WAKE FOREST MISCELLANY
By Kerry M. King ('85), Carol L. Hanner, Maria Henson ('82), Katherine Laws ('20) and Michael Breedlove
Illustrations by Martin Haake
Photography by Ken Bennett
Take a tour of the people, places, customs, history and favorite things of Wake Forest.

'A REAL COMMITMENT TO DOING THIS RIGHT'
By Carol L. Hanner
The LGBTQ+ Center begins a second decade supporting a welcoming environment for students, faculty and staff in its 10th anniversary and looks to the goals and dreams for the next 10 years.

'THE MAYBERRY EFFECT'
By Carol L. Hanner
Filmmaker Chris Hudson (MFA ’18) creates an award-winning documentary that delves into the passions driving six decades of cultural fascination with “The Andy Griffith Show.”

CONSTANT & TRUE
By Miles Palmore-Middleton ('21)
How I found my confidence and my calling. The former president of student government and ROTC cadet reflects on how his experiences at Wake Forest boosted his recognition of his talents and potential.

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DURING A TIME OF NEW BEGINNINGS, this issue of Wake Forest Magazine highlights customs, traditions and people that alumni will recognize as helping make Wake Forest the place they love. Since my arrival in July, I have experienced a warm welcome from Wake Foresters, and it continues today as I learn more about this remarkable community.

I am like a brand-new, first-year student, finding my way to the bookstore and the library, getting a tour of the Pit and uncovering the last of the unpacked items for my house and office. Part of being a new arrival for a first-year student — or even a president — is to embrace the customs and the culture, whether it is convocation or Hit the Bricks. Conversations with so many of you have helped me learn what makes this community so very special.

Some of my earliest memorable moments were a visit with Provost Emeritus Ed Wilson (’43, P ’91, ’93), a meeting with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, a discussion with our student-athletes and a tour with our facilities team.

In my first several weeks on campus, I see a vibrant, beautiful campus focused on uncovering knowledge and ways of benefiting society with the University’s Pro Humanitate motto at the center of Wake Forest’s endeavors. I see a place embracing its student-centered mission and examining issues through open dialogue that embraces diverse perspectives.

I am eager to renew Wake Forest traditions that were compromised by the pandemic and experiment with creative ways to heighten the student experience and our sense of community. As so many have throughout the world, I found that the power of collaboration has been a vital lesson during these trying months of the pandemic. At Wake Forest we succeed through finding new ways to work together to seize opportunities and collectively face challenges with a spirit of teamwork. With a call to reach deep into the wellsprings of the University’s culture, I ask you to take up this energy of “radical collaboration” as we all work together to find new partnerships and relationships. Such collaboration can only come through trust, transparency and teamwork.

I look forward to partnering with many of you as we seek excellence as a University committed to embracing the values we profess, upholding our mission offering a residential educational experience focused on developing the whole person and advancing our quest for knowledge and discovery through research, scholarship and creative expression.

There is nowhere I would rather serve than Wake Forest. I look forward to continuing the journey of learning, discovery and new beginnings.

Sincerely,
Susan R. Wente, Ph.D.
From the balcony of the Magnolia Room in Reynolda Hall, you can see the Mag Patio, the magnolias on Manchester Plaza, the skyline of downtown Winston-Salem and the occasional yoga class. The best view comes at lunch hour over a meal and an Arnold Palmer. Ice cream, and the fixings on Fridays add to the bustle. The true cherry on top is the way the staff, exemplified by legendary host Maria Difazio, known by students as “Ms. Maria,” calls students by their names, making them feel right at home.
In the annals of Commencement speeches, the 2015 address by late-night TV host Stephen Colbert (L.H.D. '15) will reign comically supreme. Besides referring to President Nathan O. Hatch as “Nate Dawg, Natty O, the Hatchet,” he characterized Wake Forest as no one has before or since — and left graduates in stitches. “You people have campus traditions that are people,” he said, giving a shoutout to “Mr. Dean Shore, the University barber. There he is. Right there. Dean actually contacted me first by sending me a Facebook request the minute my plane landed. He is a friend to so many students, and a real throwback to a simpler time because when your biggest local celebrity is a barber, you’re basically a medieval village.”
Wake

Downtown
Innovation Quarter in downtown Winston-Salem already was rocking with medical, research and business efforts emanating from Wake Forest, but the Reynolda campus firmly embedded in that thriving district in 2017 with Wake Downtown. The University, taking advantage of tax credits for historic structures, renovated two tobacco buildings into a shuttle-accessible, snazzy home for new undergraduate engineering and biosciences programs, a new home for the School of Medicine’s medical education programs and an interdisciplinary academic hub. With a park and the renovated Bailey Power Plant filled with restaurants and offices, Innovation Quarter is adding to downtown’s flourishing art, food and entertainment scene.
Since debuting in 2016, Party So Dear has become the must-go-to alumni party of the year and a rollicking kickoff for Homecoming and Reunion Weekend.
The Lilting Banshees is Wake Forest’s version of “Saturday Night Live.” The student-run comedy troupe, as one alumnus says, “speaks truth to power in an entertaining way.” Brash, silly, quirky, irreverent to the nth degree about Wake Forest, the Banshees signal it’s time for a no-holds-barred show by posting yellow fliers all over campus that feature the signature logo: a jester in Rodin’s “The Thinker” pose. Easily offended? You might want to back away from the door to Brendle Recital Hall and run the other way.
When the statue of Arnold Palmer ('51, LL.D. '70) was dedicated in 2013 in front of the golf complex that bears his name, Palmer was on hand for the festive occasion. As the golfing legend reminisced, he remembered "the things that meant the most. Wake Forest meant the most," he said that day. When Palmer died in 2016, students adorned that statue—a beloved one on campus—with golf balls, flowers, and cans of his eponymous drink of ice tea and lemonade. Toast The King with an Arnold Palmer, and remember what he meant—and still means—to Wake Forest.
Nestled beyond the magnolia trees, South Campus has expanded since Johnson and Bostwick opened as women’s dorms in 1956. Now, seven residence halls in South Campus are home to first-year students. The proximity fosters natural friendships as students pass one another in courtyards, dive and swat over a friendly game of Spikeball or discover a common bond as they brush their teeth at the sinks. Even after students move “north” to the Quad or beyond, they relive their memories with a walk or drive by what they affectionately call “Freshmanland.”
Take 6 ... Canadian Brass ... Danish String Quartet ... Reduced Shakespeare Company ... Branford Marsalis ... Noche Flamenca ... Eighth Blackbird ... WindSync ... Keigwin + Company ... Sweet Honey In The Rock ... Carolina Chocolate Drops.

One of Wake Forest’s free gifts to students, faculty and staff is the annual lineup of world-class performances — from orchestras to a capella groups to tap dancers to flamenco stars to string quartets. For a modest ticket price, community members are welcome, and the artists typically do pre-concert talks for students. Thanks go to Marion Secrest, who endowed the series in 1987 to honor her late husband, Willis Secrest, and for a tradition that continues to shape our cultural enrichment. Marion Secrest died in 2013 at age 107.
A 1,067-ACRE ESTATE
Transformed


In the early 1900s, tobacco magnate R.J. Reynolds and wife Katharine Smith Reynolds planned the “bungalow” and model farm. Fulfilled at its opening in 1917, the estate has evolved over time to become a true community treasure. Whether there is an appetite for food, shopping, recreation or art, it all can be found here at Reynolda House, Reynolda Gardens and Reynolda Village.
Deacon TIME TRAVEL
Visits to the original campus in Wake Forest, North Carolina, about 100 miles down Raleigh way, transport us to 1834 and onward through the move to Winston-Salem in 1956. Besides having a bite at (still-serving) Shorty’s Famous Hot Dogs downtown, you can visit the Wake Forest Historical Museum near the campus that is now home to Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. We appreciate the cool photos, documents (Coach Douglas Clyde “Peahead” Walker’s football plays, anyone?) and thousands of such artifacts as an old-timey Deacon top hat and the desk of English professor Benjamin Franklin “Old Slick” Sledd. As John B. Scott (’15) told us: “You hear that there’s a Wake Forest, but you don’t connect it. I would go back there just for fun.”
Maya Angelou (L.H.D. ’77) was a traumatized little girl who lost her voice for years yet grew up to share her commanding voice and mesmerizing poetry and fiction with the world. In 1982, she came to Wake Forest as Reynolds Professor of American Studies.

The actress, civil rights activist and 2010 recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom wrote more than 30 books, including “I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings.” Many alumni tell us her presence was what drew them to Wake Forest. They share the lessons she taught, the example she set and the dreams she ignited. She once said, “I’m not a writer who teaches. I’m a teacher who writes. But I had to work at Wake Forest to know that.” She lived in Winston-Salem until her death in 2014 at age 86, eulogized by the likes of Michelle Obama and Oprah Winfrey.

A TREASURED VOICE
It’s an art lover’s dream: spend spring break in New York City with fellow students to decide which dozen or so high-end works to buy for Wake Forest’s impressive art collection. (Or in 2021, make virtual visits to 16 galleries in six cities instead to thwart coronavirus.) Hundreds of hours of prep inform and enliven paradise: discussing works’ qualities, the artists’ histories, how pieces mesh with existing works and how they represent the culture and the times.

The University has given a handful of students the art-buying experience every four years since the inaugural 1963 trip, a first for a university. The Student Union Collection of Contemporary Art has grown to nearly 200 paintings, prints, drawings, photography and sculpture from more than 100 artists, with Jasper Johns, Louise Nevelson, Kiki Smith and Shirin Neshat among them. The works hang in public spaces such as Reynolda Hall and Benson University Center. Up next: creating collections within the collection to exhibit together and form a focus for classes.
Each fall, the daylong relay race Hit the Bricks on Hearn Plaza sounds like the playful voices of students, the thunder of tennis shoes against the Deacon Blend red bricks and music blasting all the way from Hearn Plaza to Tribble Hall. While there is joy on the Quad, there is also great purpose: Wake Foresters run to honor friends, classmates and family members who have had cancer and raise thousands of dollars for the Brian Piccolo Cancer Research Fund. Piccolo played football for the Deacs in the 1960s and died of cancer at age 26. As the sun sets, participants quiet down to take a silent, commemorative final lap.
Camino Bakery (Starbucks in a previous incarnation) earns the distinction of being one of the most distracting spots for studying in ZSR Library, but anyone can discover its magic amid the cacophony. While the fresh coffee beans provide the fuel for a test, the double-level alcove offers the perfect sightline to spot a friend coming or going. Need another boost? Stop at the student-run Campus Grounds, where the baristas know lots about lattes.

