common to have religious officials patrolling and enforcing rules for dress and grooming.

“After a few months, I lost my scholarship,” he said. “Big Brother had followed me to Canada and didn’t like something I had done with my taste of freedom.”

By that time though, Oladi had connected with faculty, had a fellowship and was earning some money tutoring other international students, so he stayed. He finished his Ph.D. and took a faculty position in Ohio.

His research has focused on international trade and more recently on corruption and its relationship to income.

He shared some research findings that show as incomes rise in early stages of development in developing countries, people allocate less time and energy to fighting corruption in government and business, up to a point. Thereafter, as these countries become richer their willingness to fight corruption tends to rise.

“When you don’t have enough food on the table you can’t care very much about fighting corruption,” he said.

Oladi referred to oil as a “resource curse” that has caused social upheaval and given cover to government mismanagement since its discovery, a resource that “pollutes” the oil fields and politics.

Oladi joined Utah State University’s economics faculty in 2004, and is in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences’ Department of Applied Economics.

Oladi said professorship is a milestone in his journey, not the final destination.

“Mahatma Gandhi said ‘Live as if you were to die tomorrow. Learn as if you were to live forever.’” Oladi said. “I want to keep learning as if I were going to live here forever.”

— **Lynnette Harris ’88**



Fighting the Bad Guys

Patent #9391962, “Multi-node

Encryption,” is an idea that could potentially upset the entire internet industry. Describing the genesis of his idea, Huntsman Associate Professor Jeff Johnson offered the following analogy, “In the cyber world we have bad guys who are constantly trying to hurt us. Our defense against these bad guys is to build great stone walls that act as a shield. Unfortunately, over time the bad guys obtain machines that can crush stone. Surprisingly, our solution is to simply use more stones in the wall.” So, why then are we building our defenses out of the very source of our enemy’s strength?

Johnson went on to explain that the defensive “stone wall” represents math encryption (the traditional form of cyber security). The bad guys’ “stone crushing machines” are computers designed with the very purpose of processing mathematical codes better and faster than humans ever could.

But computers struggle with some forms of language-based information. The idea of language based authentication dates back to biblical times. Armies would use a particular word as a form of authentication for soldiers passing in and out of guarded borders. Each word used was selected because it was extremely difficult for their enemies to pronounce correctly. Thus, making it even more effective.

After spending the last five years researching and developing his idea, Johnson was granted a patent on the second section of his project. He is continuing his efforts to obtain the patent for the first section of his proposal. In the meantime, he plans to refine his work by building and testing prototype systems.

— **Kim Larson ’00, ’03 MBA**



Noelle Cockett, "humbled and honored" to be named Utah State University's 16th president.

Right: Pres. Noelle Cockett brings a wealth of USU leadership experience to the front office, including from her years as provost and as vice president and dean in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences.

“We Couldn’t Be In Better Hands”

Noelle Cockett Named Utah State University President

Representatives from the Board of Regents for the Utah System of Higher Education announced in October that Noelle Cockett has been appointed president of Utah State University, Utah’s land- and space-grant university. Cockett replaces Stan L. Albrecht, who served as Utah State’s 15th president and announced his retirement earlier this year. He will continue to serve until Cockett is in place on January 1, 2017.

Most recently, Cockett served as executive vice president and provost at USU and has held that position since 2013. Prior to that, she served USU as vice president for Extension and Agriculture from 2006 to 2013; dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences from 2002 to 2013; and director of the Utah Agriculture Experiment Station from 2009 to 2013.

“Utah State University has a new president who I know is deeply committed to the core values of the institution and for many years has worked to ensure that we remain one of the nation’s premier land-grant and space-grant universities,” said Albrecht. “Her deep roots at USU, coupled by her proven leadership as provost and groundbreaking work as a researcher will enable the university to continue to gain prominence within the region and beyond.”

Cockett received master’s and doctorate degrees in animal genetics from Oregon State University.

“I am deeply humbled and greatly honored to be named as the 16th president of Utah State University by the Utah Board of Regents,” said Cockett. “Today, I pledge to all in the USU community that as president I will tirelessly devote my skills, experience and energy to keeping this institution true to its land-grant mission, to doing everything possible to increase its success and impact and ensure that it flourishes and continues its tradition of excellence in the years to come.”

“Dr. Cockett is well-respected and brings extensive institutional knowledge, experience and proven professionalism that will be an expanded asset to Utah State University in the coming years,” said Dan Campbell, chair of the Board of Regents.

Reaction across campus from students, faculty, staff and other leaders lauded Cockett’s selection to lead USU. Beth Foley, dean of the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education said, “I don’t think there’s anyone better prepared to assume the USU presidency than Provost Cockett, especially when you look at the breadth of positions she’s held here. She has the knowledge, the skills and the disposition to lead a complex organization like USU and a genuine passion for our land-grant mission. We couldn’t be in better hands.”

Her dedication to the students at USU is well recognized. Ashley Waddoups, president of the USU Student Association explained, “Noelle Cockett will be an incredible leader for USU. She has the experience, background and passion for our university that sets her apart. From my personal experiences working with her, I feel that she sincerely cares about the interests of students and I’m excited to see what the future holds for USU under her leadership.”

Cockett, USU’s first female president, has extensive research experience that includes five years as a research geneticist at the United States Department of Agriculture. She has built a career in genetic research, specializing in molecular genetics and identifying genetic markers. Cockett is known for being a part of the team that successfully sequenced the sheep genome.

Kristine A. Miller, a USU professor of English and director of the Honors Program, spoke about her collaborative leadership style. “I am delighted to learn that Dr. Cockett will be USU’s next president. Her accomplishments in research, teaching and administration are remarkable, but even more impressive to me is her commitment to listen closely to students and faculty, to collaborate in creating an outstanding educational

experience at USU and to model, as our first woman president, the idea of diversity at the heart of this university’s mission.”

“I am confident in President Cockett’s ability to effectively lead Utah State University and that she is the right president to build on the extraordinary accomplishments of President Albrecht over the past decade,” said Utah Commissioner of Higher Education Dave Buhler.

Albrecht’s tenure was highlighted by many successes, including increased access for students across the state through growth in the regional campus system and a highly successful, first-ever comprehensive fundraising campaign that yielded more than a half billion dollars.

Cockett will provide leadership for Utah State University, which has an enrollment of approximately 29,000 students, a workforce of more than 3,000 faculty and staff and institutional funding of \$554 million.

In addition to its main campus in Logan, Cockett will be responsible for Utah State’s three regional campuses, a comprehensive regional college, Extension offices in 28 of the 29 counties in Utah and at the USU Ogden Botanical Center, Thanksgiving Point, the USU Botanical Center in Kaysville, Utah, and the USU Swaner Preserve and EcoCenter in Park City, Utah.

— Eric Warren





Maggie Hallerud, wildlife science.

LYON, MAAS, MUEGGLER 20 Years Later Their Legacies Still Shape Outdoor Leadership

They were exceptional athletes who lived exceptional lives filled with inexhaustible adventure, yes, but lives also dripping in imagination, kindness, commitment, richness and compassion. They were driven to somehow be *the* difference in whatever moment, whatever place — to sing activism, to voice strength in community and exultation in wilderness. They climbed and kayaked, skied and boarded, breathed in remote rivers in the summer, expansive swaths of the backcountry in the winter — Alaska to Chile to Baja to Siberia. They were educators and guides, exceptionally experienced, protectors of all blessed to share their journeys. They knew precisely what to look for in the snow stratum, precisely what to have on hand, *precisely* where in the terrain they wanted to be. And then, on January 12, 1997, a rogue avalanche in Dry Canyon — whose facets and folds are reflected in so many of the windows dotting the Utah State University campus — killed Max Lyon, Keith Maas and Karl Mueggler on a level camp spot, amid mature trees, in what could truthfully be deemed their own backyard. Three men, rightly proclaimed by family and friends to be among the most experienced mountaineers in northern Utah, buried under four feet of snow.

Twenty years later, Outdoor Programs, a part of Utah State University Campus Recreation, still awards the Lyon, Maas, Mueggler Outdoor Leadership Scholarship, helping students to pay for their Wilderness First Responder certification course. Personal essays of the scholarship winners celebrate outdoor leadership and ethics and detail plans of future contributions to outdoor recreation. But mostly they strive to embody the spirit of

Max Lyon, Keith Maas and Karl Muegler, who lived large, exceptional lives.

There were six students awarded scholarships in October, six winning essays. Here we offer merely a taste of two. But there could be more scholarships to award next year, couldn't there? You need only contact Greg Davis, at greg.j.davis@usu.edu to make that happen.

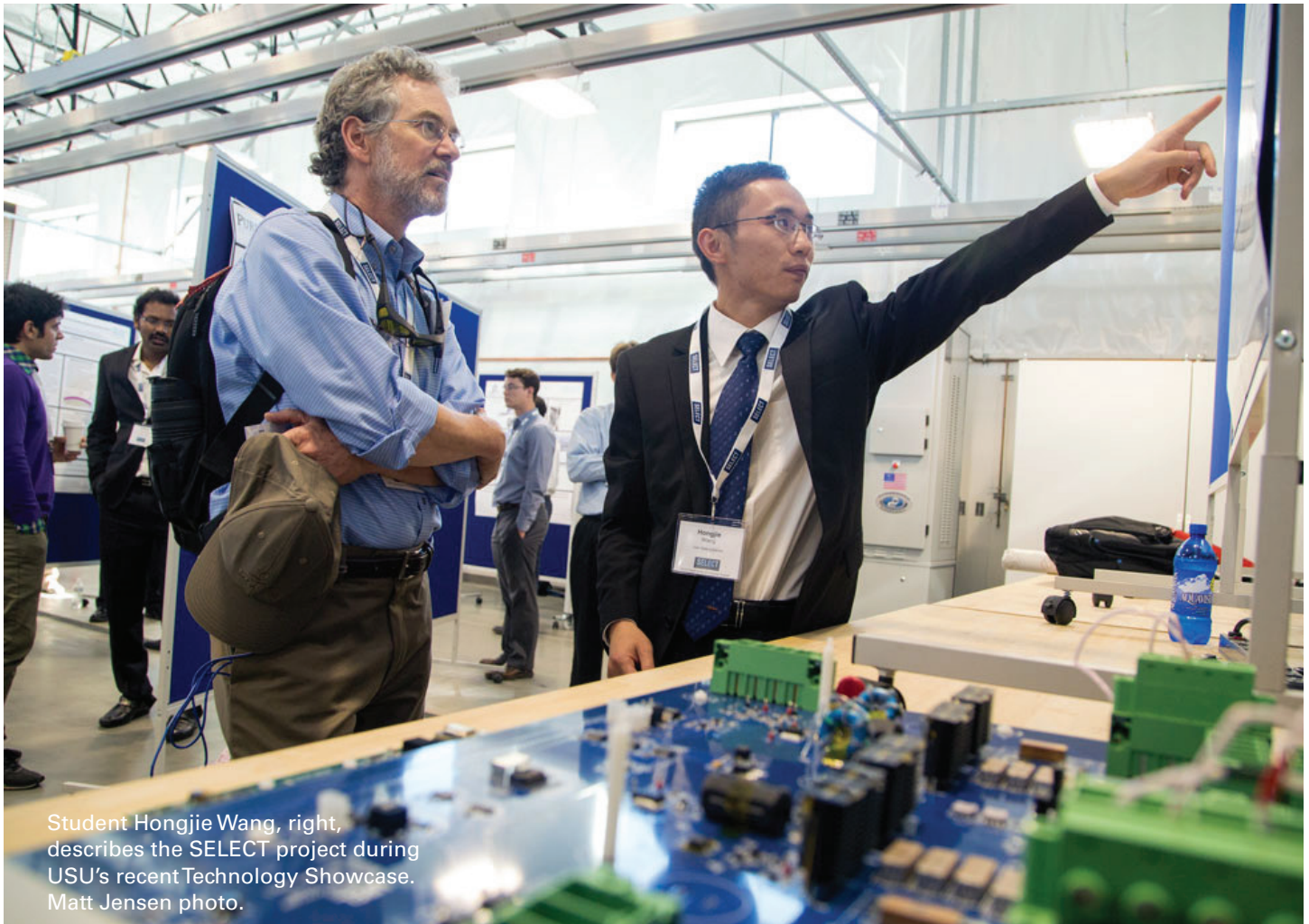
J. Leland Rasmussen, right, mechanical aerospace engineering, Civil Air Patrol cadet commander and national park horseback trail guide:

“Leadership, to me, is a position of service. Leaders serve those whom they lead by being a source of hope, comfort and confidence. This is even more important in outdoor leadership. My first responsibility as an outdoor leader is to insure the safety of myself and participants. I am also a catalyst for enjoyment. A trip leader has a profound effect on the morale of a group. In times of sunshine or catastrophe, the trip leader will set the tone of the situation. A trip leader must be prepared for all situations.”

