Thank you alumni for your generous and active support of your alma mater. Alumni chose to make gifts to their class fund (please see Class Challenge on page 49) and to scholarships and programs throughout campus. This philanthropy is an important and vital source of funding, and alumni giving makes a difference. U.S. News & World Report uses yearly alumni participation as a measure of alumni involvement for its annual rankings. Nevada was again ranked in the top tier of “best national universities.” We are grateful to these former students who made a gift to their alma mater during 2013.
Alumna establishes endowment in honor of her father’s 100th birthday

Alumna June George ’86M.D. has established the Joseph M. George, Jr. M.D. Endowed Scholarship Fund for medical students in honor of her father’s 100th birthday last May.

Joseph volunteered for service during World War II, serving as a flight surgeon. Later, he was a family practice physician in rural Maryland and Las Vegas, Nev., and was involved in medical leadership at the local and state levels. Joseph also served on the admissions committee at the University of Nevada School of Medicine. Outside of the medical profession, Joseph was active in his local church and is described as a devoted member of Kiwanis and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He has been a generous supporter of the University for more than three decades.

“My father’s life is characterized by love of his family and service to his community, church, colleagues and country,” says June George, a board-certified colon and rectal surgeon who established Alaska Colorectal Surgery in Anchorage in 1998. “He was always one to lend a helping hand to get someone started.”

The scholarship is funded through gifts from friends, family and colleagues, including a gift from George after he learned of their generosity. Recipients of the scholarship will be School of Medicine students, with preference for graduates from a Clark County High School who demonstrate financial need.

—Roseann Keegan

To learn more about supporting the School of Medicine, please contact Christina Sarman ’00, ’11M.A., director of development, (775) 784-6009 or christinas@unr.edu. In southern Nevada, please contact Wendy Nelson, director of development, (702) 671-2240 or wbnelson@medicine.nevada.edu.
Do you know someone who BLEEDS SILVER & BLUE?

The Nevada Alumni Association is now accepting Alumni Council member nominations!

DEADLINE: AUGUST 1, 2014 – The Alumni Council meets throughout the year and is the governing body of the Nevada Alumni Association. Contact 888.NV ALUMS or nvalumni@unr.edu for more information.

To nominate an alumnus, please submit online - alumni.unr.edu/nomination.aspx
Or fax this form to: (775) 784-4878 or nvalumni@unr.edu.
Or mail the below form to: Nevada Alumni Association, Morrill Hall Alumni Center, University of Nevada, Reno/0164, Reno, Nevada 89557-0164.

Name: ___________________________________________________________ Class year: _______
Address: ___________________________________________________________________________
City: ___________________________________________ State: _______ Zip Code: ___________
Business/Occupation: _________________________________________________________________
Telephone: _________________________ email: _________________________________________
Alumni, are you up to the challenge? 10 good reasons to give to your class fund:

1. Nevada alumni are loyal and supportive of their alma mater. Nearly 11,000 alumni made a gift to Nevada in 2013. Their names can be found starting on page 44.

2. Your class fund becomes a permanent endowment when class gifts total $10,000.

3. Alumni support is becoming more critical and helped Nevada become a Tier 1 university in U.S. News & World Report.

4. No gift is too small and every gift makes a difference. You may think that your $25 gift couldn't possibly have an impact, but it all adds up.

5. Your gift demonstrates confidence in your education and enhances the prestige of the University of Nevada, Reno, upholding a proud 140-year history.

6. Your participation matters. U.S. News & World Report uses yearly alumni participation as a measure of alumni involvement for its annual rankings. Nevada was again ranked in the top tier of "best national universities." Nevada was also ranked among the top public schools in the country, had 24 graduate programs listed among the nation's best, and both the College of Engineering and College of Business were ranked as "best undergraduate programs."

7. Higher national rankings increase the value of your degree. Rankings also affect the University's ability to recruit and retain the best and brightest students.

8. Your gift might be doubled—or tripled. If your employer or your spouse's employer has a matching gift program, your gift can be matched 1:1 or more. To find matching gift companies, please visit http://matchinggifts.com/unr.