Head over to the hill overlooking W. Dennie Spry Soccer Stadium for that first soccer game that serves as a kickoff to the school year. Sitting on The Hill, you’re sure to spot the Deacon and a few friends you haven’t seen since May.
We Deacs love our panache. Every other (non-pandemic) year, the President’s Ball turns LJVM Coliseum into a semi-formal wonderland with glitter, glam, a hot band, dancing, free food (cocktail shrimp, yum!) and side rooms — a jazz room for a swanky vibe, beach music for shagging or a Latin room for a little merengue. Student leaders created the biennial tradition at Homecoming 2005. It’s an opportunity for students to don their finest party outfits and enjoy puttin’ on a little bit of Ritz.
Sometimes, it’s the little things that stick with you. Case in point, the intricate, graceful ironwork found throughout campus. Like many things at Wake Forest, the ironwork doesn’t shout its existence. From the elegant arches that frame the Quad to the flowing “WFC” lettering around Manchester Plaza, the ironwork is both iconic and unassuming, forging its own understated charm.
Back in 1989, Libby Bell ('93) and friends had a scary-good idea: invite underprivileged children to campus for an afternoon of fun, games and trick-or-treating on Halloween. Their classmates embraced the idea, handing out candy and running carnival games (and a too-scary haunted house that got the ax), and Project Pumpkin was born. Little did Bell know they were starting what's become a favorite campus tradition and the largest student-service project. Every fall (except during the pandemic), students don their own costumes and welcome wee witches, ghosts, pirates and superheroes to Hearn Plaza for some scary-good fun.
What better way for first-year arrivals to learn the lay of the land and the best study spots of Z. Smith Reynolds Library than to join hundreds of students with yellow foam golf balls chasing a handful of “zombie” student volunteers through the stacks.

The library holds “Outbreak,” née Humans vs. Zombies a decade ago, after 7 p.m. closing on the first Friday after classes commence in the fall, except for years with renovations or, ironically, a virus pandemic. A zombie nabbed by a foam ball must navigate the library’s 170,000 square feet to return to the Atrium before its zombie powers are restored. Humans tagged by a zombie become zombies. See a pattern? The zombies always win, but the few wily humans who escape are the real champions.
The distinctive architecture by Robert A.M. Stern Architects, the orange-toned woods and the spacious classrooms provide fertile ground for business students to work hard and succeed. Not to be missed is the Founders Living Room, with its sunlight beaming in, the comfy sofas and the coffee from Einstein Bros. Bagels to share with a friend.
The tradition of going the extra mile for students put Wake Forest staff to the test in March 2020. As President Hatch explained earlier this year in an interview with Hilary Burns ('14) of the Boston Business Journal: “We had to move students around last spring on a moment’s notice. People went home for spring break and they didn’t come back. What do you do with everything that’s in people’s rooms? And there are two people, right? They had a process using an iPad and FaceTime to try to go through room by room to say, what belongs to whom, box it all and send it home. And in that process, they found one cat and one snake.”

We are hoping the snake made the move without incident or is slithering free, far, far away from here.
Deacons show up everywhere in reality — and in reality shows. Call it a guilty pleasure if you must, but who could resist Matt James (’14), this year’s star of "The Bachelor"? By the finale, 8.2 million viewers tuned in. Good looks aside, James exudes Pro Humanitate. He founded a nonprofit to inspire children affected by homelessness by taking them on tours of restaurants whose owners, like James, have risen from humble origins.

Tyler Cameron (’15), his ABC Food Tours partner, best buddy and Deacon football teammate, made the final four of “The Bachelorette” with Hannah Brown in 2019. James followed him and was picked for “The Bachelorette” but instead was elevated to star of "The Bachelor." Their friendship grew to include Andi Dorfman (JD ’12), “The Bachelorette” in 2014. As Coach Dave Clawson ribbed his former wide receiver: “Matt caught more passes in that one episode than he did in his entire four-year Wake Forest career.” (James, for the record and not too shabby, caught 40 passes in his final season at Wake Forest before briefly going pro.)
Ed Wilson (‘43, P ‘91, ‘93) has been telling Wake Forest’s story for decades. In his latest book, “Songs of Wake Forest,” he remembers many of the Wake Foresters — classmates, professors, administrators — who devoted their lives to the University. In eloquent, poignant and, at times, wistful tributes, he remembers friends lost who embodied the essence and spirit of Wake Forest. It’s his latest love song to Wake Forest.
Winston-Salem Traditions

Each fall, the colorful Ferris wheel lights and the sweet, sappy smell of kettle corn beckon at the Carolina Classic Fair, formerly the Dixie Classic. In the spring, we drive to the fairgrounds with the windows down to the Annual Used Book Sale by The Shepherd Center of Greater Winston-Salem and peruse the dusty books to our delight. On weekend nights, we wander around Trade Street as live music plays while we inspect the local art. Whether it’s marching to the drumbeat at a Winston-Salem State Homecoming Parade or taking a bite into the baklava at the Winston-Salem Greek Festival, our home sweet home has a few traditions of her own.
Goodbye to W.N. Reynolds Gym’s 1950s vibe, with narrow hallways and outdated locker rooms. Hello, campus crowning glory of fitness and health. Students, faculty and staff can practice bouldering on the climbing wall, swim in the pool’s eight lap lanes or get social in the open 3,000-square-foot living room with floor-to-ceiling windows.

Name a piece of exercise equipment, a fitness class or health or nutrition counseling, and it’s likely to be here. Three years of renovations and construction produced the Sutton Center in 2016, followed by the adjoining Reynolds Gym transformation into the Wake Forest Wellbeing Center by 2018. Students, faculty and staff can find just the right roadmap to staying fit and happy.
Spend an afternoon exploring the treasure trove of books, photographs, recordings and artifacts in the Special Collections Research Room (formerly known as the Rare Books Room) in the Z. Smith Reynolds Library. Discover first editions of “Leaves of Grass” (1855) with Walt Whitman’s signature, John Milton’s “Paradise Lost” (1669) and Herman Melville’s “Moby Dick” (1851). Listen to Martin Luther King Jr.’s 1962 address in Wait Chapel and Elie Wiesel’s (Litt. D. ‘85) 1985 Founders’ Day speech. Read the papers of groundbreaking female U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Pat Foote (‘52, LL.D. ‘89) and Civil War letters. Explore Jan Hensley’s (‘64) collection of thousands of first edition books, many signed, by 20th-century Southern authors, and Bob Burke’s (P ‘19) collection of presidential memorabilia, which includes signatures or handwritten notes from nearly every president and most First Ladies through 2020. And relive your student days through digitized copies of the Old Gold & Black (dating back to 1916) and Howler (dating back to 1903).
Turn on the TV to a sports broadcast, and you might just hear a Deacon voice behind the microphone. There’s Jason Benetti (JD ’11) — one of the hardest-working and best announcers in the biz — the play-by-play voice of the Chicago White Sox and a college basketball and football announcer for ESPN. (He once called two White Sox games in Chicago sandwiched around a football game in Florida in 23 hours.)

Former women’s basketball star LaChina Robinson (’02) is one of the leading analysts covering women’s college and professional basketball. She won the 2021 Mel Greenberg Media Award from the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association. Versatile Evan Lepler (’07) has done it all: college football, basketball, soccer and field hockey, minor league baseball — even cornhole and axe throwing for ESPN. In his primary gig, drawing from his student days playing ultimate Frisbee, he’s “The Voice of Ultimate,” covering the American Ultimate Disc League on Fox Sports.

At a school that boasts Arnold Palmer (’51, LL.D. ’70) as an alumnus and that’s won three national championships in golf (1974, 1975 and 1986), it’s only natural that World Golf and Wake Forest Hall of Fame legends Lanny Wadkins (’72, P ’96, ’10) and Curtis Strange (’77), who won the national individual title in 1974, have called their share of birdies and bogeys on television.

And we can’t forget Billy Packer (’62), who sailed with the (Jefferson) Pilot through the golden age of ACC basketball broadcasts and covered the NCAA men’s basketball tournament for CBS for decades. And a tip of the Deacon hat (and a reminder to turn on your radio this football season) to the Voice of the Demon Deacons, Stan Cotten, a four-time North Carolina Sportscaster of the Year.
Imagine living in a dorm room with oak-paneled walls and marble fireplaces and bathrooms with hand-painted tiles and 17-head showers. Some lucky students in the late 1970s didn’t have to imagine it: They lived in the grand 1930s Norman Revival manor house Graylyn.

Built for the Bowman Gray family, the house was later used as a psychiatric hospital by the medical school and as a school for children with special needs. Professor Emeritus of History Jim Barefield lived in an apartment in the house in the 1960s and ’70s. The grounds hosted lively alumni and fraternity parties.

Students moved into what had once been the Gray family’s bedrooms and guest rooms in 1977. (Other students lived in foreign-language houses in cottages on the estate.) Curious students could explore what one recalled as a spooky haunted house, descending a spiral iron staircase to deserted but still grand formal rooms and an empty, Art Deco-inspired pool.

In 1980 a fire gutted the third floor and caused extensive damage to the rest of the house. But you can still sleep in those dorm rooms today: Graylyn was renovated to its 1930s opulence and opened as a conference center in 1984.
Pre-pandemic, incoming students gathered in Wait Chapel to learn how to navigate the daunting path from college to career, with help from the Office of Personal and Career Development. They wrote their career aspirations on colorful paper that they folded into paper airplanes and threw them into the air. As the paper airplanes soared into the wild blue yonder, students could dream about their own journey ahead.
If you happen to be at Topsail Beach, North Carolina, between mid-May and August you might witness one of nature’s miracles — female loggerhead sea turtles coming ashore to lay eggs. About two months later the newborns hatch and race to the sea.