Maggie Hallerud, left, wildlife science, student leader in pilot research placing trail cameras in the Bear River Range to record, among other things, predation and feeding behavior of mountain lions: “... I believe that the only way to truly portray the awe of nature is to bring others into nature to experience these feelings for themselves. In my personal opinion, the best way to offer a full understanding is to lead others into the backcountry, where few humans have traveled and the unity with nature can be fully appreciated in the wildest expanses. Covering some ground in a true wilderness setting has to be one of the most effective methods for revealing the nuances of nature and provides infinite opportunities to teach others about the importance of every detail to the functioning of the whole ecosystem.”



Leland Rasmussen, mechanical aerospace engineering.



Student Hongjie Wang, right, describes the SELECT project during USU's recent Technology Showcase. Matt Jensen photo.

Electrified Transportation Research Center Opens

A first-of-its-kind transportation research center is opening its doors for business on the Utah State University campus. SELECT, the Sustainable Electrified Transportation Center, brings electrified transportation industry members and leading engineering researchers together to develop holistic solutions to global electrified transportation.

The center is comprised of university partners USU, Purdue University, University of Colorado Boulder, Olin College and the University of Colorado Colorado Springs. Members of the center represent a range of industries and sectors, including automotive manufacturers, electronics and automotive component manufacturers, transportation agencies, national laboratories, infrastructure developers, military and government agencies. To date, more than 40 organizations and state and federal agencies have committed to membership or are attending the center's first meeting to explore membership.

The center's hub is located at USU's Electric Vehicle and Roadway (EVR) Research Facility and Test Track on Utah State University's Innovation Campus.

Center Director Regan Zane, a professor of electrical and computer engineering at USU, says the center will usher in strategic advancements in power electronics, roadway infrastructure and vehicle autonomy toward the goal of sustainable electrified transportation in cities and highways.

"In this emerging and complicated realm of electrified and autonomous transportation, we see a tremendous need to pull together the experts and stakeholders who will help create the standards and technologies that will make electric, automated road trans-

portation a safe and sustainable reality," said Zane.

The purpose of SELECT is to facilitate collaboration among members and to streamline the process of getting new technology to the marketplace. Paid membership gives members access to SELECT resources, including the expertise of university faculty, first look at new technologies, teaming opportunities to transition technologies and visibility with experienced students across all campuses. A battery manufacturer, for example, could present a challenge or new idea to SELECT and get the added benefits of multi-university collaboration and industry perspective to help turn ideas into market-ready solutions.

— Matt Jensen '08

The Sorenson Center for Clinical Excellence An Interdisciplinary Home for Research, Assessment, Treatment and Hope

Utah State University and the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services broke ground for the Sorenson Center for Clinical Excellence on the Logan campus in September.

The comprehensive center is the result of USU's strength in providing outstanding real-world service and research opportunities to students and faculty in human service disciplines. The new building also helps to fulfill USU's commitment to serve the state and surrounding community.

A first-of-its-kind in the Mountain West, the Sorenson Center for Clinical Excellence is designed to strengthen interdisciplinary training and deliver research and clinical services across the human lifespan. Designed as a state-of-the-art 100,000-square-foot facility, the center will provide an integrated range of assessment, treatment and counseling services. With focused outreach to low-income and underserved minority populations, thousands of individuals, couples and families across Utah and the region will be served. In addition, future human service providers will receive real-world, interdisciplinary training as they work with USU faculty who engage in clinical practice and cutting-edge research.

Beth Foley, dean of the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services, believes the new center will greatly benefit students and faculty alike.

"The center is designed to facilitate collaboration between researchers and clinicians," said Foley. "Students and faculty will be involved in current research as well as learning, teaching and practicing the latest methodologies in treatment and therapy."

While individual clinics will maintain their own identities, each will also be connected with the other units. The facility is designed to be conveniently

accessed by the public and the university community. The center will include:

- early childhood education classrooms
- distance education classrooms
- behavioral health therapy rooms
- nursing simulation lab
- hydrotherapy pool
- gross motor room for physical and occupational therapy
- speech-language clinic
- hearing and balance clinic
- memory clinic
- café and teaching kitchen
- underground parking garage

With the aid of computers and IVC technology, clients across the state can receive clinical and therapeutic services, no matter where they live. Through Extension and other campus partnerships, the center will utilize USU's broad statewide network to reach clients, with

the capacity to provide services through tele-intervention.

Foley notes that the new building will enable the university to train students to enter a range of health and human service professions, including those where there are critical shortages across the state.

"USU offers clinical services in multiple arenas — including autism and developmental disabilities, behavioral health, speech-language-hearing and health education and promotion, to name a few," said Foley. "Not only will the new center provide assessment and treatment in these areas, it will also provide integrated therapy options for those with multiple needs, thus negating the need to travel to different clinics for each type of therapy."

Major funding for the building comes from the Sorenson Legacy Foundation, the Emma Eccles Jones Foundation, the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation and other generous donors. The building is expected to be completed in November 2017 and be fully functional by January 2018.



Sisters Carol Smith, Gail Williamsen, and Shauna Johnson of the Sorenson Legacy Foundation, at the groundbreaking for the Sorenson Center for Clinical Excellence. Emily Beus photo.



Celebrating the Stan L. Albrecht Agricultural Sciences Building

In recognition of Stan L. Albrecht's tenure as Utah State University's president, USU in October named its Agricultural Sciences Building on the Logan campus's historic Quad the Stan L. Albrecht Agricultural Sciences Building.

"This is an honor beyond anything I would ever have imagined," Albrecht said. "I want you all to know that it is something for which I will always feel great humility and appreciation."

As the state of Utah's land-grant institution, USU is charged with providing an education to all who qualify, regardless of socioeconomic status or geography. Hailing from Utah's rural Wayne County, Albrecht has committed a large part of his presidency to overseeing growth and funding, both from private and public sources, for the educational opportunities in Utah provided by USU.



Stan and Joyce Albrecht at the naming ceremony for the Stan L. Albrecht Agriculture Sciences Building. Donna Barry university photographer.



“We are honored to have Stan’s name on our building as he has done so very much to positively impact the students and faculty in our college and for the constituents within agriculture,” said Ken White, dean of USU’s College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences. “It’s a natural linkage of his strong tie to agriculture throughout his life and career and we are pleased for students to remember his impact for generations to come.”

The prestigious location of the building, constructed in 2012, highlights the continuing commitment of USU to agricultural research and education, the agricultural industry and USU’s land-grant mission including outreach and Extension.

“Stan has strengthened and instilled a deep commitment to the land-grant mission at USU,” said Noelle Cockett, who was recently named Albrecht’s successor as president of Utah State

University (see page 6). “His name stands as a fitting tribute to this building as he facilitated the conversations with the Utah legislature that made this building a reality.”

Albrecht was named USU’s 15th president on Feb. 1, 2005 and has seen the university through many changes and successes, most notably enhancing USU’s statewide reach, the successful \$500 million-plus capital campaign for USU, Logan campus transformation, teaching, research and service, increased notoriety for Aggie athletics and globalization.

The 125,000-square-foot building contains high-tech teaching and research labs used by students and faculty. It also houses university-operated computer labs, classroom space, including lecture rooms and a 116-seat auditorium, student meeting rooms and Luke’s Café on the Quad. Faculty and administrative offices of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, USU Extension and the Agricultural Experiment Station, as well as several centers, including Western SARE, Western Rural Development Center and the USU Botanical Center are also housed in the building.

The building was constructed adhering to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification guidelines. According to the U.S. Green Building Council, LEED is an internationally recognized mark of excellence and provides building owners and operators with a framework for identifying and implementing practical and measurable green building design, construction, operations and maintenance solutions.

A plaza overlooking the Quad houses the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences Memorial, which honors the students and instructor who lost their lives in a tragic van accident in September 2005, just six months after Albrecht began his USU presidency. The plaza also includes multiple benches and seating areas for students, faculty, staff and visitors to enjoy campus.



Utah State University alum and
New York Times bestselling author
RaeAnne Thayne '88.

So I Married a *New York Times* BESTSELLING

Author

I'M TRYING TO SLIP UNNOTICED OUT OF A BALLROOM IN THE WALDORF ASTORIA, LEAVING BEHIND FREE-FLOWING CHOCOLATE FOUNTAINS, DESSERTS AND DRINKS FOR EVERY PALATE. I find it amusing that I've done this before. I know that the slickest route back to the bank of elevators is to avoid the main hallway altogether and to duck behind the curtain near the temporary registration table from whence — I'm hopeful — all of the nametags have already been doled out. With a little luck, the nametag volunteers will have left for the dance floor, too, hypnotized by the undeniably energetic playlist this same DJ I've seen crush parties in Dallas, San Francisco and San Antonio is now crushing yet again. "We are FAM-I-LY ... I got all my sistahs with me ..." Some six or seven hundred women — maybe thirty or forty men — ready to put their by-invitation-only exclamation point on a week of workshops and networking at the Romance Writers of America Conference that has taken over the Marriott Marquis down in Times Square.

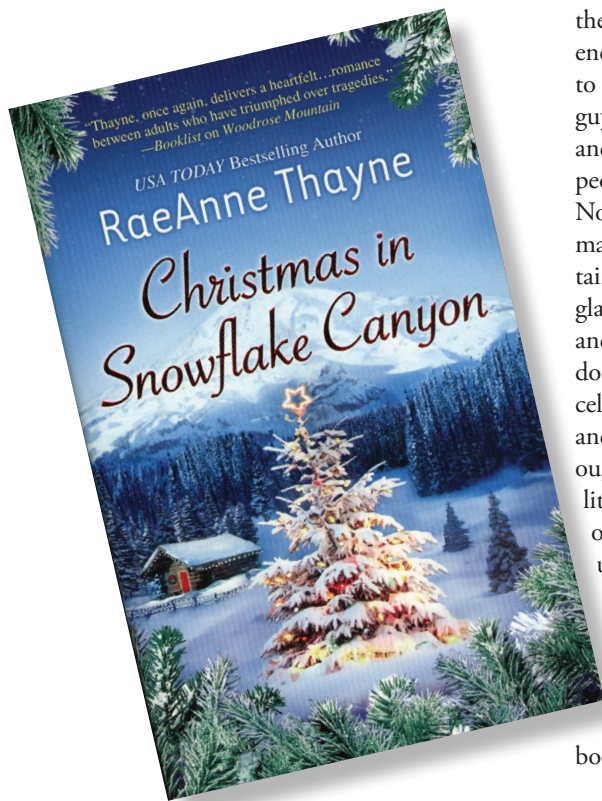
But this is the Waldorf Astoria, Park Avenue, New York City, host to how many heads of state and toasts of town, backdrop to how many movies and black-tie galas, launching pad to how many cultural icons? It is on this same dance floor four years earlier that Craig Swinwood, now publisher and CEO of Harlequin Enterprises, congratulates the woman I married, RaeAnne, on a string of writing successes. Over the same thumping playlist that night, he makes an off-the-cuff promise that Harlequin will someday put her on the *New York Times* best sellers list. "I'm serious," he says. Whether he remembers that conversation or not, RaeAnne certainly has, and now here I am again, four years and a pair of appearances on the *Times* list later, watching Swinwood and other top Harlequin brass celebrating RaeAnne and five other authors for having written more than 50 books each for the company. Fifty books!

They're heaping heart-felt thank-yous and hugs and releasing just a handful of commemorative 50-book pins at the Harlequin party this year, and Mr. Dick Clark DJ (I don't even know if the guy has a name, frankly, but he is timeless) is ready to spin the party into midnight and the crowd is ready to dance its crazy, fun dances and when they announce her name, *RaeAnne Thayne* — the woman who married *me* — a rising squall of sonic joy bounces off the roof and pretty much blows the place up. She'll later say the ascending clouds of cheers just then aren't any different than they are at any other point this night, but I know better. Everybody knows better. Far more than mere decibels, there is definitely something else to measure when RaeAnne is concerned. People see something unique in her, a palpable, sincere charm. I'm standing here with my heart in my ears, sure, but I'm also feeling a certain emotional crescendo build and build and it seems to be affecting not only me, but others in the room as well. Executives, editors, assistants, other authors: they all love this woman, maybe love her as much as I love her, they think, but what do they know? How *could* they know?