9. Your gift is tax-deductible and you will promptly receive an acknowledgement of your gift.

10. Making a gift to your class fund is easy. Visit our secure online site at http://giving.unr.edu, choose "Class Challenge" under designation and indicate your class year under comments.

To support the Class Endowment Challenge, please contact Lynda Buhlig '84, executive director of development for Development and Alumni Relations, (775) 682-6013 or lbuhlig@unr.edu.
Abbi Agency establishes annual strategic communications scholarship

The Abbi Agency, a Reno-based public relations and digital engagement firm, recently established a 10-year scholarship fund for Donald W. Reynolds School of Journalism and Center for Advanced Media Studies Strategic Communications students. The scholarship is particularly notable because, for the first time in the school’s history, part-time students are eligible to apply.

“I was a non-traditional, older student at Nevada,” Abbi (Holtom) Whitaker ’04 (journalism) says of her decision to open the opportunity to part-time students. “I know there are a lot of hard-working students that don’t fit the traditional role, yet still excel.”

Whitaker graduated from the Reynolds School of Journalism in 2004 and brings a decade’s worth of top-level public relations experience to her agency’s numerous clients. The Abbi Agency specializes in business-to-business products and services, food and beverage companies, product launches, and sports and outdoors companies and events. A number of Whitaker’s employees are Reynolds School graduates, a trend that she sees continuing in the future, making local support for the program all the more important.

“Most of our team members attended the Reynolds School,” Whitaker says. “I think it’s important that all the marketing, advertising and PR agencies in town support students. They are our future employees.”

Reynolds School Strategic Communications Professor Todd Felts is particularly excited about the new scholarship and both the opportunities it will open for students and what it says about the school’s relationship with local public relations agencies and media outlets. “We appreciate Abbi stepping up and recognizing the importance of financially supporting students,” Felts says. “We’re often amazed by how much our community engages with our students and this support is a concrete example that relationships are critical to our students’ success.”

The first Strategic Communications Scholarship will be awarded in fall 2014.

—Jill Stockton and Gillian Griffith ’12

To learn more about supporting the Reynolds School of Journalism, please contact Kristin Burgarello ’97, director of development, (775) 784-4471 or kburgarello@unr.edu.
Back to the Pack: Harry and Rita Huneycutt ’72, ’76 M.A.

Since the inaugural event in 2006, Rita ’72 (business education), ’76 M.A. (education) and the late Harry Huneycutt, M.D. have underwritten the Athletics Academic Excellence and Scholarship Banquet, which recognizes the academic achievements of Wolf Pack student-athletes and the donors who have endowed scholarships to support them. The couple’s kindness to the University and its student-athletes has left an indelible mark on the Wolf Pack.

“We are extremely grateful to the Huneycutts for their longtime support of Nevada student-athletes and this important event, which highlights the work of Wolf Pack student-athletes outside of competition and where it matters most: in the classroom,” says Nevada Athletics Director Doug Knuth.

The annual banquet recognizes student-athletes who have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better, along with the top team GPA and academic all-conference, all-district and all-America honorees.

Rita and Harry’s steadfast support of Nevada’s student-athletes spans almost two decades. In addition to annual support for the awards banquet and other athletics funds and events, they have supported the Marguerite Wattis Petersen Academic Center and the Battle Born campaign to support the Wolf Pack’s move to the Mountain West Conference.

Harry, a family physician, was also a member of the Athletic Association of the University of Nevada (AAUN) Board of Directors, the central fundraising arm of Wolf Pack athletics and the umbrella organization for all development efforts associated with University of Nevada Intercollegiate Athletics. Rita is an emeritus president of Truckee Meadows Community College, where she also served as the vice president of planning and development.

The Huneycutts are listed as Gold Benefactors in the University’s Honor Court.

—Roseann Keegan

To learn more about supporting Nevada Athletics, please contact David A. Sabolcik, associate athletics director of development, (775) 682-6983 or dsabolcik@unr.edu.
Faith Pedersen Spencer endowment continues to grow

In a touching tribute to his wife of 60 years, John Spencer ’60 (wildlife management) understood his wife’s dedication to the University’s libraries and, in the waning months of his life, chose to greatly enhance her endowment, the Faith Pedersen Spencer Memorial Library Endowment.