Enchanted by such scenes was Karen Beasley ('84), a Wake Forest cheerleader and communication major whose lifelong memories of sea turtles spurred a last gift. As her health declined from leukemia, Beasley specified that insurance money “do something good for sea turtles.” She died in 1991 at age 29, but the Karen Beasley Sea Turtle Rescue & Rehabilitation Center exists, thanks to her wish and the work of her mother and supporters. The turtle hospital is in Surf City, about 8 miles north of Topsail, a place of healing and conservation education about the fragile little creatures that must dodge crabs, birds, sharks and fishing nets to thrive.
If you ever visit Dorsoduro 699 on the Grand Canal in Venice, be sure to savor the memories of Wake Foresters who’ve called Casa Artom home and share your own reflections in “the book” on the small table in the salotto, the upstairs parlor. The book (eight volumes now) started simply enough as a registry of students, professors and guests. (Actor Tony Curtis visited in 1976 and included a hand-drawn self-portrait along with his signature in the book.)

It soon became a book of memories (and photos) and advice written by students, usually on their last day in the house, as they’re feeling a bit melancholy and sentimental, as friends leave and they await their own departure on the water taxi. “Only four short months ago, I sat here on this same couch looking out onto the Grand Canal, reading all the advice of former Casa Artom students,” one student wrote. “Now it’s my turn to write, to say final words of wisdom to future students.”

Students who’ve spent a semester at the other University properties abroad surely share many of the same memories of changed lives, friendships made and adventures throughout Europe. But the book has become part of the fabric of Casa Artom, connecting one group of students to the next.

“I know in my heart that I will return to Venice,” one student wrote. And many do return as alumni to the bella città, often with spouses and children in tow. They visit Casa Artom, find where they signed the book years before and sign once again: “It’s even more amazing than I remember!”

“Grazie Mille, Venezia!”
What’s in a
MOTTO?
If the motto is Pro Humanitate at Wake Forest, the answer is all encompassing. Retired Associate Professor of Classical Languages James Powell wrote the oft-quoted, seminal piece about the motto by saying it is regularly translated as “For Humanity” and most often discussed as what we do for the people of the world. That’s fine, he said, but there’s more to it.

Relying on how ancient Romans did not view “humanitas” in the collective sense, he said the word meant kindness, and it also pointed to human cultivation and learning. “Pro Humanitate calls us to consider what we are as human beings and what constitutes genuine human flourishing,” he wrote. He suggested that the more common interpretation and the ancient one can be linked: “…when we as a University are truly doing our particular work of reflecting on humanness in all its richness and complexity then we are truly serving humanity.”
If you want to discuss a Wake Forester who broke the rules, be quick to name Harold T.P. Hayes ('48, P '79, '91, L.H.D. '89). Within a decade after editing The Student literary magazine at Wake Forest, he was working at Esquire. By mid-1961 he was managing editor and by 1965 editor, ushering in the new journalism of the 1960s with writing and covers that shook up the industry. (Boxing great Sonny Liston as a black Santa Claus in December 1963 caused a national stir.) Contributors penned must-read pieces of the era: James Baldwin, Nora Ephron, Gay Talese, Susan Sontag, Norman Mailer, Saul Bellow and Tom Wolfe.

“Hayes’ Esquire would identify, analyze, and define the new decade’s violent energies, ideas, morals, and conflicts — though always with an ironic and, occasionally, sardonic detachment that kept the magazine cool as the 60s grew increasingly hot,” Frank DiGiacomo wrote in Vanity Fair in 2006. With “literary and visual firepower” under Hayes’ leadership, Esquire became “the great American magazine of the 1960s,” he wrote, “if not the great American magazine of the 20th century.”
From the day it opened in 1963 as what some called a poorly designed split-level, Tribble Hall has been a baffling labyrinth to generations of students (not to mention faculty) who’ve gotten lost in its tangled web of confounding levels and A-B-C wings (or was it C-A-B?). It’s had its share of mysteries, too. During the Cold War, it housed a secret U.S. Navy doomsday bunker. During the mid-1960s, pranksters snuck a Volkswagen Beetle into the lobby. Professors once found a dead deer on the roof, the remains of a forgotten anthropology project. And then there was what one critic called “the bizarre conning tower on a brick battleship” on the roof. The Old Gold & Black suggested that the submarine-like tower (actually a mechanical space) was the final resting place for campus architect Jens Larson so that he could watch over his greatest creation (the campus, not the building) for all eternity. But for all its oddities, Tribble has also been home for many of our favorite professors, even if we never could find their offices.
“BRIAN’S SONG” – MUST-SEE TV

“I’d like to say a few words about a guy I know, a friend of mine. His name is Brian Piccolo, and he has the heart of a giant and a rare form of courage which allows him to kid himself and his opponent: cancer. He has a mental attitude which makes me proud to have a friend who spells out courage 24 hours a day every day of his life. And you flatter me by giving me this award, but I say to you here and now Brian Piccolo is the man of courage who should receive the George S. Halas Award. It’s mine tonight and Brian Piccolo’s tomorrow. I love Brian Piccolo, and I’d like all of you to love him, too. And tonight, hit your knees. Please ask God to love him.”

There’s no way any Deac can manage to keep a dry eye when actor Billy Dee Williams playing football great Gale Sayers gives that acceptance speech for a football award in the classic 1971 TV movie. James Caan played Piccolo (’65, P ’87, ’89), Wake Forest’s most famous football player. Piccolo battled cancer as a running back for the Chicago Bears.

The movie about the Sayers-Piccolo interracial friendship and Piccolo’s courage is a staple for Wake Foresters and never fails to choke up viewers. “It is unclear why — or even if — men had tear ducts prior to 1971,” wrote Steve Rushin in Sports Illustrated in 2011. Opening the floodgates for men, he said, the movie joined “pepper spray and kidney stones on the very short list of things guaranteed to induce tears.”

Piccolo died in 1970 at age 26, but he continues to inspire generations of Deacs to raise money for cancer research through traditions that honor Piccolo and all loved ones facing cancer. Sayers died of dementia in September 2020.
Walk through the door of Benson University Center and look up. Behold the colorful flags of the world, each representing the country of an undergraduate, each a true global Deac. Last year, Benson showcased the most flags so far — 49 — ranging from Canada and China to Iceland and Botswana. Leigh Myers (P ‘15, ‘19, ‘22), manager of campus programs & services, says the custom of hanging flags from the fourth- and fifth-floor balconies (and occasionally the columns) began in the 2017-2018 school year. “I have to re-identify the flags every year” and order ones not on hand to reflect a new country for an incoming student, she says. The best days have been when she sees international students’ families stop to take photos. “That,” she says, “warms my heart.”
Hundreds of faculty members enrich students’ lives by teaching an eye-popping array of courses that range from “People and Cultures of the World” to “Managing in a Global Context” to “Codes and Cryptography” to “Myth, Ritual and Symbolism” to “The Physics of Music” to “Moral Dilemmas in International Politics.” The Academic Bulletin (available to view online) leaves one wishing there were lots more years at Wake Forest to keep learning from these celebrated teacher-scholars. Invitations to their office hours should not be missed. It’s here you might discover your professor is also a sheep farmer, another is an apiarist who gives honey as gifts, one is a boss at crafting handmade pasta, one plays a mean banjo, and another aces trivia nights around town. For those alumni and friends who want to continue learning from fabulous faculty, they can sign up for online Lifelong Learning classes through Alumni Engagement.
SOTOGAB: Wake Forest’s biggest fans


As the oldest college marching band in North Carolina, SOTOGAB has been the heart and soul of Wake Forest’s cheering section since 1927. These days it’s hard to imagine gameday without it — the crack of a snare drum, the call of a trumpet, the battle cry of “GO DEACS” during the Fight Song. Just try to make it through the band’s drumstick-rolling, cymbal-sizzling, quick and spirited cadence without tapping your foot and shouting, “How ‘Bout Them Deacs!” We dare you.
As Susan R. Wente settles into the President’s Home this year, she’ll be enjoying a house rich in history. The country estate was designed by noted architect Julian Peabody. The gardens were designed by Ellen Biddle Shipman, one of the country’s first female landscape artists. Interior designer Sister Parish later collaborated with Jacqueline Kennedy to redecorate the White House. Local African American artisan George Black handcrafted the house’s oversized bricks.

Ralph and DeWitt Hanes moved into their new home on Oct. 29, 1929, a date more notable for the stock market crash that set off the Great Depression. The house was donated to the University in 1988 and became the presidential residence. Shortly after President Nathan O. Hatch and his wife, Julie, moved into the house in 2005, a four-car garage was renovated into a comfortable meeting place for students.

Guests likely won’t see one of the home’s most unusual features. A concealed trap door leads down a spiral staircase to the basement, where a large safe hid the Hanes family’s silver. The Hanes’ children stored their electric train set in the attic, and decades later in an echo from the past, President Hatch did the same with his train set for his grandchildren.
“Doing good for good” is the motto of the law school’s Pro Humanitate Project. Students exemplify that through their work with juveniles, immigrants, those who are disabled or incarcerated and those who need help with wills, health care directives or income tax returns. Students embrace that ideal, too, through clinical work with veterans, low-income clients and nonprofits. And through the Innocence and Justice Clinic, they investigate cases of those who claim they’ve been wrongly convicted.

As a law student, Ashleigh Wilson (JD ’11), right, worked in the law school’s Community Law & Business Clinic. In 2010, she prevented foreclosure of this Winston-Salem home owned by Tonya Williams, left.
The name of this game is taking on the greatest athletes most incoming students will likely ever face — the best Division 1 student-athletes, faculty and staff that Wake Forest has to offer! As part of orientation and originally called Pros vs. Joes, the Deacon Olympics (renamed in 2018) sets up epic contests for first-year students to out-shoot, out-chip, out-kick and out-dodge the campus pros and each other. (The high dive/cannonball splash has been one of the most popular events.) They meet new people, learn the environment, win prizes and prove every Deacon is a competitor at heart.
Sam Cooke sings about “twistin’ the night away,” and Shag on the Mag is a night to put on your springtime best and do just that. A tide of beach music breaks across campus as The Embers take the stage on Mag Quad. Skirts swing, ties loosen and dancing shoes twist under a tent strung with shimmering lights. The official state dance of South Carolina and the official state popular dance of North Carolina, the shag has been called the jitterbug slowed down. Made famous in both states’ coastal towns, the shag inspires Wake Forest students to create their own footwork and spins.