Story and
photos by
Jared Thayne '99



RaeAnne works mostly while our kids are at school, after they go to bed or before they wake up. With Christmas books to be written sometimes in spring or summer, she relies on office accents to set the mood.

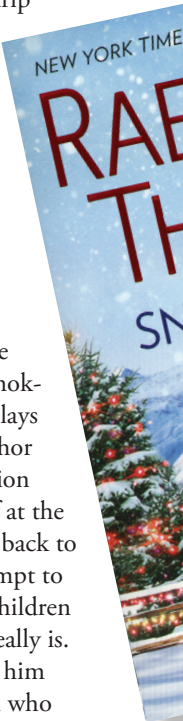


I'm sneaking out of one of the world's most celebrated pieces of real estate, exiting the party everyone in town for the conference wishes they could join, not wanting to crimp her style or spoil her fun. I'm the guy, after all, with a recently broken ankle and leg, here in a ballroom bubbling with people ready to bring down the chandeliers. No way am I going to scar the memory. I make it past the sterling chocolate fountains, past the trays of empty bottles and glasses, through my trusted magic curtain and finally into the elevator. When the doors open again, I begin crossing the celebrated circular-mosaic main-lobby floor and suddenly have the thought that I really ought to enjoy this place, this moment, a little longer ... if for only a blip. I really ought to soak it in, think on RaeAnne upstairs and what actually carries her there. But our 12-year-old is back at the conference hotel in Times Square, because, "I'm parent of the year," I curse myself, deep-down knowing he probably couldn't be happier, with books to read and games to play.

Outside in the energized stream of humanity that is Friday night in Manhattan, I jump in a cab and glance at the roof panel on the one adjacent to me, pitching

the since-scrapped Jim Gaffigan Show: "Mention this ad and pay full fare," it reads. Funny enough, apparently, that my choking, errant laugh jolts the cabbie to a full-on glare-down via rearview-mirror. I laugh still while loosening my favorite necktie, a deep-yellow, textured strip of heavy silk I pick up in Seville during an unforgettable two-week, two-country, two-continent adventure to Morocco and Spain that RaeAnne plans and executes to celebrate a milestone birthday of mine.

And then it hits me: I'm in a New York City cab, making an embarrassingly brief run down the avenue, half chuckling and half choking back emotion as my brain replays the last, sensory-driven hour. Author RaeAnne Thayne (... did I mention she married me?...) raises the roof at the Waldorf Astoria and I'm hustling back to Times Square now where I'll attempt to convey to our youngest of three children just what a rock star his mother really is. Yes, the woman who still reads to him most every night. Yes, the woman who helps him wrangle up vagabond Legos



whether he can see his actual bedroom floor or not. Yes, the woman, who in our tiny hometown in northern Utah, is just like anyone else — except of course, she's not.

Highs Like You Wouldn't Believe

This has been a wild ride for our family. Surreal, actually. RaeAnne's books have hit the *New York Times* best sellers list a total of five times now, with three titles appearing just since October of 2015. In 2016 alone she lands in the No. 4 and No. 5 spots, with *Riverbend Road* and *Snowfall on Haven Point*, respectively. *Riverbend Road* hits No. 11 overall on the *USA Today* best sellers list, No. 1 in paperbacks for the same week. *Snowfall* is her first title to make the *New York Times* best sellers lists for paperback mass market, digital sales and combined digital and print sales. *Publishers Weekly*, which bases its best sellers list on Nielsen BookScan numbers, ranks the book the No. 1 title in romance for all of October. It is bumped from the *Times* list after three consecutive weeks — when a new release

from Stephen King debuts.

Earlier this year, RaeAnne also receives her fifth and sixth overall RITA Award nominations — the Romance Writers of America equivalent to the Academy Awards. She is celebrated as a Romance Pioneer (more than 20 years going) by *Romantic Times*. And every additional accolade seems to be fueling trickledown enthusiasm, from her publisher friends in New York and Toronto — who have contracted with a public relations and marketing firm to boost RaeAnne's sales even more — to her agent in Florida and the delivery driver from a local florist who pretty much knows by now when she will be home to accept another gorgeous, congratulatory bouquet.

She's been approached by headhunting lawyers offering to replace the agent she already happily retains and she's just now signed a contract with a British Columbia production company to option her seven-book *Hope's Crossing* series and her seven-book *Haven Point* series as possible TV movies.

There have been singular weeks in

2016 in which neither RaeAnne nor I feel like we can muster even one more guess-what? email to extended family and friends because the good news seems so overbearing, so Christmas-card-braggy, even to us.

One night in June, just before she falls asleep, RaeAnne actually makes the effort to tell me “nothing is going to happen tomorrow.”

“What do you mean,” I ask. She says, “well, just nothing huge that I'm going to have to interrupt your day with.” Who says that?

She is at a movie with our boys the next day when, in fact, her dear friend and long-time editor, Gail Chasan at Harlequin, calls to say that *Riverbend Road* is sitting at No. 1 on *USA Today's* Top 150 (Mass Market) list. Nora Roberts, who people in RaeAnne's industry simply refer to as “The Nora,” is No. 2, George R.R. Martin and *A Game of Thrones* is No. 3, Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird* is No. 5.

The day before that, *Riverbend Road* debuts at No. 4 on the *New York Times* list and the day before that, I'm driving



Five of RaeAnne's books have appeared on the *New York Times* best sellers list.



Time for breathing treatments, then a transfer to his wheelchair. He's taller than she is, but RaeAnne still elicits daily hugs.



THIS IS ALL SIMPLY TO NOTE THAT THE WOMAN WHO MARRIED ME IS A BONA FIDE ANGEL, ONE WHO CHERISHES HER TRIUMPHS AND PLOWS THROUGH HER STUMBLING BLOCKS WITH EQUAL GRACE, SOMETIMES WITHIN MINUTES OF EACH OTHER.



Oahu's famed North Shore. RaeAnne is always coming up with solutions to strengthen family bonds, including custom-rigging beach wheelchairs for vacations.

a friend back from lunch and I'm on the verge of weeping again, after RaeAnne calls and asks if I'm sitting down.

"They're offering an amazing contract," she says breathlessly. "Harlequin is offering a major, multi-book contract that includes four hardcovers."

I know enough that "major" is no every-day adjective in the lexicon of the publishing industry. I know that deals are announced in the trades using such words to stratify the value of individual contracts. I know that I should indeed be sitting down and probably not driving just now. And I know there's probably no other writer in the world who appreciates this vote of corporate confidence more than does RaeAnne. *She* knows there are countless people to thank for making it happen. "It's just crazy because, who am I?" she asks.

She's kind of known it might be coming, dreamed it might somehow materialize, but she has anticipated the offer taking at least a few more months to bloom. Now, after she hears cursory details of the deal,



she admits to some outright shaking.

“It’s great to have work lined up for the next couple of years,” she says weeks later, “but the expectations are also a lot greater ... there’s a lot more stress and trepidation.”

A Resonance You Can’t Imagine

RaeAnne has now written 54 books, her first in 1990 while on maternity leave with our daughter, followed by her first sale in 1995. She works mostly while the kids are at school, after they are asleep, or before they are awake. I sometimes pull extra meaning from that span of hard, extensive effort in terms of evolving technology and office spaces. We buy a Utah State University bid-sale computer early on — 5.25-inch floppies. We’re overjoyed upon plugging it in at home to discover it actually has a *color* monitor. RaeAnne places it in what, at the time, we generously call our dining room, on a warped and weathered table that once belonged to her paternal grandmother. For a while there exists an honest family debate centering around whether or not my father-in-law was actually born on that table she’s writing novels on, but I remember thinking “she has a computer and an office now; *New York Times*, here we come!” It truly has been *the* dream at least *that* long.

In 1997 we find ourselves both working at the local newspaper when RaeAnne sells her fifth book. Three days

later, when I return to the newsroom from a class at Utah State, colleagues tell me I need to get to the hospital immediately, that RaeAnne is in labor with our second child, three weeks early. A day later, I leave RaeAnne alone in the hospital to recover from a C-section while I race to follow the ambulance that is transferring our fragile son to Primary Children’s Hospital in Salt Lake City. Imagine. The hardest, most defining road to travel and she cannot make the trip. He’ll spend the next three weeks in the neonatal intensive care unit there, two hours removed from anything we might call our normal lives. His mother arrives soon enough. She quits her “day job” then, humbled by the ability and gift to provide full-time care.

In the 19 years since, our son has endured some 35 surgeries and minor procedures, numerous overnight hospital stays, a few frightening crashes during which hospital staff pry about do-not-resuscitate orders and maybe a couple month’s worth of sleep-filled nights total. *Maybe.*

He’s 100-percent G-J tube fed, suctioned regularly, non-mobile when away from his wheelchair and has a baclofen pump and catheter implanted into his stomach and spine to make continuous delivery of muscle-relaxing medicines. But perhaps the most challenging aspect of caring for our son is that he’s never once been able to tell us where he hurts, although RaeAnne has become fairly adept at narrowing things down, at least

by sectors and systems of his body.

It’s no secret that RaeAnne is his primary caregiver. But things are certainly easier when we can work together to satisfy his necessary routines, which at night and in the morning fill the better part of an hour — transfers, showers, meds, dressing. For nearly two decades now, medical professionals have hinted as to the toll such complete caregiving may exact, and RaeAnne’s back surgery, performed years ago, periodically shouts an Amen! Even in my reduced contributions, I’m reminded just how physically and emotionally taxing these routines can be when RaeAnne occasionally travels alone to a conference or book signing. I reach full-on flop sweat before I can ever get him dressed and on his way to school — and *I’m* still taller than he is.

This is all simply to note that the woman who married me is a bona fide angel, one who cherishes her triumphs and plows through her stumbling blocks with equal grace, sometimes within minutes of each other. She is, in fact, driving our son back down to the emergency room at Primary Children’s when she gets the call from her agent detailing the option for TV movies. Yippee! Hope they can find what’s bothering him this time. Her parents, advocates and champions from the start, die 37 days apart, her mother first, her father just days before she hits the *New York Times* list for the first time. There are nurses and radiologists in fluoroscopy eager to know when



All smiles at a readers' luncheon, RaeAnne and dear friend Kristan Higgins, the *New York Times* bestselling phenom.

Lunch in Las Vegas with *the* Debbie Macomber, namesake of one of writing's premier brands. She once refers to RaeAnne as "Little Debbie."

"I LOVE THAT FOR A FEW HOURS I CAN GIVE SOMEBODY PEACE IN THIS CHAOTIC WORLD," SHE SAYS, "REFUGE IN A PLACE THAT DOESN'T FEEL VERY SAFE RIGHT NOW."

RaeAnne's next book will be released. There are manuscripts edited, plots developed and art fact sheets submitted during the days our son is either home sick or recovering on a surgical floor.

What her many fans probably do not realize is that RaeAnne is her own heroine, a far more gifted mother and caregiver than she is a *New York Times* bestselling author. She's compiled three-ring binders detailing our son's medical history, with precise dosages, dates of surgeries and stays, along with what makes him happy and how to tell if he's in pain. She can email these notes instantly to any medical professional charged with making an assessment. She knows precisely when and where to take a shower before teams of doctors make their rounds and she draws multiple syringes of meds so that I won't have to do math if ever she's gone. Our son has never been left alone in a hospital and he's visited emergency rooms across the country — our family favorite being one in Monterey, Calif., where triple-layer chocolate cake is served on china and a grand piano chases away despair.