The endowment was originally created by Faith’s family and friends in July 2011 following her death. She was a longtime University library employee and volunteer, and together both she and her husband were active members of the Friends of the Library.

Spencer, who spent most of his working life as a research technician for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, died in July 2013, just two days shy of the second year anniversary of Faith’s death. Faith worked at Getchell Library as an employee and came back after retirement to work as a volunteer. She helped launch and name the Book Nook, which sold books that were not needed in the library’s collections.

“She was the spirit of the Book Nook,” said Karen Cronmiller, the Book Nook coordinator when Faith volunteered. “She had an open heart and was always ready to give her time. She was totally dependable and trained every new person who worked in the Book Nook. I really respected her and her knowledge of literature. There was no one more dedicated to books than Faith.”

According to digital projects librarian Glee Willis, Faith was a mild-mannered, earnest and gentle woman. Other co-workers also remember her keen sense of humor and wit.

A graduate of Reno High in 1943, Faith attended Scripps College in Claremont, Calif. After college, her appreciation of literature, notably children’s literature, prompted her to complete a publishing program sponsored by Oxford Press at Radcliffe School in Cambridge, Mass., which led to a position with the company in New York City. Upon her return to Reno in 1949, she married John Spencer and raised their four sons, Robert, John, Keith and Eric.

The endowment continues to grow and support the University Libraries’ programs, acquisitions and other needs.

—Deanna Hearn ’75

To learn more about supporting the University Libraries, please contact Millie Mitchell, director of development, (775) 682-5682 or mimitchell@unr.edu.
Who do YOU think should win?

2014 Nevada Alumni Association Award Nominations

Nominee’s Name____________________________________________________
Nominee’s Phone _________________________ Graduation Year____________
Nominee’s Address__________________________________________________

Suggested Award (check one):
[ ] Professional Achievement Award
[ ] Alumni Association Service Award
[ ] Outstanding Young Alumnus Award
[ ] University Service Award
[ ] Outstanding Chapter of the Year Award
[ ] Alumnus of the Year Award
[ ] Silver & Blue Appreciation Award

Your Name: ________________________________________________________
Address: ___________________________________________________________
City: ___________________________ State____________________
Telephone: ______________________________
Email: _____________________________________________________________

Please fill out the nomination form, along with 1-4 pages of supporting material, by May 15, 2014.
Mail to: Nevada Alumni Association, Morrill Hall Alumni Center, University of Nevada, Reno, NV 89557-0164, or email to Juliane Di Meo at juliane@unr.edu
You can also nominate online at alumni.unr.edu/AAward.aspx

Professional Achievement Award
An alumnus/alumna of the University with an outstanding record of career accomplishments.

University Service Award
A friend or graduate who has demonstrated dedication, commitment and service to the University.

Alumni Association Service Award
A friend or graduate who has rendered special and outstanding service to the Nevada Alumni Association.

Outstanding Young Alumnus Award
A graduate who is not more than 15 years past graduation and has an outstanding record of career accomplishments, and/or whose dedication, commitment and service to the Nevada Alumni Association has significantly enhanced alumni programming.

Outstanding Chapter of the Year Award
The award recognizes a specific chapter that has made significant contributions to alumni, students and friends of the University of Nevada and the Nevada Alumni Association during the past year.

Alumnus of the Year
A graduate who has rendered special and outstanding service to the University and by personal achievement has brought distinction to the University.

Silver & Blue Appreciation Award
A foundation and/or nonprofit or for-profit corporation whose support, service and partnership with the University has enriched the advancement of the University and contributed to its reputation as a leading institution of higher education.

For more information, please call 888.NV ALUMS or 775.784.6620.
Parent Donors

Thank you parents for your generous support. Parents of alumni and current students generously support the Parents Fund and other programs throughout campus. The Parents Fund provides for student support programs that benefit the general educational experience and the quality of life for the student body as a whole. We are grateful to these parents who made a gift to the Parents Fund and other programs at Nevada during 2013.
Living on campus provides easy access to campus resources and is associated with higher academic achievement by many measures. Higher GPAs are attained by students living on campus compared to students living off campus, and 24 percent more students living on campus graduate in four years compared to their off-campus peers.