When he was leading the Student Union, Joseph Bumgarner (’06) enlisted his buddy Patrick Brennan (’06) to help plan the first Shag on the Mag to unite the campus. After more than 15 years, this traditional capstone to Springfest still delivers. And as the Chairmen of the Board sing, “The Shag is here to stay.”
We owe Facilities & Campus Services big-time for our landscape beauty, dorm cleanliness and quick responses to plumbing disasters or lost keys. We saw employees’ skills, commitment and big equipment come into glorious focus in “From the Ground Up,” a large-scale performance on the Quad in 2019 directed by another favorite — choreographer Allison Orr (’93), who turned cranes and lawn mowers into balletic performers. We learned the parental care that custodial staff take in keeping students safe and comfortable. We heard the pride and joy that landscapers have in our stately trees and garden atmosphere on campus. And we saw the carpenters, plumbers and electricians who build and maintain the equivalent of a small city.
Deacs in 'THE JOEL'

The Deacon roaring in on his motorcycle. The squeak of sneakers on the court. Rainy day Commencements. Rockin' concerts from Elton John to Lil Wayne to Alan Jackson. Those are memories of Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum, home court for 500 wins by the men's and women's basketball teams since it opened in 1989 to replace the Winston-Salem Coliseum.

In 2013, the University bought the 14,665-seat arena, the only Power Five conference basketball arena named for a Black person. It pays homage to all veterans and its namesake, a U.S. Army medic from Winston-Salem who received the highest combat award, the Medal of Honor. Joel, a veteran of the Korean and Vietnam wars, was shot twice in the leg in a 1965 battle north of Saigon. He crawled for 24 hours under fire to give aid to his comrades and save the lives of 13 men. He died in 1984 at age 55.
from Beethoven to the Beatles to Beyoncé. (We’re pretty sure we heard the “Game of Thrones” theme at least once.)

Installed in 1978, the 12-ton instrument features 48 bronze bells that range from 28 to 4,400 pounds. While there are said to be more than 100 carillons in the United States, our carillon (officially the Janet Jeffrey Carlile Harris Carillon) is one of the few still operated manually. This means that a carillonneur (usually a student) is up in the tower playing each note, creating a one-of-a-kind soundtrack for the campus folk below.
Love the outdoors? Then you’ll love Wake Forest, where outdoor pursuits are aplenty across its 340 acres. While central campus regularly hums with activity, it’s the edges of campus that offer escapes. On the north end, a series of cross-country trails, ranging from 1.2 to 3 miles, loop beneath a canopy of hardwoods. The trails, which start around The Barn, are groomed for walkers but ideal for runners, with elevation changes, color-coded markers and QR codes linking to interactive maps.

On the opposite end of campus sits another amenity: an 18-hole disc golf course. Established in 2015, the course features metal tee box markers displaying the layout and distance at the start of each hole. The front nine holes begin behind Martin Residence Hall and snake through the woods en route to Davis Field. The back nine run parallel to the Reynolda walking trail, twisting through the woods before ending at the Lake Katharine waterfall, named for Katharine Smith Reynolds. Screened from civilization by a blanket of trees, it’s easy to forget that central campus is just a disc throw away.
Look closer at Chris Paul's Jordan CP3 shoes in a display in the Shah Basketball Complex. Each custom shoe tells a part of his life story. Many have details honoring people or things close to his heart: “Wake Forest,” “Skip Prosser,” “61XTY” (“61” for his grandfather who was killed at the age of 61) and “336” (the Winston-Salem area code).

His Wake Forest superlatives are printed on a pair of old gold and black shoes with tie-dyed laces, the same type worn by the men’s basketball team when Paul's No. 3 jersey was retired in 2013.

For all his success — ACC Freshman of the Year, All-American, 4th overall draft pick, NBA Rookie of the Year, NBA All-Star, Olympic gold medalist and president of the National Basketball Players Association — Paul ('07) still wears the old gold and black proudly, on and off the court. And he still makes us Proud to be a Deacon.
Deacon CAMP

A tour of the original campus, scavenger hunts, lip sync battles and a view from the top of Wait Chapel. These are just a few memorable moments for Deacon Campers, who arrive the week before the official move-in and orientation times to learn the compelling stories of Mother, So Dear. Deacon Camp, alongside other optional, pre-orientation camps, continues to grow in popularity not only for its legendary itinerary, but also for the new friendships between first-year students and upperclassmen who become mentors helping smooth the transition to college life.
There is perhaps no more beautiful sight at Wake Forest: A dark Wait Chapel slowly brightens as 2,000 people pass the light of beeswax candles from person to person during the annual Moravian Lovefeast. The December tradition is a sacred gathering that features Christmas hymns, prayer and messages of hope in the dark winter. Every year, for decades, Mary Dull — widow of a Wake Forest graduate and grandmother to two others — helped make thousands of the traditional Moravian candles, trimmed with red crepe paper, for the Lovefeast. "Visualize (Wait Chapel) full of people, full of candles that are burning, and they've dimmed the lights; it's really wonderful," she once recalled with unbridled joy about the warm glow that spreads throughout Wait Chapel. "I get chills." We do, too, Mary.
Before students return home for the Thanksgiving holiday, they head to the Pit with their friends to get a taste of what’s to come. Pumpkin pies, turkey, sweet potato casserole, green beans, mac ‘n’ cheese, cranberry sauce. Some Pitsgiving fans are so dedicated they share a Google doc with their friends for shifts to claim a table for lunch and dinner. They know it’s worth it.
Carolina craftsman Dempsy Calhoun, above, to honor the vision and generosity of Michael A. J. Farrell (P ’10, LL.D. ’13) and Mary Flynn Farrell (P ’10). Amid turbulent U.S. economic waters still churning from the 2008 recession, the Farrells pledged $10 million because they believed in Wake Forest and a new building for business education.

“The Empire State Building, the Rockefeller Center — these things were built during the Depression when people didn’t think they were achievable,” Mike Farrell said. “When people are confused and scared and concerned about direction, you need to send a strong message that we can’t stop thinking about the future.”

Mike Farrell gave the donation to honor his late father, Michael John Farrell, an Irish immigrant who caulked skyscrapers, painted subway cars and worked as a janitor. You can see the image of father and son side by side in the sculptural portrait. Farrell, a trustee, died in 2012 of lung cancer, unable to see the November 2013 grand opening and dedication of the building named for his father. Trustee Mary Farrell said, “Although my husband, Mike, may not be here with us today, I like to think he is watching us, smiling.”
Deacon, Arnie, Palmer, Duncan, Skip, Prosser, Muggsy. With a nod to Wake Forest athletic history, we love our dogs as much as we love our Demon Deacons. Not to be overlooked are the cats (and at least one deceased hamster) with Wake Forest names. They don’t get the same Insta press as the Deacon dogs, but the cats are out there, just hiding under the sofa or lurking nearby.
For many kids in Winston-Salem, their love for the Deacs starts on Deacon Hill — the sloping, grassy field bordering the southeast end zone at Truist Field. Stop by on Saturdays in the fall, and you’ll see families spread out on blankets, youngsters playing freeze tag, teens tossing Nerf balls — not to mention, you’ll likely see some good football.

Deacon Hill has been part of the gameday experience for decades, since the venue opened as Groves Stadium in 1968. It’s remained virtually unchanged over the years, even as its surroundings expanded and evolved. Now sitting in the shadow of the Bob McCreary Video Board Honoring the Class of 1961, the hill remains as family-friendly a setting as you’ll find in college sports.
Dobbs ('77), famous for his dance moves at games and his polka-dotted gold and black shirt, recalls record-playing and dancing in the society’s lounge in Kitchin. “Weekends were party time. We had a big light box that was like a disco light, and we would pull that out of the closet.” (Dobbs, a dance teacher and choreographer in New York City, still has that shirt and wore it most recently to a ‘70s party!) The society evolved into the Black Student Union, then today’s Black Student Alliance, which returned in 2019 to Kitchin after seeking lounge space lost years earlier.
English majors eventually find their way in Tribble Hall to the faculty lounge named for A.R. Ammons (’49, D.Litt. ’72), where the poet’s manual Underwood typewriter is on display. Shy, poor and raised on a subsistence farm in Columbus County, North Carolina, he arrived at the original campus “feeling ‘lost — as usual,’” Emily Herring Wilson (MA ’62, P ’91, ’93) has written. A half-century later, “against all odds except his own genius, (he) secured a place in the highest rank of American poetry.” His accolades were many: National Book Award (twice), the Library of Congress’ Rebekah Johnson Bobbitt National Prize for Poetry, National Book Critics Circle Award for Poetry, a “genius grant” from the MacArthur Foundation and the Poetry Society of America’s Robert Frost Medal, among others. He taught at Cornell University from 1964-1998 and died at age 75 in 2001. An obituary in The New York Times lauded his ability to “turn any topic, even a heap of garbage, into poetry.”
When students need a break from the hustle and bustle of college, it can be challenging to find a private spot. Wait Chapel, when it's empty, is that place to have a quiet conversation with a friend, to study or to reflect. With its stained-glass windows, intricate pipe organ and vast space, it offers solace for tired minds and souls, a refuge and reminder to be still and breathe.
Is there any campus that shines like Wake Forest in the fall? Well, no — at least not according to BestCollegeReviews.org, which ranked our fair university No. 1 in a 2020 article, “50 Most Beautiful Campuses in Autumn.” The kudos come on the heels of a 2014 article from Best College Values that also ranked Wake Forest in the top spot, ahead of the next North Carolina school (Duke at No. 35).
Susan R. Wente began her first day as the 14th president of Wake Forest on July 1 and embarked on a summer exploring the University and engaging in conversations and visits with a wide range of University community members and partners.