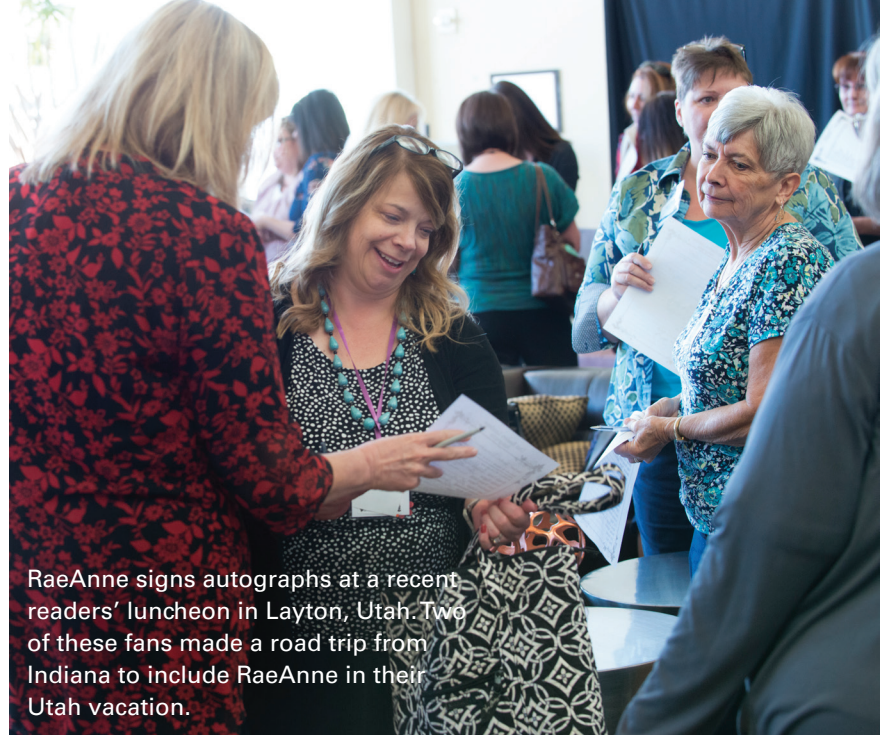
But I can also tell you more treasure than strife has accompanied our son's time on this planet. I sometimes think he's here to open my eyes to that, the world's eyes as well. The fact is, we see more good in a day than most people would dare believe even exists; legions of angel friends, really, sometimes complete strangers, stepping up to lift and carry

in myriad ways. Teenage boys offering to push his wheelchair in a crowded grocery store, enlightened girls from school willing to sacrifice their night at the prom, people we don't even know trying to hand us money because, in the moment, it's what they can do.

And then there are the neighbors who surround us to fill in any gap. Meals waiting after hospital stays, care for our boys when we need to recharge. Two weeks in Morocco and Spain with the dearest of friends actually living in our home, planting our gardens, mowing our lawn, washing our windows, loving our boys. It seems like an over-the-top happy ending, I know, but it's our reality. No wonder I'm so attached to my yellow tie; every time I wear it I'm reminded how bright the world can be, that one person or a community can make all the difference, that peace and strength can be found amid daily challenges.

I married a *New York Times* bestselling author, sure enough. She writes what many reviewers label "comfort reads," or as RaeAnne likes to say, stories of hope, healing and heart. They are sweet, small-town contemporary novels wherein she has definitely found her voice. They are the types of stories she has always wanted to tell, the stories she knows may not completely change the world but can certainly change someone's afternoon.

"I love that for a few hours I can give somebody peace in this chaotic world,"



RaeAnne signs autographs at a recent readers' luncheon in Layton, Utah. Two of these fans made a road trip from Indiana to include RaeAnne in their Utah vacation.

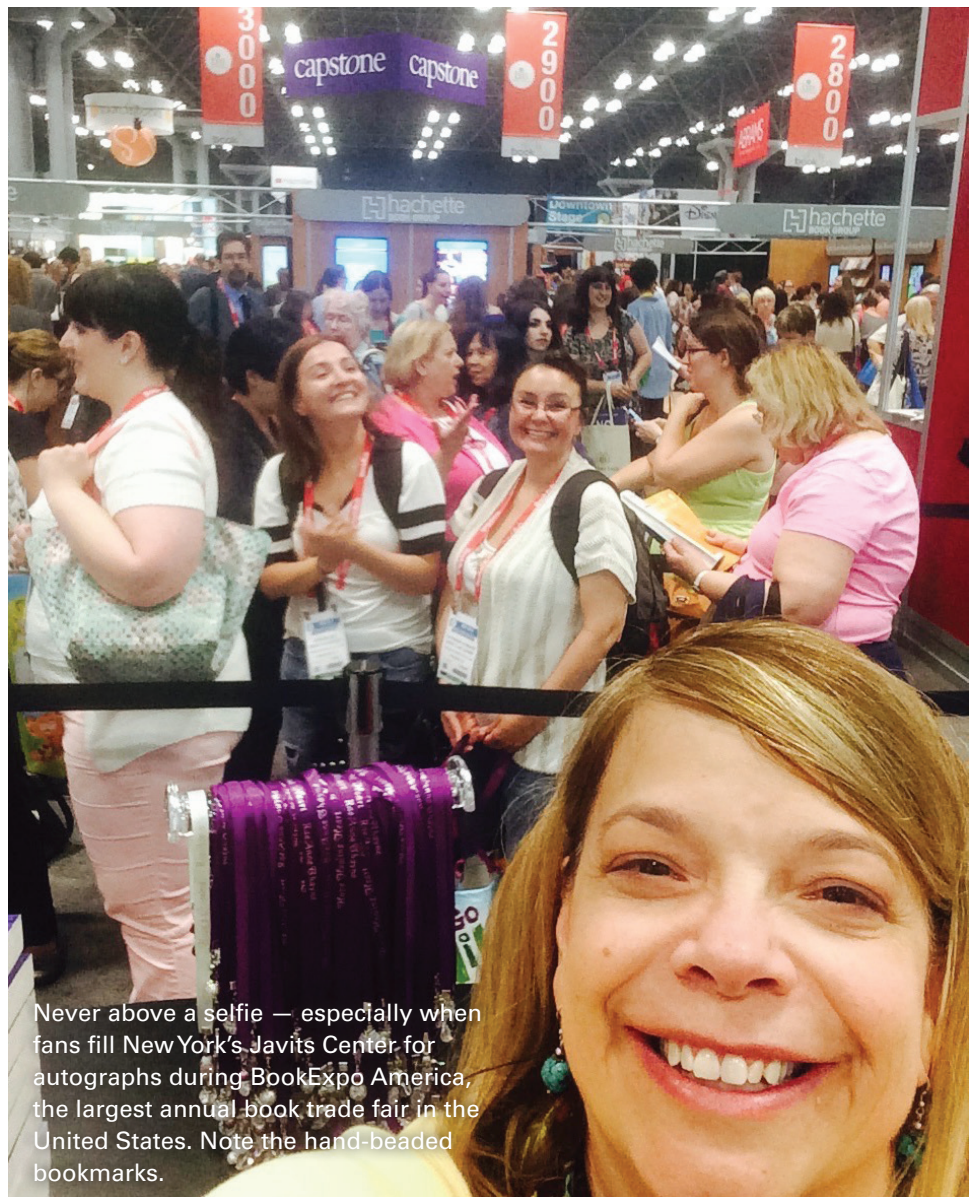
she says, “refuge in a place that doesn't feel very safe right now.”

Caring for our son, RaeAnne adds, experiencing what goodness accompanies those efforts, has made her writing more rich and compassionate with much more depth than she could otherwise project. She's gained the perspective that it's possible to live a happy life even when there are impossibly hard things to do. She writes that in her imperfect characters, who inevitably have trials and difficulties of their own to undertake but are still allowed to triumph in their journeys — with the help of others.

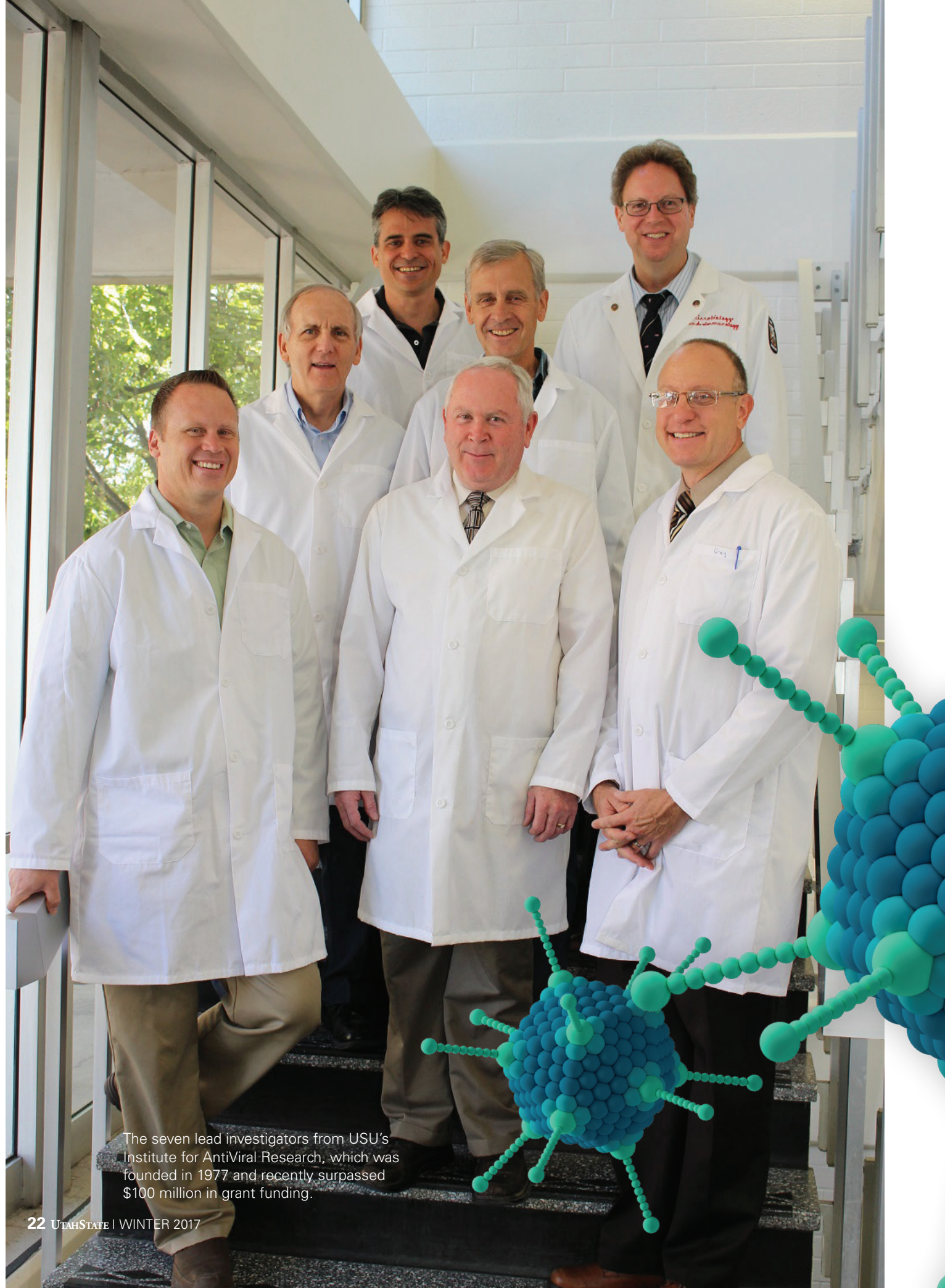
“I think that resonates with readers,” RaeAnne says. “Everybody is going through something hard in life — *everybody*. And people need some hope to cling to, examples of resilience they can emulate.”

I sometimes jokingly remind RaeAnne that ours is a far cry from any normal existence, that not everybody can draw so deeply from a stable of friends who put their own needs and comfort behind our own *and* then turn around to draw again from another stable of friends, who all just happen to be *New York Times* bestselling authors or the industry people who bring dreams like that to fruition.

She gets that, I know. Still, she holds firm that any success she achieves, any trial she bears, sounds and looks and feels like it does for any other soul on earth. But I know better. I was at the Waldorf Astoria when the roof was raised.



Never above a selfie — especially when fans fill New York's Javits Center for autographs during BookExpo America, the largest annual book trade fair in the United States. Note the hand-beaded bookmarks.



The seven lead investigators from USU's Institute for AntiViral Research, which was founded in 1977 and recently surpassed \$100 million in grant funding.