“I am eager to meet all of you and get started writing the next chapter of Wake Forest’s story,” Wente said in a message to the University community.

Wente is a renowned biomedical scientist who served as Vanderbilt University’s provost and vice chancellor for seven years and interim chancellor for 11 months. She led Vanderbilt’s pandemic response as well as efforts to restructure the University’s relationship with its medical center, affording her valuable insight into the recent partnership between Atrium Health and Wake Forest Baptist Health. Wente models Wake Forest’s teacher-scholar ideal and has mentored and conducted research with undergraduates throughout her administrative career.

She was Vanderbilt’s first female provost, and she is Wake Forest’s first female president. She supports a vision of Wake Forest as a welcoming, inclusive community.

After spending time on campus, Wente offered this observation in another message to the University community in August: “I see a vibrant campus focused on uncovering new knowledge and ways of benefitting society, inspiring our student-centered mission and examining issues through open dialogue embracing diverse perspectives. It is abundantly clear that Wake Forest is a genuinely remarkable community.”

University Trustee Jermyn Davis (’10) said of Wente, “Wake Foresters are taught to both dream big as well as to execute. Dr. Wente has an excellent record of doing both.” Sauvani Sanka (’21), a member of the search committee, said, “Dr. Wente’s warmth is simply infectious. When she walks into a room, she brings with her this sense of togetherness, resolve and trust.”

Wake Forest announced her appointment in January after a national search to find the successor to President Nathan O. Hatch (L.H.D. ’21), who retired in June.

Find Wente’s initial message and videos of her engagements on campus at president.wfu.edu. Read Wake Forest Magazine’s Q&A with her at bit.ly/2Tjfdh
Megan Salzman Medica (MA ’83) honored her late husband, John Medica (MBA ’83), by giving $5 million to ensure that the Wake Forest debate program has the resources to build on its legacy of success. The five-year gift is the largest Wake Forest has received from an individual to support a program in the undergraduate college. It may also be the largest given to any debate program in the country. The John Kevin Medica Scholarships provide $5,000 to six debaters each semester who are already on the squad. The gift also endowed a faculty position for the debate program. Jarrod Atchison was named the John Kevin Medica Director of Debate earlier this year.

Megan Medica, a college debate competitor with a master’s degree in communication, introduced her husband to debate, and the couple became avid supporters of the program. John Medica received a Wake Forest Distinguished Alumni Award posthumously in 2018.

The Interdisciplinary Arts Center (IAC) received $1 million from anonymous donors to support integrating the arts across campus, in the classroom and in the Winston-Salem community. The gift will expand opportunities for creative arts collaborations.

Penny Rue is retiring as vice president for campus life. She joined Wake Forest in 2013 and oversaw the expansion of Reynolds Gym into the Wake Forest Wellbeing Center, creation of the Thrive program, establishment of the Police Accountability Task Force, hiring of the first Title IX director and other advancements in Residence Life and Housing, Health and Wellbeing, University Police and the Office of the Dean of Students. A national search committee was named to find her successor.

The undergraduate Engineering Program, established in 2017 and infusing liberal arts and ethical values in its curriculum, awarded diplomas in May to its first class of 43 graduates. Women make up 40 percent of the class, about double the national average for engineering, and nearly 60% of the faculty.

The program is also distinctive for its innovative customizable curriculum, community engagement, entrepreneurial mindset and emphasis on experiential learning. More than 70% of the graduates completed internships, 55% did undergraduate research and more than half studied abroad. Nearly two-thirds landed jobs in government and industry, while others plan to attend graduate and professional schools in engineering, medicine, law and business. The program operates in Wake Downtown in Winston-Salem’s Innovation Quarter, next door to the School of Medicine.

The College of Arts & Sciences gave 2021 awards for excellence to these faculty members:
- Andrius Gališanka, associate professor of politics and international affairs, Reid Doyle Prize for Excellence in Teaching
- Billy Hamilton (P ’94, ’98), professor of German and Russian, Jon Reinhardt Award for Distinguished Teaching
- Melissa Maffeo, associate teaching professor of psychology, Teaching Professionals Award for Excellence in Teaching
- Grey Ballard (’06, MA ’08), assistant professor of computer science, Award for Excellence in Research
- T.H.M. Gellar-Goad, associate professor of classics, and AJ Mazaris, women’s, gender and sexuality studies, founding director of the LGBTQ+ Center and assistant vice president for equitable policy in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Excellence in Advising Awards
- John Gemmer, assistant professor of mathematics and statistics and Sterge Faculty Fellow, Kulynych Family Omicron Delta Kappa Award for bridging the gap between the classroom and student life
- Alessandra Von Burg (P ’14), associate professor of communication, Donald O. Schoonmaker Faculty Award for Community Service
- John T. Dalton, associate professor of economics, the URECA (Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Center) Faculty Award for Excellence in Mentorship in Research and Creative Work in the Sciences

Rob Eastman-Mullins, associate professor and associate chair of theatre and dance, URECA Faculty Award for Excellence in Mentorship in Research and Creative Work in the Arts and Humanities.

In addition, Professor of Chemistry Mark E. Welker received the 2020 College Board of Visitors Faculty Leadership Award. Sheila Lockhart, administrative coordinator for the Department for the Study of Religions, received the Staff Leadership Award.

Five Wake Foresters received Fulbright Scholarships to teach English or conduct research during the 2021-2022 academic year. Awarded Fulbright English Teaching Assistantships are Anthony DeVincenzi (’21), Spain, Lilian Nassif (’21), Argentina, and Rachel Willis (MA ’21), Germany. Awarded Fulbright Study/Research grants are Fiona Burdette (’21), Egyptology in Germany, and Danielle Medina-Hernandez (’18, MS ’19), medical sciences research in Spain. In addition, Jackson Maradik (’21) will teach English in Austria through a separate Austrian government program administered by the Fulbright program. Meghan Pressimone (’21) was chosen as a Fulbright alternate to conduct medical sciences research in Spain. The Fulbright U.S. Student Program is the U.S. government’s flagship international educational exchange program.
Warrenetta Mann was named director of the University Counseling Center. A psychologist and leader in collegiate mental health for 30 years, she was previously director of counseling and psychiatry at the University of South Carolina. She also is a small-business owner and co-founder of Cuts and Conversations, an initiative that brings together Black men for in-depth discussions of mental health and well-being. More at bit.ly/2U1ywjD

Members of the University community took part May 7 in a virtual event, “Remember with Us: Commemoration of the Enslaved,” sponsored by the University’s Slavery, Race and Memory Project. The event included the reading of the names of those enslaved individuals who worked for or were sold to benefit the institution that would become Wake Forest University. More at bit.ly/2U1ywjD

Wake Forest was listed in Princeton Review’s 2021 ranking of the Best Value Colleges, based on institutional and student survey data, including academic rigor, affordability and graduate career outcomes. More at bit.ly/3r6woTP

Ashleigh M. Brock was named chief of staff in the office of President Susan R. Wente. Brock directed the operations of the president’s office at the University of Richmond and previously was associate director of alumni and career services there. More at bit.ly/3s1Ogjj

The Department of History hosted the inaugural Smiley Lecture Series in May with Professor of History Michael L. Hughes, who spoke about his book “Embracing Democracy in Modern Germany: Political Citizenship and Participation, 1871–2000” (Bloomsbury 2021). The lecture series honors the late Professor of History David L. Smiley (P ’74).

Wake Forest was encouraged to make Friday, June 18, a day of service, remembrance and participation in Winston-Salem’s annual Juneteenth Festival. More at bit.ly/36yBn6i

Melanie L. Harris and Charles “Austin” Rivera joined the School of Divinity faculty. Harris is professor of religion, Black feminist studies and womanist theology and director of the Food, Health and Ecological Well-Being Program. She is jointly appointed with the University’s African American Studies program. She was associate dean of diversity, equity and inclusion at Texas Christian University, where she was a professor of religion and ethics and founding director of African American and Africana studies. Rivera is assistant professor of church history. He was visiting assistant professor of religion at Huntingdon College in Montgomery, Alabama. More at bit.ly/3i8kODM

Joshuah Brian Campbell, a Grammy- and Oscar-nominated composer, was named director of music and arts at the School of Divinity and director of the University Gospel Choir. He was artist-in-residence at Wait Chapel in the spring. More at bit.ly/3xseTyP

Shonda Jones has a new role as executive director of academic programs at Wake Forest’s new School of Professional Studies in Charlotte. For 10 years, she has served as the senior associate dean of strategic initiatives and integrative learning and assistant teaching professor of intercultural theological education in the School of Divinity. She will continue as principal investigator for the Gilead COMPASS Initiative® Faith Coordinating Center, where she led efforts to secure the $5 million grant that supports its work. More at bit.ly/3rzkkR8

Wake Forest commemorated Juneteenth as a University holiday for the first time in 2021, marking June 19, 1865, the day a group of enslaved people in Galveston, Texas, learned that they were free from slavery almost 2½ years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation. More at bit.ly/3hMUsa

Julie Jordan-Zachery was named chair of the Department of Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies. She was a professor and chair of the Department of African Studies at UNC Charlotte and is the author of six books on Black feminism and public policy. More at bit.ly/3hzMUsa
These alumni never forgot professors who took them under their wings

By Kerry M. King (‘85)

During the COVID-19 pandemic, chairs of Wake Forest’s undergraduate departments reached out to connect — virtually — with alumni who majored in those departments. Department chairs reached nearly 1,200 alumni through “Chats with the Chairs” over Zoom to highlight the teaching and research occurring even in the midst of the pandemic. Alumni connected with current and retired professors in other ways, too. Many alumni reflected on the value of their education and decided to honor professors and departments by making new or increased gifts.

Ledford Physics Scholarships
Randall Ledford (‘72, P ’02) found a home in the physics department where professors Bill Kerr, Howard Shields, the late Thomas Turner and the late Jack Williams (P ’86) took him under their wings.

“They stimulated my intellectual curiosity, changing the way I thought about the world. It was the first time I was challenged,” he said. “They brought a blend of raw science and melded it with humanity and caring about someone enough that they would come to my room to check on me.”

They were “true teachers that molded me into the person I became,” said Ledford, who lives in Frisco, Texas, and is retired senior vice president and chief technology officer at Emerson Electric Company.

Ledford received the George Foster Hankins Scholarship to Wake Forest and earned a Ph.D. in nuclear physics at Duke University. As he advanced in his career at Texas Instruments and then Emerson, he made gifts to the University and physics department before deciding in the late 1990s that he could do more and funded a scholarship for physics majors. “You can do both,” he said, “support the University and a department that has a special memory.”

Since then, he has endowed three additional scholarships. One half-tuition scholarship is awarded each year to a freshman intending to major in physics or biophysics, alternating between a need-based award for a North Carolina student and a merit-based award available to any student.

“I was lucky to be able to go to college,” he said. “I’ve often said that my gifts are just paying my tuition late.”

Greene Fund for Religious Studies
For Susan Hutchins Greene (‘74, P ’00) and Hugh Greene (‘75, P ’00), their experience as religion majors has stayed with them, even 50 years later. Professors Fred Horton, Charles Talbert, Ralph Wood (P ’95), the late Bill Angell (‘41, P ’72) and the late Carlton Mitchell (‘43) had a profound impact on their lives.

The Greenes, who live in Asheville, North Carolina, have established the Susan Hutchins Greene and Hugh Greene Fund for Academic Excellence in the Department for the Study of Religions. The fund will support student and faculty research and travel and course development.

“The Wake Forest experience in general, and in the religion department specifically, transformed my world view,” said Hugh, the retired CEO and president of Baptist Health of Northeast Florida. “My life was not the same. It opened my world view to include social justice and equality and how one’s spiritual life impacts one’s desire to have an impact on the world and the people around us.”

Since reconnecting with the department, “we feel like we’ve begun a new relationship with religious studies, and (we’re) learning how this force in history shapes lives today,” Susan said.

Rector Economics Fund
It’s been 40 years since Susan Darnell Rector (‘81) took classes with economics professors Claire (P ’08) and Dan (‘72, P ’08) Hammond and John Moorhouse, but she still remembers and appreciates their impact on her life and career.

“You gain a sense of perspective when it’s so far removed,” said Rector, who went on to graduate from law school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and is a partner at Peterson Connors LLP in Dublin, Ohio.

After reconnecting with the department last year, she funded the Rector Academic Excellence Fund for Economics to create the Claire and Daniel Hammond Economics Awards in their honor to recognize a graduating economics major and a faculty member each year.

“Wake Forest provided a great education and grounding, and (the Hammonds) were great role models through their professional demeanor and intellectual rigor,” Rector said. “The basic economic concepts I learned help me make sense of the world. I gained an appreciation of the role of policy and regulations that is important in my legal practice. I learned critical thinking skills that made me a thoughtful, deliberate decision maker, for all of which I am grateful.”

To support an undergraduate department, contact Mike Haggas (P ’21) at haggasmp@wfu.edu
‘A Real Commitment to Doing This Right’

The LGBTQ+ Center begins a second decade supporting a welcoming environment for students, faculty and staff.

By Carol L. Hanner

IN 2011, A NATIONAL SEARCH brought AJ Mazaris to Wake Forest as founding director of the LGBTQ+ Center.

“There were certainly lots of very important and supportive people who provided a safe harbor for LGBTQ students as ‘other duties’ not assigned in their jobs,” says Mazaris, who also is assistant vice president for equitable policy in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and teaches in the Department of Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies.

But the University had no institutional support for LGBTQ students, faculty or staff and no resources and advocacy around gender and sexuality, Mazaris says.

What Wake Forest did have was “a real commitment to doing this right,” says Mazaris. “It felt like this really exciting opportunity to build something from scratch.”

The center, based in Benson University Center, is planning a 10th-anniversary celebration Feb. 25-26. Mazaris looks with pride at the growth of the center and society, even as challenges remain in the next decade.

When Scott Thacker (’77), CEO of Ivory Consulting Corp. in the San Francisco Bay area, was an undergraduate, “there wasn’t anything gay anywhere (at Wake Forest).” He was reared as a strong, confident person who succeeded without that support, but the center could have changed his life, he says.

“I would have become the person I am now much sooner because I could have begun exploring that part of me at a much earlier age.”

He has championed diversity and mentoring at Wake Forest, at his childhood school in Ohio and in his career. He spearheaded alumni creation of the LGBTQ Scholarship five years ago, the first of its kind at Wake Forest. His wish for the next 10 years at Wake Forest is that LGBTQ students are completely mainstream. But short of that dream, he will continue with the efforts “that warm my heart” — supporting the center and scholarships and making life easier for those who followed him.

One recurring answer emerged as Thacker asked alumni and students in the scholarship process what they wished Wake Forest offered: education on dating and marriage, as well as career. That need “was the same when I was there in the 1970s. We want to date but don’t have any role models of what it’s like today when you’re dating same-sex in college,” Thacker says.

He hopes in the next decade the center “has enough funding to offer more programs and encourage more people to be out and to show the world who they are and through their stories have more LGBTQ people apply to Wake Forest.”

Expanding hope and courage

Mark Covington-Booth (’13), a psychotherapist in Washington, D.C., who last year earned his doctorate in counseling education and supervision at George Washington University, was “one of the first students who ever walked through my door,” Mazaris says.

After growing up in Winston-Salem as a gay black man, Covington-Booth says, his time at Wake Forest helped him understand a great deal about who he is. Mazaris helped him find the courage to move to Washington to pursue a master’s degree. Covington-Booth, who married Jack Booth in June, continues to meet Wake Forest alumni and functions as a therapist for students in the Wake Washington program.

His hope for the next decade is that the University can bring more help to students of color, including LGBTQ students, trying to find their way at a predominantly white institution.

With so many dynamic, driven students at Wake Forest and many economic imbalances among them,
“socially, you have to learn how to swim pretty quickly,” Covington-Booth says. He got “very lucky” by taking part in music and theater, joining a fraternity and having gay friends, “but a lot of people didn’t have that same sense of community. Always making people feel more inclusive and welcoming should be the message forefront, ... demonstrated right from the professors the first day of class to the housekeeper.”

**Peace of mind**
Covington-Booth sees a need for more mental health support. People in the LGBTQ community suffer anxiety and depression that are “very different from a person that is heterosexual or may have never encountered some of those stresses.”

The pandemic upped the emotional pressure on adults, and isolation was “even more crushing for some students,” he says.

Leilani Fletcher (‘22) agrees with Covington-Booth. Fletcher knows students who went home in the pandemic to hostile, unwelcoming or even unsafe family life because of their identities.

“I’m really grateful that my family’s super supportive,” Fletcher says. “I know definitely for some of my friends or different people on campus, going home is always a very difficult, sticky situation.”

Fletcher, a double major in religious studies and women’s, gender and sexuality studies, has connected deeply to the center through work-study, the Change Agent program, creating social media content and helping establish a local chapter of Lavender Menace, a physical and online space “for queer women to connect and be in community with each other,” Fletcher says. In 2020, Fletcher received the LGBTQ Scholarship.

“For me the biggest thing is having a person or a place where I can just go and feel like I can be my authentic self and not have a lot of judgment or eyes on me.”

**Three buckets**
Mazaris says the center will continue the three buckets of its core mission — education, advocacy and support.

“The support piece of our mission often looks like meeting one-on-one with a student who’s navigating a coming-out crisis, talking to someone who is having an issue with their roommate or their housing situation, supporting a student whose parents haven’t been affirming of their gender identity. Support also looks like helping students develop networks of peer support with other classmates,” Mazaris says.

An equally important piece, Mazaris says, is advocacy, identifying inequity because of orientation or gender identity and creating more equitable policies, practices and resources.

The center partners with the Office of Residence Life and Housing on gender-neutral residence halls and with Human Resources on benefits equity for partners of gay and lesbian employees and ensuring that transgender employees have access to benefits for all of their health care needs.

“Currently, we’re working on the University-wide data standards project around how names are displayed in our databases. It was just particularly important for trans folks,” Mazaris says. The work goes beyond structural issues. “You also have to do education because if you don’t, you’re never going to change your campus climate.”

D.E.A.C. Allies (Developing Empowering and Affirming Communities), formerly Safe Zone, helps students, faculty and staff “to understand the experiences of their LGBTQ students, colleagues, alumni and then gives them some concrete tools and skills for creating inclusive environments,” Mazaris says. “The which pronouns someone prefers. The University will need to continue advocating for larger political conversations on nondiscrimination ordinances or organizing strategies, Mazaris says.

Fletcher sees the center as critical for many students. “The center really has kept me grounded, and I honestly don’t know where I would be without (it).”

For more information on the center and its 10th anniversary events, go to [lgbtq.wfu.edu](http://lgbtq.wfu.edu). Find the center’s glossary of LGBTQ terms at [bit.ly/2UsAc5q](https://bit.ly/2UsAc5q)
Reconnecting in person

It’s been a long time since alumni have been able to gather in person. The Lovefeast, Pro Humanitate Days, Wake Women’s Week, Alumni Admissions Forum and even Homecoming went virtual in the last year. WAKECommunities, the heart of local face-to-face programs, were forced to cancel game-watching parties, new student receptions, networking events and more.

As the country begins to return to normal, WAKECommunity events are restarting, beginning with WAKEWelcomes. On-campus events will resume with a special celebration for the Class of 2020 in September and Homecoming and Reunion Weekend in October.

Even as in-person events ramp up, the alumni office plans to continue offering virtual events which have proven so popular in the last year. Check the monthly alumni newsletter for the latest classes, career development programs and webinars, most of which are free.

Whatever your preference, in-person or virtual, there are more opportunities than ever to connect with Wake Forest and other alumni. Join us this fall on campus or online.

WAKEWelcomes | alumni.wfu.edu

WAKEWelcomes receptions are being held this fall to celebrate the Class of 2020 and 2021 and welcome them to the alumni family. It’s a great way for recent alumni to meet other alumni in their new community and for all alumni, parents and friends to reconnect.