GOING *Antiviral*

USU Institute Surpasses Benchmark, Exposes Students to Meaningful Science

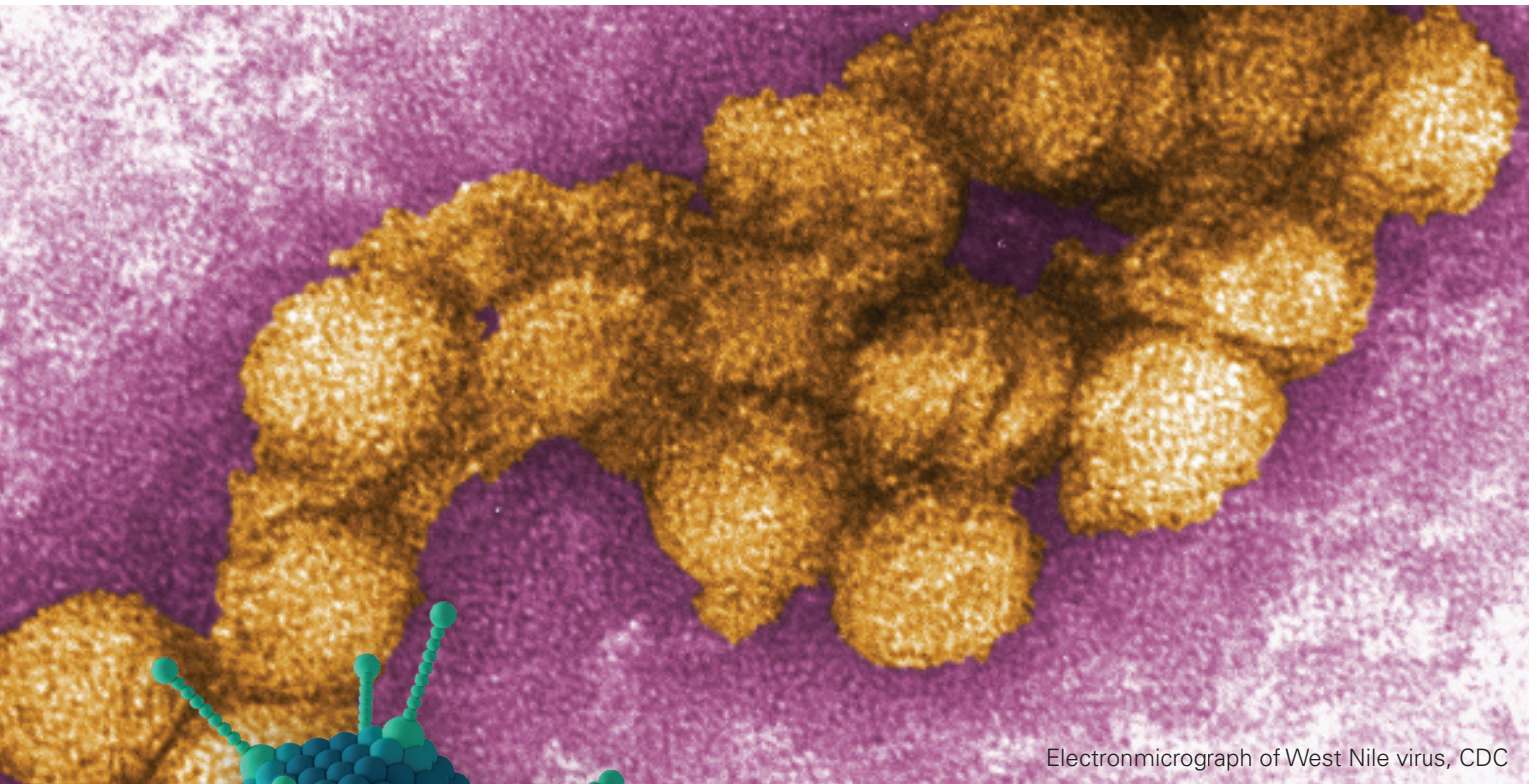
WHEN VIRUSES CAUSE DISEASE AND MAKE LOCAL, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL NEWS, MOST OF US REACT WITH SOME ANXIETY, take precautions to prevent or limit contact with the virus and adopt a heightened awareness of symptoms. When Professor John Morrey and his colleagues at Utah State University's Institute for Antiviral Research hear and read stories of dangerous emerging or recurring diseases, it's rarely "news" to them, but it brings a renewed urgency to their work.

"When people ask 'How's your work going?' I tend to always look ahead and think of the challenges and needs instead of looking back and seeing our successes, and we've had some great successes," Morrey, the institute's director, said. "There is always more to do. We always need more data, more ideas and there are always more grants to write, more papers to write, more things to understand."

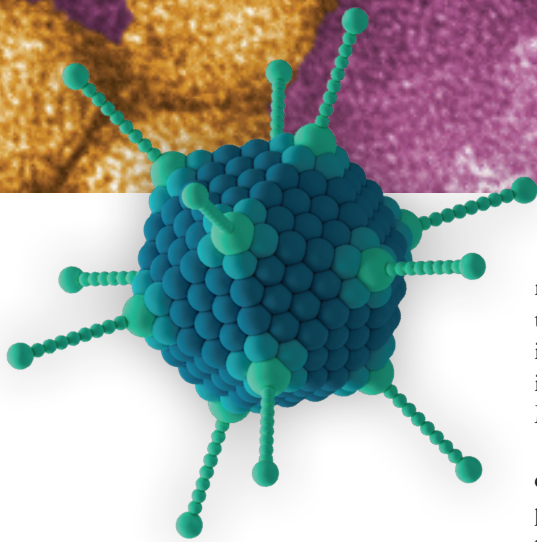
Morrey can be forgiven for focusing on the challenges. When your work is studying viruses, you may experience some exciting breakthroughs, but you are never really finished.

The institute's team includes seven lead investigators who are Department of Animal, Dairy and Veterinary Sciences faculty members, six PhD-level senior research associates and several full-time and student technicians. The viruses and diseases they study — think influenza, hanta, dengue, West Nile, chikungunya, SARS and Zika — could comprise an international "Most Not Wanted" list. The researchers don't discover new drugs, they test possible treatments in cell culture and animal models, investigate basic mechanisms of how viruses function and cause disease and search for ways to disrupt a virus' particular ability to do damage.

Adenovirus 3D schematic



Electronmicrograph of West Nile virus, CDC



“If you go fishing in a large lake you need to go where the fish are,” he said. “By discovering that West Nile and other neurological viruses can cause respiratory deficits, particularly with lesions in the spinal cord and brain stem, we’ve helped get scientists in the part of the lake where they can be productive.”

Doing basic biological research is important, but not filled with daily, flashy “Eureka” moments. However, without basic research the development of drugs, vaccines and tests for diseases would never happen. For example, the researchers’ discovery of the ways in which viruses like West Nile infect the brain stem and cause respiratory problems is important because it gives drug developers better targets for treatments and vaccines. Morrey likened it to being a guide.

“If you go fishing in a large lake you need to go where the fish are,” he said. “By discovering that West Nile and other neurological viruses can cause respiratory deficits, particularly with lesions in the spinal cord and brain stem, we’ve helped get scientists in the part of the lake where they can be productive.”

The team reached a notable milestone this year, surpassing \$107 million in grants and contracts since the institute was founded in 1977 and led by Robert Sidwell, now an emeritus professor. But don’t go looking for them in a gleaming, high-profile research center. Most of their work goes on in secure laboratories with up-to-date equipment and protocols, but the modest surroundings belie the caliber of research that goes on there every day.

To Morrey, surpassing the \$100 million mark in grant funding represents the group’s collective work and “the many pharmaceuticals in which we have played a part, and seeing them used by people around the world to fight viral disease and improve lives.”

Viruses in the Lab

Studying viruses in cell culture can tell scientists a great deal, but animal models play crucial roles in understanding viruses and testing possible treatments. Research Associate Professor Justin Julander explained that the complexity of the body, whether human, mouse or hamster, can’t be replicated in a petri dish or flask. Experiments in cell culture are important for targeting and measuring some responses, but cultures don’t replicate nearly countless variables like neuron function, respiration and immune response. Studies in animal models are important steps on the path to treating humans and running complex and expensive clinical trials of vaccines and drugs in humans. However, mice and hamsters are not naturally susceptible to viruses that infect humans.

Associate Research Professor Bart Tarbet pointed out that a key reason the researchers can do their work is the institute's colony of mice with specific genes "knocked out" to make them receptive to virus infection. Colleagues at USU also recently developed a first-of-its-kind, genetically engineered hamster that is proving valuable in the search for Zika virus treatments. Tarbet's lab works with genetically engineered mice in the search for a new model for treatments of enterovirus D68 (EV-D68). The virus is one among a family that includes polio and more than a 100-non polio viruses, and has caused illness that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has tracked since 1987. But in 2014, there was a spike in the number and severity of EV-D68 cases. Most troubling though was that some people developed a polio-like neurological disease, not just the usual respiratory infection that causes problems primarily for the very young, the very old and people with asthma. With funding from National Institutes of Health (NIH), Tarbet's lab is focused on developing a reliable testing model, and will follow that with two years of evaluating possible treatments.

It's important to note that most drugs don't make the cut from cell culture to tests in animal models and even fewer go to clinical trials.

"For example, three years ago the institute screened over 10,000 drugs to treat influenza in cell culture," Tarbet said. "Of those, fewer than two percent showed activity against the virus and just those few were considered for testing in animal models."

Julander said because it costs millions of dollars to develop a new drug and bring it to market, the institute's team feels fortunate to be doing work at the university where they are not tied to a company's bottom line. Morrey added that some people believe that any scientist who associates with the pharmaceutical industry has been bought off.

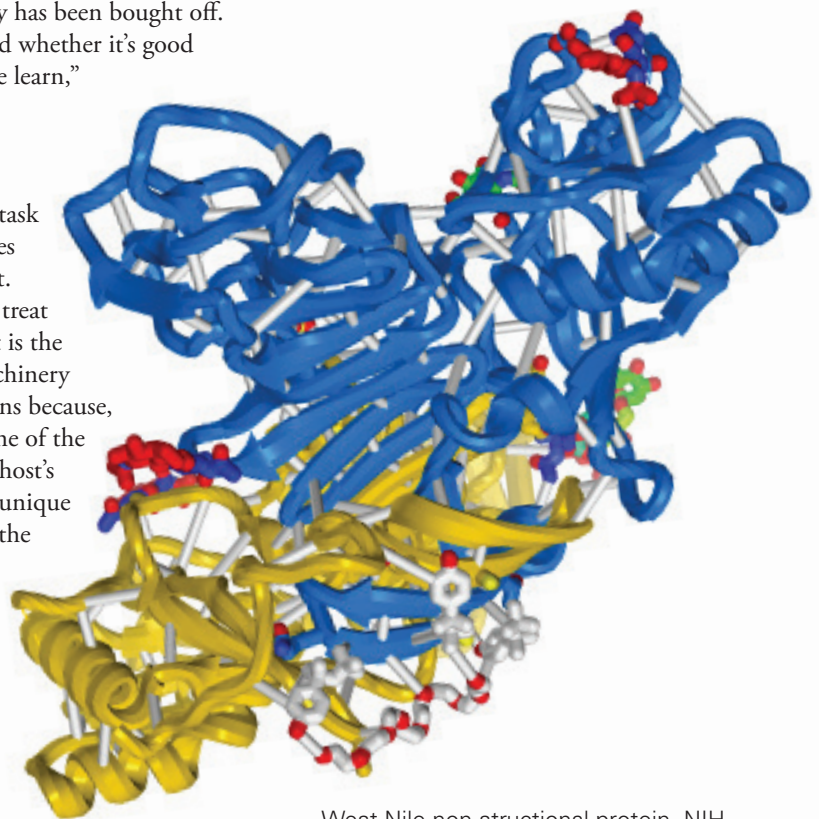
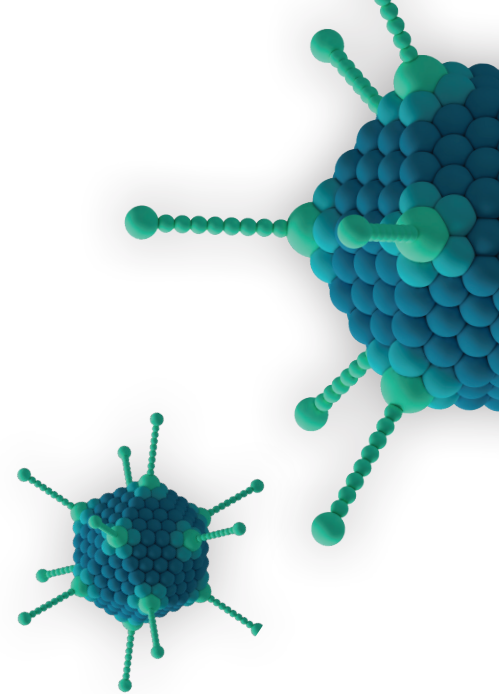
"The fact is, the data we generate is completely unbiased, and whether it's good news or bad news for a particular treatment, they get whatever we learn," Morrey said.