Homecoming Weekend 2021 | Oct. 29-31
Register at homecoming.wfu.edu by Oct. 21

Classes ending in 0, 1, 5 and 6 are invited back to campus for class events. The Commodores are scheduled to rock Manchester Plaza (Magnolia Quad) at Party So Dear on Friday. Saturday events include the Festival on the Quad, the alumni tailgate and the Wake Forest-Duke football game (all times TBA). The tailgate will be held in a new location at the Winston-Salem Fairgrounds, across from Truist Field.
1950s

Jack McGinley (‘57) was inducted into the Fayetteville (NC) Sports Club Hall of Fame. He was a starting pitcher on Wake Forest’s 1955 NCAA championship team. He coached high school baseball before becoming principal of Reid Ross High School in Fayetteville.

1960s

Ashley Lee Hogewood Jr. (‘61, JD ‘63, P ‘90, ‘93) received the John B. McMillan Distinguished Service Award from the North Carolina State Bar. He is a retired partner at Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP in Charlotte. He has served on the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Board of Education, the Central Piedmont Community College Board of Trustees and the Mecklenburg County Board of Elections. He received the Order of the Hornet, Mecklenburg County’s highest honor, for his civic contributions.

Ed Fuller (‘67) has co-written a book, “Red Deception” (Beaufort Books), a followup to his 2019 thriller, “Red Hotel.” The story follows a former Army intelligence officer who is attempting to thwart domestic terrorist bombings. Fuller is CEO of Laguna Strategic Advisors, a business consulting firm in Irvine, CA. He is a former president and managing director of Marriott International and was a captain in the U.S. Army who received Bronze Star and Army Commendation medals.

Bill Coore (‘68) received the 2021 American Society of Golf Course Architects Donald Ross Award, which honors individuals making significant contributions to golf course architecture. He received the award with his business partner, former Masters champion Ben Crenshaw. In 1985 the duo formed golf course architecture firm Coore & Crenshaw, which has designed and piloted in 16 Asian countries, with plans to expand to Africa and Latin America. Piercy retired and lives in Pensacola, FL. She became familiar with Warren Wilson when her father was chair of the education department.

1970s

Greg C. Gaskins (‘70, JD ‘76) retired as deputy treasurer and secretary of the North Carolina Local Government Commission. He also led the staff of the state and local government finance division to enact reforms to benefit local government. He was also a member of the North Carolina State Water Infrastructure Authority, which helps smaller water/sewer entities. He lives in Raleigh with his wife, Janet.

Richard A. Honeycutt (‘70, P ‘99) presented an invited paper at the 2021 DIALOGO Virtual International Conference, an annual conference focused on the dialogue between science and theology. The paper, “A Study of the Philosophy of Science and Spirituality,” was published in the peer-reviewed DIALOGO Journal online. Honeycutt is a researcher, speaker and author from Lexington, NC.

Suellen Anderson Hudson (‘70, P ‘00) was re-elected to the board of trustees of Warren Wilson College, a liberal arts college in Swannanoa, NC. She is serving on the board with David Greenfield (‘72, JD ‘75), Carla Howell Greenfield (‘75) and Mur Muchane, vice president for information technology and chief information officer for Wake Forest and a graduate of Warren Wilson. Hudson is retired and lives in Pensacola, FL. She became familiar with Warren Wilson when her father was chair of the education department.

Alex Sink (‘70, P ‘11) received the Women’s Distinguished Leadership Award from the North Tampa Bay Chamber of Commerce. She is a life trustee at Wake Forest and board chair of Tampa Bay Wave, a tech startup accelerator. She was Bank of America’s Florida president for seven years and Florida’s chief financial officer from 2007-11. She lives in Thonotosassa, FL.


Jenny Robinson Puckett (‘71, P ‘00) was named to the board of directors of the Wake Forest College Birthplace Society, which operates the Wake Forest Historical Museum and the Dr. Calvin Jones House in Wake Forest, NC. She is a legislative liaison with the North Carolina Department of Revenue and retired director of state and federal relations with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina. She lives in Wake Forest.
Hallie Arrington Hearn ('76, MAEd '88) was named to the board of directors of the Wake Forest College Birthplace Society, which operates the Wake Forest Historical Museum and the Dr. Calvin Jones House in Wake Forest, NC. She is a native of the town of Wake Forest and the great-great-great-granddaughter of Wake Forest’s first president, Samuel Wait. She worked in the Wake Forest Registrar’s Office for 25 years before moving back to Wake Forest.

Ed King Jr. ('76, P '07) was named general counsel of Dulany Industries Inc., the parent company of Southern States Chemical, in Savannah, GA. He had provided outside legal counsel to the company since 1988. He lives on Isle of Hope, GA.

James K. Dorsett III (JD '77) was one of nine attorneys awarded the North Carolina Bar Association’s 2021 Citizen Lawyer Award, which honors attorneys who go above and beyond to serve their communities. He is an attorney at Smith Anderson in Raleigh and past president of the NCBA.

D. Kent Moberly ('77) retired from private dental practice in Seattle. He has returned to North Carolina and is an associate professor at the UNC Adams School of Dentistry. In his first year teaching, he was co-recipient of the Spurgeon Faculty Teaching Award presented by the third-year class. He and his wife, Elaine, live in Chapel Hill.

Suzanne Reynolds (JD '77) received the Game Changer for Social Justice Award from Winston-Salem’s Gateway YWCA as one of the 2021 Women of Vision recipients. Reynolds taught at the School of Law for 40 years until retiring in 2020 and was the school’s first female dean from 2015 to 2019. She is an expert on family law and co-founder of a domestic violence program at the law school.

John Stuart Hatchell ('78) is enjoying retirement in Raleigh and Atlantic Beach, NC.

Nancy Bell Kimsey ('78) has written a devotion-al book, “Grace on a Rambling Road: Devotions for RV Travelers” (Pine Warbler Publications). The book offers a collection of 60 meditations that link Scripture with vignettes about camping. Kimsey specializes in devotional literature and is a retired middle school teacher who lives in Fuquay-Varina, NC.

Tucker Mitchell ('78) retired as vice president for University Communications at Francis Marion University in Florence, SC. He spent more than 30 years in journalism before joining FMU in 2013. Mitchell is the author of a biography of former Wake Forest football coach Douglas Clyde “Peahead” Walker, “Peahead! The Life and Times of a Southern-Fried Coach.”

Dennis A. Wicker (JD '78) received the Award for Distinguished Public Service from the North Carolina Chamber. He is a partner in the Raleigh
office of Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP and a former lieutenant governor of North Carolina. He lives in Sanford, NC.

Jeffery Paul Hogg (‘79) received the West Virginia University School of Medicine Distinguished Teacher Award at the senior faculty level. He is professor emeritus of radiology at WVU and senior course director and editor-in-chief for Aquifer Radiology, an online course. He is a member of Wake Forest’s Alumni Council. He lives in Morgantown, WV.

Robert “Bob” Singer (JD ‘79) was recognized in the 2021 edition of Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business in his practice area (banking and finance). He is a partner at Brooks Pierce in Greensboro, NC.

Don Vaughan (JD ‘79) was one of seven lawyers inducted into the North Carolina Bar Association Hall of Fame. He has practiced law for nearly 40 years in Greensboro, NC, and is an adjunct professor at the Wake Forest School of Law. He is a former state senator and Greensboro City Council member and mayor pro tem.

1980s

Debra L. Massie (‘80) was appointed a District Court judge by North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper in Judicial District 3B, which consists of Carteret, Craven and Pamlico counties. She was an attorney in Beaufort, NC, and a public defender in Carteret County (NC).

Michael Pappas (‘80, P ‘06, ‘12) was elected to a two-year term as chair of the board of directors for Leading Real Estate Companies of the World® (LeadingRE). He is president and CEO of The Keyes Family of Companies, a Florida-based real estate company with more than 50 branches and 3,500 associates. He has been named among the top 200 leaders nationally in the residential real estate brokerage industry the last three years in the Swanepoel Power 200.

Gerald Roach (‘80, JD ‘82, P ‘09, ‘12) was recognized in the 2021 edition of Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business in his practice area (corporate/mergers & acquisitions). He is firm chair at Smith Anderson in Raleigh and former chair of Wake Forest’s Board of Trustees.

Lisa De Maio Brewer (‘81, MA ‘08) is putting her two English degrees to good use as co-editor of Foothills Digest, a lifestyle magazine for the North Carolina Foothills. She is also executive director of the Carolina Bible Camp Bluegrass Festival, held annually in Mocksville, NC. She and her husband, Greg Brewer (JD ‘84), live in an 1890 Victorian home in downtown Wilkesboro, NC. Greg practices law at his family’s fourth-generation law firm, Brewer & Brewer PLLC.

Rick O. Kopf (JD ‘81, P ‘09) was recognized in the 2021 edition of Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business in his practice area (real estate law). He is a founding partner and shareholder in the Dallas office of Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr PC.

John D. Martin (‘81) was named to the 2021 North Carolina Super Lawyers list for personal injury medical malpractice, defense. He is an attorney at Cranfill Sumner LLP and managing partner of the firm’s Wilmington, NC, office.

Emily Neese (‘81, P ‘13, ‘16) was appointed vice president for finance, strategy and planning at Wake Forest. She has worked at the University since 2006 following a career in public accounting and private industry. She co-chairs the University’s COVID-19 Scenario Planning Team and has provided strategic and budgetary support for initiatives such as Wake Downtown and the Wake Will Lead campaign.

Elizabeth “Liz” Brown Kyle (‘82) retired after 15 years as commissioner for the Northern Section of the California Interscholastic Federation, the state’s athletic governing body. She spent a dozen years on the section’s executive committee and was a teacher, volleyball coach and high school principal before being named commissioner in 2006. She played volleyball at Wake Forest and was named the ACC’s Scholar-Athlete of the Year in 1982. She lives in Medford, OR.

Ryal W. Taylor (JD ‘82) was named to the 2021 North Carolina Super Lawyers list for construction litigation. He is an attorney at Ward and Smith PA in Wilmington, NC.