Challenges: Past and Present

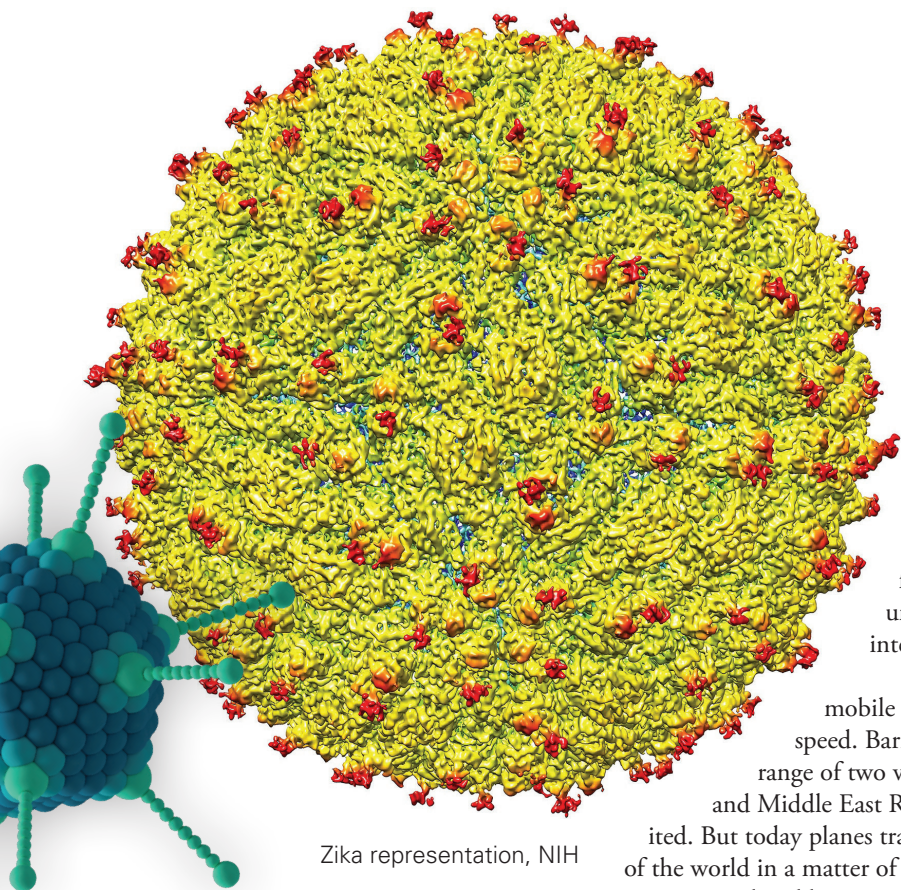
Battling established and emerging virus diseases is a complicated task for many reasons, some due to the nature of the viruses themselves and some because of the actions of people and animals they affect.

"One of the things that makes viral infections so difficult to treat is that viruses rely on the host's cells for growth," Morrey said. "It is the biggest challenge in developing therapies. Viruses rely on the machinery of the cells they infect. That is not the case with bacterial infections because, with a couple of exceptions, bacteria live outside our cells. So some of the conceivable approaches to eliminating a virus also eliminates the host's cell. Virologists like to do better than that and find very specific, unique viral processes that can be targeted so the cell is not harmed, but the virus is eliminated."

Another vexing characteristic of viruses is their ability to mutate, adapting to new surroundings or drug challenges. This ability allows viruses to expand their ranges, cause infection in new ways and become less or more virulent. It also means that once researchers have characterized a virus and how it works, the virus may have already changed. When viruses change in ways that make them more virulent or easier to transmit, the results can be devastating.



West Nile non-structural protein, NIH



Zika representation, NIH

Changing climate presents another challenge. Many virus-caused diseases are zoonotic, meaning they arise in animals and spread to humans. Mammals, birds and insects, like the now-famous, Zika-carrying *Aedes aegypti* mosquito, act as vectors for spreading viruses. Their ranges may expand or at least change as the climate and their habitats change.

Such was the case with Spanish flu in 1918-1919. That strain of influenza — a subtype of avian influenza H1N1 — became more deadly and easier to spread, explained Research Professor Dale Barnard. As a result, 20-40 million people died in a worldwide pandemic, far more than the 17 million who were killed in combat in that final year of World War I.

“Sometimes research can be driven by fear and media attention,” Barnard said. “But the experience of Spanish flu is one reason we are so vigilant and put great effort into understanding newly emerging viruses. We want to be able to intervene before something like that happens again.”

Another public health challenge is that people are very mobile today and can transport viruses to new locales with greater speed. Barnard said that prior to the mid-20th century the geographic range of two viruses he studies, Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS), would have been quite limited. But today planes transport passengers and viruses between countries and regions of the world in a matter of hours.

Barnard and his team are at work screening antiviral drugs for effectiveness against MERS, coronavirus infections and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) among other respiratory viruses. He observed that there are tools for drug development and testing that make the work faster than it was at the start of his career, but drug discovery hasn’t accelerated as rapidly as viruses’ abilities to spread.

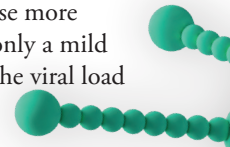
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Zika Virus in the News

By the time stories about Zika virus hit mainstream media in the United States this spring, the Institute for Antiviral Research had already been at work with the virus for several months with funding from the NIH. The team of researchers has since demonstrated in mice and hamsters that the virus does transfer from mother to fetus and cause growth restriction and other developmental anomalies at various times during fetal development. That gives the team good models for studies, including evaluation of a possible vaccine and use of therapeutic antibodies that may stimulate the immune system to attack the virus.

Julander, who leads the institute’s Zika virus research, said they have seen size differences and ocular deformities in mouse pups born to dams that were infected with Zika virus. It appears that infection during the first trimester of pregnancy is the most troubling.

“We previously found with West Nile virus that infection in the first trimester is the most critical time for abnormal fetal development and we see the same thing with Zika,” Julander said. “We need a vaccine to protect against Zika virus because more than 80 percent of people who get the virus have no symptoms or develop only a mild illness. The key to fighting most viral infections is starting treatment when the viral load



is small. No one is going to go to the doctor because they got a mosquito bite, so by the time someone feels symptoms the virus has become well established.”

Though both West Nile and Zika virus are spread by mosquitoes and can cause neurological disease, Morrey said there are key differences between two. Zika virus can be spread from one infected person to other people via mosquito bites. It can also be sexually transmitted. West Nile does not spread in those ways.

“Zika can mutate, and it does” Morrey said. “It’s very interesting because you can get a blood sample, but can’t culture it by some of the expected cell culture techniques because its genes have already changed in the time it took for viremia to occur (the virus to develop in the bloodstream). The viruses actually change when they go from mosquito to human and from human to mosquito, but Zika does this in a more obvious way.”

What’s Next?

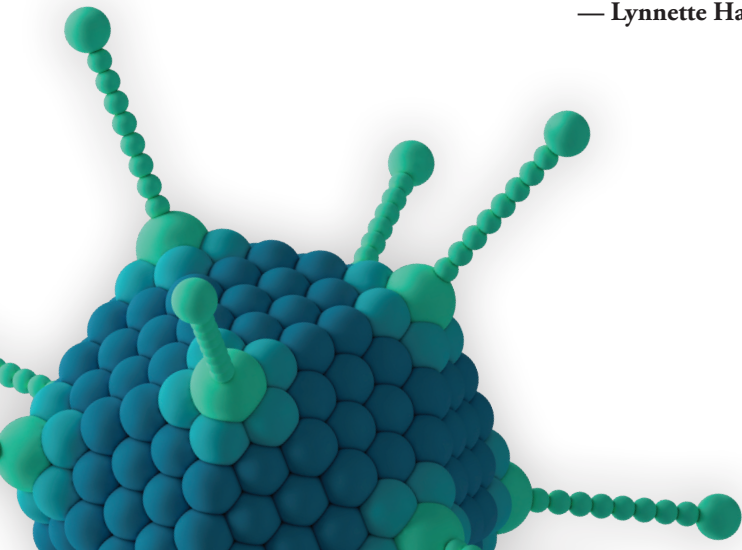
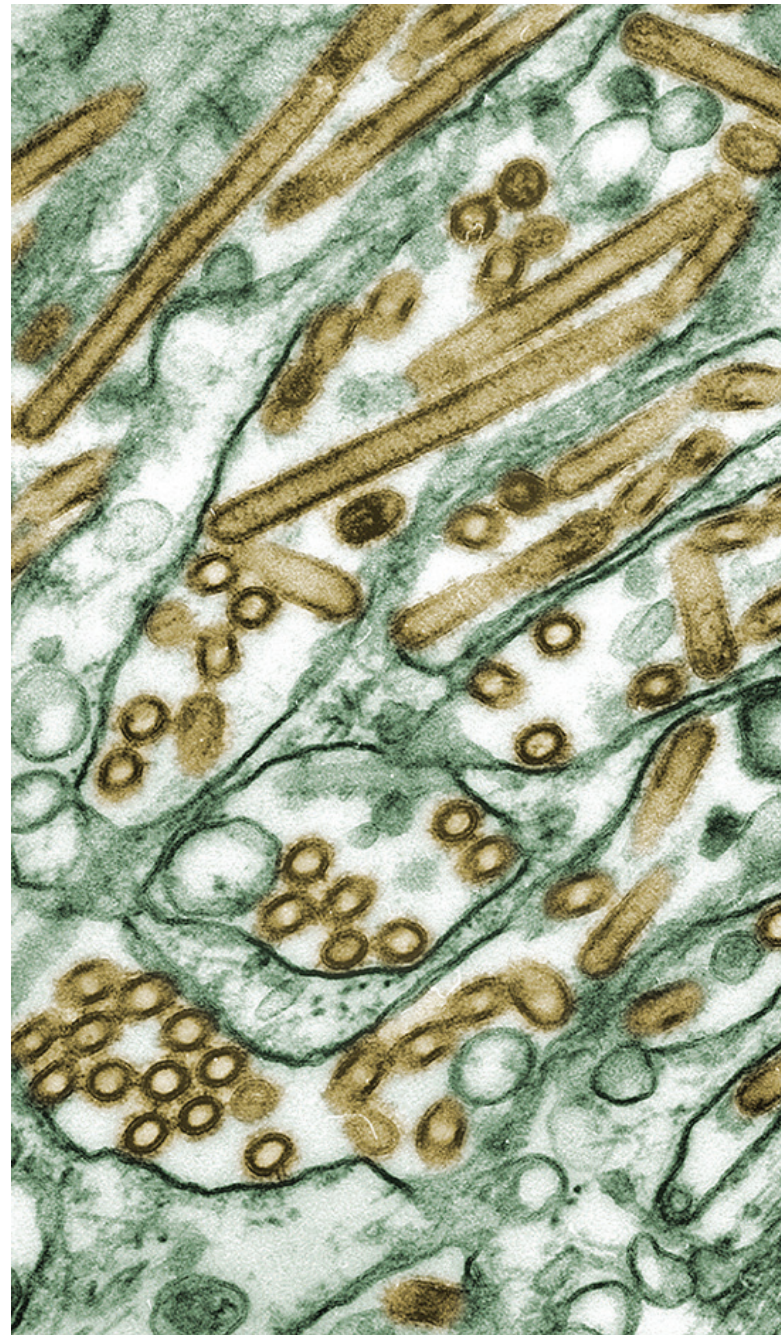
The faculty members at the core of the institute’s research team have “self-selected” to focus on specific kinds of virus infections. But the relatively small size of the team means ideas easily cross-pollinate, and discussions in lab meetings or in the hallway may lead to new questions, answers and shared expertise. There is no shortage of known viruses on which to focus so the research leaders, technicians and students go on working, networked with the larger scientific community, and always watching for signs that a new virus may be emerging, or a well-known one resurging.

Morrey said one frustration is that the procedure for approving new drugs does not currently work well for fighting emerging diseases. Regulations require that clinical trials include large numbers of people. The problem is that cases of people infected with an emerging disease are often sporadic and geographically far apart, so it is extremely difficult or impossible to include enough people in a single treatment trial.

“It has prevented the development of some drugs that could be useful, but the FDA is bound by law,” Morrey said. “The law needs to be adapted for emerging diseases like Zika and West Nile virus. It will require political will to make those changes. It may require loosening some standards in order to accomplish the studies and no one wants to be blamed for doing something that might not be safe.”

— Lynnette Harris ’88

H5N1 avian influenza, CDC



A New Season For Seeing

It's time to settle into winter here, to see Utah State University through a different set of eyes. It's one of the great things about this place, really — with each new season comes a different sort of beauty, different reminders to enjoy and to appreciate our shared labors and time. As for how others might see us, well, we share below a few indications, recently released nods to the truth we already perceive: this place, our place, is a great place.

No. 7 in the nation's best public national universities for graduates with the least debt (*U.S. News & World Report*, "Least Debt, Best Colleges 2017," Sept. 2016).

No. 4 in the "Best Small Cities for New Grads" (*The Degree360*, Aug. 2016).

No. 14 public university in the nation in "National Universities Rankings 2016" by *Washington Monthly* (*Washington Monthly*, "National University Rankings 2016," Aug. 2016).

No. 35 "Best College Town in America" (*Best College Reviews*, *Top 50 Best College Towns in America*," Oct. 2016).

Of course rankings don't really change anything, but Utah State University's Power to Change for Good certainly can — and we'll settle into that.





1950s

A Barre Toelken '58, Utah State University emeritus, received the Kenneth Goldstein Award for Lifetime Academic Leadership from the American Folklore Society at its conference in Miami earlier this year. Having received the Paredes Prize in 2007 and the Kenneth Goldstein Award for Lifetime Academic Leadership in 2011, Toelken is the only person ever to receive three major American Folklore Society awards, according to the organization's executive director, Timothy Lloyd.

1980s

A Utah State volleyball great **Annette Cottle '81, '86 MEd** was a part of the 2016 class inducted into the Utah Sports Hall of Fame in October.

A Weber County educator and former Utah State basketball player **Reid Newey '88, '96 MEd** was recently appointed the new Davis School District superintendent. Newey had been serving as an assistant superintendent with Weber School District and was among 10 candidates who interviewed for the position. He has 28 years of experience in educa-



Utah State University's retiring Police Chief Steve Mecham.

tion, beginning as a teacher at Clearfield High School in Utah. He also previously worked as an assistant basketball coach at Utah State University, where he got his bachelor's in health education and a master's in physical education and recreation. He played basketball for the Aggies and was the team's captain in 1988, later going on to play professionally in Belgium.

Newey also taught at Fremont and Weber high schools, later serving as principal of the former and an assistant principal at the latter. He was principal at North Ogden Junior High School and has worked in several director positions within the Weber School District.

1990s

A **Kraig Anderson '90, '92 MS** was presented the Modern Day Light Keeper Award by the National Lighthouse Museum headquartered on Staten Island, NY. Anderson was once given the domain name lighthousefriends.com as a birthday present from a friend. He developed a website about all the lighthouses in the United States and Canada and made it a goal to personally visit each lighthouse in the United States, which he accomplished during a trip to Alaska in 2007. He has seen most of the lighthouses in Canada as well.

A Utah State University's Police Chief **Steve Mecham '90 MS** is retiring after a 39-year career in law enforcement. Mecham completed the law enforcement program at Ricks College (now BYU-Idaho) in Rexburg, Idaho and spent two years on patrol and another two years in investigations there after a brief stint at BYU in Provo, before moving to Logan in 1981 to join USU's recently formed nine-officer police department. Mecham was promoted to sergeant soon after he

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Happy ready and updating.



started working at USU and completed his justice administration degree and a master's in social science. Mecham, who has been police chief for the last 24 years, said he never thought he would stay in university law enforcement for so long, but it turned out that he loved the campus environment, the students and their activities. The chief is seen here leading his last Homecoming Parade at USU in September.

A Sarah South '96 was appointed as vice president of laboratory sciences at Ancestry — the largest for-profit genealogy company in the world — according to *Utah Business Magazine*. She previously served as vice president of Laboratory Operations at 23andme.

A Joshua Swayne '01, '03 MS has been promoted to chief executive officer of Prospect Education, which owns and operates Charter College campuses in Washington, California, Alaska and Mon-

tana; Charter Institute, which operates a campus in New Mexico; and an online program.

Swayne has been with Prospect Education since 2008, starting as the Pasco Campus president in Washington and most recently serving as chief operations officer, a position he has held since January 2015. In his new role, he is responsible for overseeing and developing Charter College leaders in charge of education, compliance, admissions, financial aid, marketing, IT and the other departments integral to the school's success.

Swayne has spent nearly 15 years in the education industry, beginning as an instructor and eventually serving as executive director at another career college, before joining Charter College. His experience has given him time in the classroom, as well as hands-on operational management of admissions, education, student retention and compliance. He earned his master's degree in instructional technology and his bachelor's degree in

psychology from Utah State University, graduating cum laude.

A Ethan Nickerson, a graduate student at Utah State University getting his master's in mechanical engineering, was recently named first runner up in the World Nuclear Energy Future poster category at the annual Idaho National Laboratory Intern Expo and Poster Session. Nickerson spent the summer as an intern at INL's Materials and Fuels Complex. The title of his poster was *Distortion Correction for Digital Image Correlation at HFEF*.

A Philanthropist Jon M. Huntsman, Sr., joined Utah State volleyball great **Annette Cottle** (listed above) as a member of the 2016 class inducted into the Utah Sports Hall of Fame in October. Huntsman is the namesake benefactor of Utah State University's Jon M. Huntsman School of Business.

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AIN MEMORIAM

Through October 31, 2016

1930s

Claude J. Burtenshaw '39 Att, Aug. 27, UT
Francis B. Dial '39 Att, Oct. 13, UT
William D. Hurst '38, Sept. 29, UT

1940s

Llewellyn A. Banks '42, Oct. 19, UT
Zella Bassett (Anderson) '47, Sept. 22, WA
Duane R. Belliston '49 Att, Sept. 25, UT
Beverly D. Burkus '46, Aug. 27, IN
Harold R. Capener '42, '47MS, Oct. 13, UT
Bonna Lue Daniels Cardon '42, Sept. 17, UT
Marie Johnsen Clark '40, '58, Oct. 22, UT
Lew Cook '46 Att, Sept. 8, WA
Ruth Arlene Darrington (Henderson) '48, Sept. 4, UT
James M. Greenhalgh '46 Att, Oct. 19, UT
Nadine Madsen Gunn '41, Oct. 8, UT
Wanda Harris (Murphy) '49, Oct. 12, UT
Jessie Mae Redd MacDonald '48, Oct. 22, UT
Mary L. Madsen (Greaves) '49, Sept. 14, UT
Melvin W. Robertson '43 Att, Oct. 18, UT
Heber C. Swainston, Jr. '49 Att, Oct. 20, ID
Melvin E. Thayne '49, Sept. 6, UT
Kay W. Wilkes '49, Mar. 1, CA

1950s

Margaret Adams Allen '54, Oct. 6, UT
Aage T. Axelgard '52, Sept. 28, UT
Gordon L. Beckstrand '50, Aug. 29, UT
James Lucius Benson '57, Sept. 17, UT
Dixie M. Botsford '56 Att, Sept. 26, UT
Robert G. Burrows '51, Oct. 24, NY
Derral M. Child '53, Oct. 4, UT
Ralph T. Clark '50, '69MFA, Oct. 5, UT
John William Clinger '59, Oct. 19, ID
Darwin B. Crezee '54, Oct. 1, AZ
Newel G. Daines, Jr. '50, Sept. 30, UT
Robert J. Dean '53, Aug. 28, UT
William R. Ferney '59, Oct. 18, UT
Walter Fox '50, Oct. 16, GA
Ernest F. Groll '50, Oct. 15, NC
Jeanine Hansen (Showell) '55, Oct. 21, UT
Byron Hunsaker '53 Att, Oct. 6, UT
Patricia K. Hurten '56, Sept. 9
Marian H. Hutchinson (Hayward) '51, Sept. 19, AZ
Arlo G. Hyde '53, Sept. 16, UT
Lyman Jensen '52 Att, Sept. 28, UT
Ann Judd (Ashcroft) '52, Aug. 30, UT
Dick Kapple '50, Oct. 9, UT
Dixon E. Kaul '50, Oct. 8, WI
Rex B. Kirby '54, '67MED, Aug. 30, UT
Sharon W. Lee (Wilson) '56, Sept. 21, UT
Geraldine Pollock Mang '53 Att, Sept. 4, AZ
Owen J. McClellan '57, Sept. 11, AZ
Lyle Michaelis '50 Att, Sept. 15, UT
Della Mae Miller (Lucas) '58, Sept. 22, UT
Grant E. Neilsen '51, Sept. 28, UT
Richard R. Olsen '56, Oct. 20, UT
Richard H. Petersen '50, '53MS, '71MBA, Jan. 5, CA
Joseph R. Ringel '51, Sept. 8, ID
Stratford D. Simpson '54 Att, Sept. 16, UT
Lieutenant Commander John W. Tanner '53, Sept. 16, UT

David R. Walker '51, '52MS, Aug. 27, UT
Beverly Morrill Willie '50, Aug. 29, UT
Clair E. Wilson '52, Sept. 27, UT
Larry J. Works '57, Oct. 19, WA

1960s

Blanche Astle (Linford) '67, '74MS, Sept. 8, UT
Eugene A. Bartnicki '61, Oct. 12, OK
Robert E. Berger '60, Aug. 28, UT
Earl Gary Carson '67, Sept. 13, ID
Michael L. Casey '63, Oct. 11, CA
Earl B. Child '60, '68MS, Oct. 17, UT
Ira H. Coltrin, Jr. '67MED, Sept. 26, ID
Sandra Cordon (Holst) '62, '91MS, Sept. 24, UT
Charles M. Crittenden '62, '68MS, '80EDD, Sept. 26, UT
Ernest J. Eberhard '62, Oct. 22, UT
Yoko Y. Elsner '61, Sept. 3, UT
Dominick J. Giovinnazzo '61, Sept. 24, NH
Stephen W. Hatch '69, Oct. 4, UT
Ann C. Howells (Kingdom) '66, Sept. 27, UT
Mary A. Kirkham (Degelbeck) '60 Att, Oct. 9, UT
Carolyn C. Moody (Smith) '66, Sept. 13, UT
Andrew D. Nielsen '60, Sept. 8, OR
Louise Skidmore Nielson '60, Oct. 8, UT
Kenneth Earl Peck '62MED, Oct. 19, ID
Alma E. Richins '64 Att, Sept. 14, UT
Martin R. Ricks '64, Oct. 18, UT
Verdell T. Robinson '63, Sept. 15, CA
Duane M. Rubink '60, Sept. 6, UT
Carol Brown Sands '67, '78MED, Feb. 6, CA
Dauna Olson Seager '68, Oct. 27, UT
Elvon Skinner (Teuscher) '62, Oct. 18, ID
Thelma Evans Smith '68, Oct. 18, UT
Max Sudweeks '60, '62MS, Aug. 27, UT
Bryan L. Taggart '64 Att, Sept. 4, UT
Dennis L. Thorup '67, Oct. 8, WY
Leland F. Turner '66, Oct. 23, UT
Joseph Marlis Williams '64, Oct. 20, AZ
Lynne Winsor '67, '70MFA, Aug. 20, UT
Barbara Maero Wright '68, Oct. 18, UT

1970s

Larry James Allred '72 Att, Oct. 3, UT
Louis S. Anderson '78 Att, Oct. 16, UT
Gregory Wayne Bera '74, Sept. 21, CA
G. Scott Budge '78, Sept. 25, NJ
Jonathan Marler Dalby '71, Sept. 14, IN
Jill Gihring '72 Att, Sept. 1, UT
Craig Hale '70, Sept. 14, UT
Janae W. Hansen '77 Att, Sept. 29, ID
Wink Hastings '74, Aug. 7, MD
Geraldine T. Lindquist '74MS, '78EDD, Oct. 14, UT
Harry D. Lucus '72MBA, Sept. 10, UT
Byron D. Massman, Jr. '67, '73MED, Sept. 10, UT
Susanne W. Mayberry '74 Att, Aug. 30, UT
Lloyd Ross Noyes '72 Att, Oct. 8, UT
Douglas J. Paulus '72, Sept. 1, IL
Elray Merrill Schumann '75 Att, Oct. 26, UT
Earl L. Starks '73MM, Oct. 23, WY
Kenneth A. Strauss '70, Aug. 25, ID
Maureen Topik (Rampton) '72, Oct. 9, UT
Jess Veasey '73MS, Sept. 8, TX
Pamela Weston (Porter) '79, Mar. 15, WY

1980s

Marilyn Y. Duffy '83MSS, Oct. 5, UT
Jody L. Hadfield '80 Att, Feb. 19, UT
Burton Lee Harris '81, '85MS, Oct. 9, UT
Carol Andersen Himberger '81, Sept. 22, ID
Marilyn Muir Jager '85, Oct. 17, CA
Michelle Slusher '85, Sept. 16, UT
Joann H. Steffensen '88EDD, Oct. 16, UT
Brenda Bingham Stuart '81 Att, Sept. 7, UT
Edwynn S. Weaver '84MSS, Oct. 22, UT

1990s

Pat R. Anderson '96MSS, Oct. 13, FL
Douglas H. Archibald '97, Oct. 21, UT
Annette K. Beardall '96, Sept. 25, UT
Ivan W. Mott '97, Oct. 24, ID
Mickie Jo Stewart '92MS, Sept. 26, UT
Aimee LaRee Wilson '92, Oct. 12, UT

2000s

Chris J. Blight '07, Jul. 9, UT
James K. Burns '07, Oct. 23, UT

2010s

Daniel Pike '18 Att, Oct. 2, UT
Le Anna Porter '11, '12, Sept. 27, UT
Kirk Ingram Smith '10 Att, Oct. 12, UT

FRIENDS

Ron N. Anderson Oct. 22, UT
Kathy Anderson Sept. 30, UT
Robert G. Arnold Jul. 24, AZ
Bill Baker Oct. 24, UT
Melanie Bastian Aug. 29, UT
Wilma D. Bauer (Davies) Sept. 10, UT
Glenn Baxter Sept. 28, UT
Timothy A. Bell Oct. 22, UT
Lela W. Benson Sept. 29, UT
Edwin Beus Oct. 11, UT
Paul Bowden Sept. 19, UT
Larry Bradshaw Sept. 15, UT
Gene E. Bunderson Sept. 10, UT
Jay Butler Sept. 8, FL
Nancyann Butterfield Sept. 4, UT
Flora L. Carson Oct. 17, UT
Arlene A. Conger (Anderson) Sept. 23, UT
Douglas H. Dieu Sept. 29, UT
Ronald Downs Sept. 2, UT
Dee Ekstrom Sept. 1, UT
Orrin T. Farnsworth Oct. 3, UT
Lynda Gamble Oct. 5, UT
Patricia Gay Aug. 20, UT
Gregory Greer Oct. 1, UT
Lynn Greer Sept. 16, UT
Gary L. Hicks Sept. 16, UT
Maurice L. Hinton Oct. 20, UT
Hans J. Holland Sept. 16, UT
Clair Parley Jones Oct. 14, UT
Clarence Kemp Sept. 20, UT
Leonard H. Krogue May 30
Donald P. Kuester Sept. 4, UT
Anna Beth Linnartz Sept. 1, UT
Sherril Burnside Marchello Sept. 30, UT
Glen H. Maw Sept. 5, UT
Barbra A. McLaughlin Oct. 8, OH
Linda Mendenhall Dec. 12, UT
Ross Merdlich Sept. 26, UT
Tony Miera Sept. 27, UT
Frank G. Moody Aug. 13, TX
John Morrison Sept. 15, UT
Ralph Neilson Aug. 14, UT
Darrell Nielsen May 19, UT
Marjorie Nielson Sept. 23, UT
Larry Orosz Aug. 31, UT
Greg Packard Sept. 10, UT
Jill Penkhus Sept. 19, UT
Don Seely Petersen Sept. 4
Laddie Pruett Sept. 14, UT
James Rains Sept. 30, UT
Chris L. Rigley Oct. 20, UT
Wayne Roskelley Sept. 3, UT
Donald L. Ross Oct. 18, UT
Thomas F. Rugh Oct. 14, UT
Velma L. Speth Sept. 4, UT
Toshia Stettler Oct. 5, UT
Cora B. Sullivan Oct. 12, UT
Bourke Tarbet IV Jul. 23, UT
Joanne Thornton Sept. 24, UT
Charlotte Naranjo Turner Sept. 24, UT
Brenda Zinskey (Branyan) Jul. 23, NV

ATTENDERS

Karen J. Acklin Att, Oct. 16, UT
Norman Kim Allen Att, Sept. 14
Roberta Grace Allgood Att, Oct. 30
Melinda Jensen Arnold Att, Sept. 15, UT
Robert Leonard Baker Att, Sept. 10
James Barnhart Att, Sept. 29
Dixie L. Blackham Att, Sept. 19, UT
Marlene Bodily (Pack) Att, Sept. 17
Travis Carlyle Bowers Att, Aug. 28
Evelyn M. Brandon Att, Oct. 1
Alex H. Bray Att, Aug. 29, UT
DeVee L. Brunson Att, Oct. 12, UT
Ellis Edward Christensen Att, Oct. 2
Jay Don Coppersmith Att, Oct. 24, UT
Kenneth D. Dimick Att, Sept. 9, UT
Glen Drown Att, Sept. 1
Lesley D. Esklund Att, Sept. 25, UT
Robert Dale Fisher Att, Apr. 7
Larae Fullmer Att, Sept. 20, AZ
Richard J. Funk Att, Oct. 13, UT
Todd Galpin Att, Sept. 8, UT
Reed Bryan Haddock Att, Oct. 26
Ronald N. Hall Att, Aug. 29, UT
Wilma Oliver Hanson Att, Oct. 13, UT
Neil L. Henningson Att, Oct. 12, UT
Jean Hylton (Larsen) Att, Oct. 25
Thomas Paul James Att, Oct. 25
Kathleen Jensen (Wainwright) Att, Sept. 16
Steven B. Jensen Att, Sept. 14, UT
Terry R. Jewkes Att, Sept. 22, UT
Anne Judd (Ashcroft) Att, Aug. 30
Ryan William Kimball Att, Oct. 23, UT
James E. Kreimann Att, Sept. 17
Chet C. Lazenby Att, Oct. 24, UT
David J. Lopez Att, Oct. 6, UT
Mary Ann Lyman (Wright) Att, Sept. 1
James A. MacLean Att, Oct. 7, AZ
Odessa Smith McGregor Att, Sept. 10
Carol McMullin (Mainord) Att, Sept. 12
Bonnie Mierta Att, Aug. 1
Betty Jo Miller (Maughan) Att, Aug. 1
Elizabeth Hatch Miller Att, Aug. 25, UT
Jesse David Mitchell Att, Sept. 3
Robert Mullins Att, Jun. 8, UT
Julie Iverson Naisbitt Att, Sept. 24
Joshua L. Naylor Att, Oct. 23, UT
Ann McNaughtan Neville Att, Oct. 15
Sunny J. Nielsen Att, Oct. 11, UT
Bonnie Pace Nielson Att, Sept. 9, MI
Jack W. Orlop Att, Aug. 31
Richard L. Owen Att, Sept. 23
Joan Peck (Capener) Att, Sept. 30
Daniel J. Pike Att, Oct. 2, UT
Barbara F. Rasmussen Att, Oct. 5, UT
Terry Reid Att, Sept. 24, AZ
Gregory Schraw Att, Sept. 16
Mary Albertson Seaman Att, Sept. 29, UT
Harold R. Sorenson Att, Oct. 10, UT
Pamela D. Spiers (Jensen) Att, Sept. 30
Byron Hale Stoddard Att, Sept. 26
Braxton Taylor Att, Sept. 23, UT
Keith Clem Turnbow Att, Oct. 20
Dixie M. Warren Att, Oct. 21, UT
Kurt Young Att, Sept. 22, UT
Michael A. Young Oct. 14, UT
Wanda Nelson Zahler Att, Sept. 3

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Directed by Jason Spelbring

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Music & Lyrics by Andrew Lippa, Book by John August



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- Wait Until Dark
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- The Foreigner
by Larry Shue
- Big River
by Roger Miller

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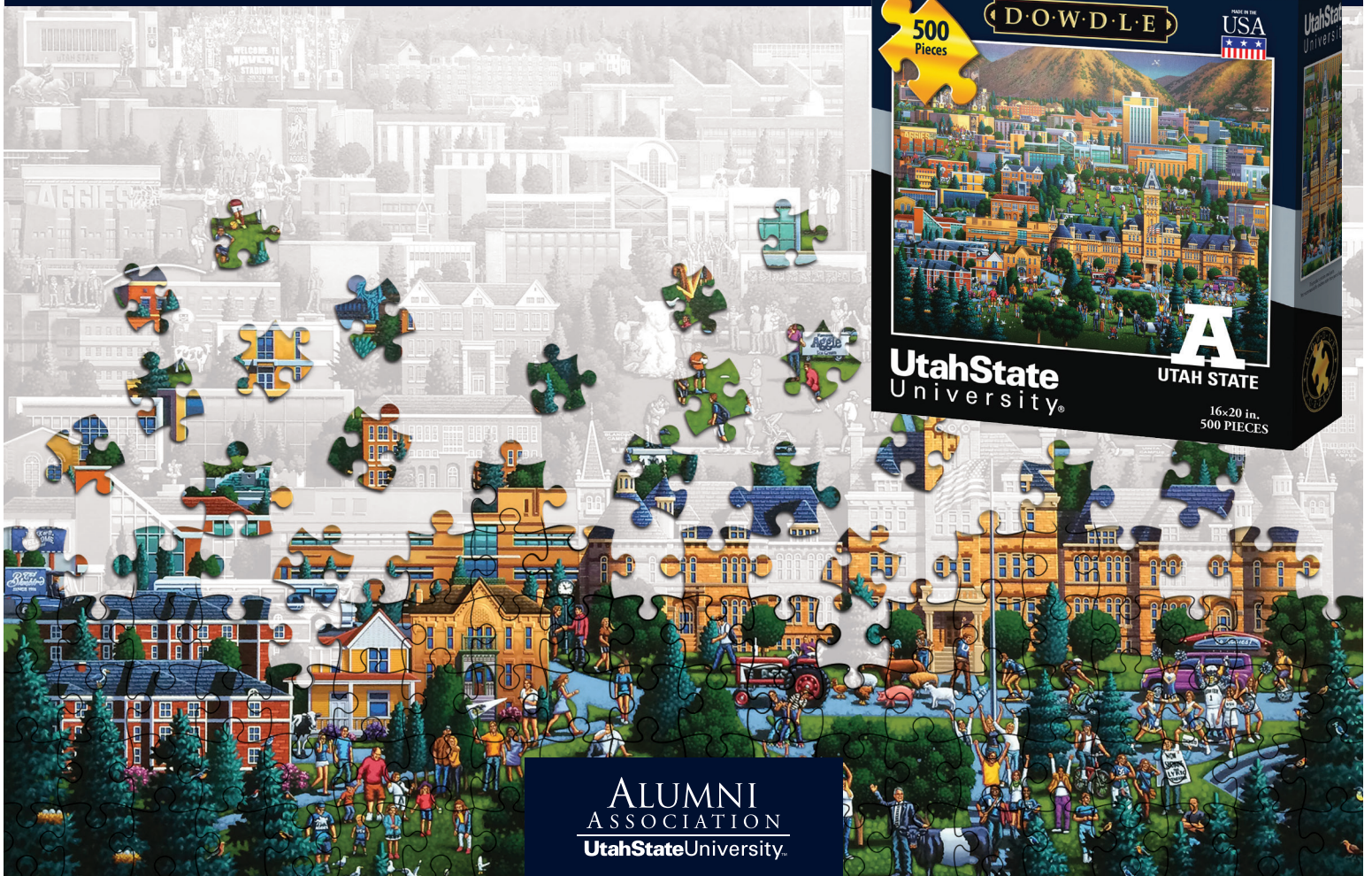
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