Mark Alan Bennett (‘83) retired from the U.S. Postal Service after 28 years. He previously worked for the Forsyth County (NC) Clerk of Court. He lives in Rural Hall, NC.

Joal Hall Broun (‘83, JD ‘86) was appointed District Court judge for Chatham and Orange counties by North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper. She was director of the Lobbying Compliance Division for the North Carolina Department of the Secretary of State.

Paula A. Kohut (JD ‘83) was named to the 2021 North Carolina Super Lawyers list for estate planning & probate. She is a shareholder at Kohut & Adams PA in Wilmington, NC.

Louise Wood Flanagan (‘84) was appointed by U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts to a second term on the Judicial Conference Committee on Court Administration and Case Management. She is a U.S. District Court judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina. Nominated by President George W. Bush in 2003, Flanagan was the first female appointed to the federal bench in North Carolina. During her tenure as chief judge of the Eastern District, she spearheaded the restoration of the historic federal courthouse in New Bern, NC, where she lives.

Daniel Mynatt (‘84) was named provost and vice president of academic affairs at Pfeiffer University in Misenheimer, NC. He spent the previous two decades in administration at the University of Mary-Hardin Baylor in Belton, TX, most recently as vice provost for institutional effectiveness. He is considered a leading figure in accreditation in Southern private higher education.

Jim W. Phillips (JD ‘84) was recognized in the 2021 edition of Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business in his practice area (litigation: general commercial). He is a partner at Brooks Pierce in Greensboro, NC.

Terrence A. Cronin Jr. (‘86, MD ‘92) was named president-elect of the American Academy of Dermatology. He is in private practice in Melbourne, FL, and was named the 2019 “Practitioner of the Year” by the Florida Society of Dermatology and Dermatologic Surgery.

Bernard Hvozdovic Jr. (‘86) was named municipal administrator of Princeton, NJ, overseeing 200-plus employees. He was township manager of neighboring South Brunswick, NJ, for the last 10 years.

Beth Langley (‘86, JD ‘92) was named to Business North Carolina’s 2021 Legal Elite for employment law. She is an attorney at Brooks Pierce in Greensboro, NC.

Mike Mitchell (‘86, JD ‘89, P ‘18) was recognized in the 2021 edition of Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business in his practice area (general commercial litigation). He is an attorney at Smith Anderson in Raleigh, where he co-chairs the firm’s business litigation team and intellectual property litigation practice.
J. Kevin Moore (JD ’86) was named to the 2021 Northern California Super Lawyers list for construction litigation. He is an attorney at Bold, Polsinser, Maddow, Nelson & Judson in Walnut Creek, CA.

Marybeth Sutton Wallace (’86) was named special assistant in the Office of the Vice President in the University Advancement office at Wake Forest. She spent the previous 14 years as special assistant to President Nathan Hatch, overseeing the Wake Forest Fellows Program from its inception and the President’s Aides program, both of which she is continuing to manage. She lives in Winston-Salem with her husband, McLaren Wallace Jr. (’85, JD ’88).

Edward Bonahue (‘87) was appointed president of Suffolk County Community College in Selden, NY. He had been provost and vice president for academic affairs at Santa Fe College in Gainesville, FL, since 2009.

Martha Greene Eads (’87, MA ’93) was appointed a mentor for the 12th cohort of the Lilly Graduate Fellows Program, a nationally recognized program that supports students exploring church-related higher education in graduate school. She is an English professor at Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg, VA, and received the school’s Excellence in Teaching Award for 2021 in the Tenured Faculty category. Eads joined EMU in 2003 after teaching at the North Carolina Correctional Center for Women and Valparaiso University in Indiana.

Blair M. Jacobs (’87) joined the law firm McKool Smith as principal in its Washington, DC, office. He has three decades of experience representing clients nationwide in complex intellectual property and trade-secrets disputes.

Catherine E. Thompson (JD ’87) joined Colombo-Kitchin Attorneys in Greenville, NC, as of counsel. She has practiced law in North Carolina since 1987, focusing primarily on estate and trust planning, business planning and commercial litigation.

Kenneth M. Halanych (’88) was named executive director of the Center for Marine Science at UNC-Wilmington. He was the Schellenberg Endowed Chair and a biological sciences professor at Auburn University. He has earned international recognition for his research on marine invertebrate evolution. In 2020, he led a group of scientists on a 14-week voyage to investigate the biogeography and adaptation of invertebrate animals in Antarctic waters. He is editor-in-chief of Biological Bulletin, a peer-reviewed scientific journal.

H. Mark Hamlet (’88) was named to Business North Carolina’s 2021 Legal Elite for construction law and to the 2021 North Carolina Super Lawyers list for construction litigation. He is managing partner at Hamlet & Associates PLLC in Wilmington, NC.

Dorothy Talley Holley (’88) earned a Ph.D. in learning and teaching in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) from N.C. State University.

Robert “Bob” King (JD ’88) was recognized in the 2021 edition of Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business in his practice area (environmental law). He is a partner at Brooks Pierce in Greensboro, NC.

Jon W. Myers (’88, JD/MBA ’92) was appointed a District Court judge for Davie and Davidson counties by North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper. He has practiced law in Lexington, NC, since 1992.

Joel R. Rhine (JD ’88) was named to Business North Carolina’s 2021 Legal Elite for construction and litigation law. He was also recognized as one of the state’s top 100 lawyers by North Carolina Super Lawyers. He is a partner at Rhine Law Firm in Wilmington, NC.

Dan Hooks (’89) was named president of the American Rental Association, an international trade organization for the equipment and event rental industry. Hooks is president and CEO of Party Reflections Inc., based in Charlotte.

Andrew K. McVey (JD ’90, JD ’93) was named to Business North Carolina’s 2021 Legal Elite for litigation and to the 2021 North Carolina Super Lawyers list for employment & labor law. He is an attorney at Murchison, Taylor & Gibson PLLC in Wilmington, NC.

William “Bill” M. White Jr. (’90) was appointed director of Equity and Justice Ministries of the Western North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church, which supports more than 1,000 churches. He has 33 years of experience in ordained ministry and is pastor of Oak Grove United Methodist Church in Charlotte.

Clayton D. Morgan (JD/MBA ’91) is president-elect of the North Carolina Bar Association. He is associate general counsel at Duke Energy in Raleigh. He received the bar association’s Corporate Counselor’s Award, which recognizes “superstar” attorneys who demonstrate high ethical standards and dedication to the community.

Fred “Jule” Smith III (‘91, MBA ’96) was promoted to president and CEO of Construction Partners Inc., a civil infrastructure company based in Dothan, AL, that specializes in road construction in five southeastern states. He was chief operating officer and former president of the company’s North Carolina subsidiary.

Michael Baron (’92) is the producing artistic director of Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma, a regional theatre in Oklahoma City that has earned national acclaim. Baron, who worked in New York theatres, is the former assistant artistic director of the Signature Theatre in Arlington, VA, and a former professor at Brown University. The Lyric Theatre’s outdoor production of Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol” with spectators walking from scene to scene was highlighted by The New York Times and the BBC as an example of innovation to keep alive the popular holiday play during the pandemic.

Charlie E. Brown (JD ’92) was reappointed chair of the North Carolina Sentencing and Policy Advisory Commission. The 28-member commission monitors the state’s criminal and juvenile justice systems and reports to the General Assembly. Brown is chief District Court judge in Rowan County.

Gerry Chesser Jr. (’92) was named CEO of Every Man Jack, a leading manufacturer of men’s grooming products based in the San Francisco area. Chesser has worked in the consumer products industry for more than 25 years. He was most recently a division CEO with multinational consumer goods company Unilever.

Michael Eads ('87, MA '93) was named to the 2021 North Carolina 1000 list for construction. He is a partner at Brooks Pierce in Greensboro, NC.

Robert “Bob” King (JD ’88) was appointed a District Court judge for Davie and Davidson counties by North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper. He has practiced law in Lexington, NC, since 1992.

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Jerome B. Drain (’92) is associate vice chancellor of academic instruction at Houston (TX) Community College, where he has worked since 2014.

Patricia “Tricia” Williams Goodson (’92, JD ’96) was recognized in the 2021 edition of Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business in her practice area (labor & employment law). She is a partner at Brooks Pierce in Raleigh.

Kelly Griggs Griffin (’92) was promoted to partner at Hutchins Canning & Company, a CPA firm in Kitty Hawk, NC. She has more than 25 years’ experience helping businesses with their accounting, consulting and tax needs.

Chris King (’92) was inducted into the Sampson County (NC) Sports Club Hall of Fame. King was a standout basketball player at Hobbton High School in Newton Grove, NC, in Sampson County. He was a four-year starter at Wake Forest and ranks in the top 10 in scoring and rebounding. He played three seasons in the NBA and seven seasons in Europe before retiring.

Timothy O’Donnell (’92, MA ’97) was named interim provost at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, VA. He is a professor of communication at UMW and has been associate provost for academic engagement and student success since 2014. He joined UMW in 1999 as director of debate.

Antonis Rouvas (’92) was named chief financial officer and executive board member of Hellenic Bank, a leading financial institution in Cyprus. He has nearly 30 years of experience in the international financial services industry.

R. Keith Shackleford (’92, JD ’96) was named to the board of directors and is treasurer of the Wake Forest College Birthplace Society, which operates the Wake Forest Historical Museum and the Dr. Calvin Jones House in Wake Forest, NC. He is an attorney with Warren, Shackleford & Thomas PLLC in Wake Forest.

Bonita Hairston Brown (’94, JD ’97) was appointed to Education Design Lab’s Designers in Residence program, a national initiative that aims to close economic and racial opportunity gaps in higher education. She was one of 12 individuals chosen to participate in the program, which is funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. She is chief strategy officer and vice president at Northern Kentucky University.

Bob Davenport (’94) was named division president of TRI Pointe Homes Raleigh, a homebuilding subsidiary of TRI Pointe Group.

Kevin Humphreys (MBA ’94) was named director of finance at GRSi, an IT service management company in Bethesda, MD.


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Tim Lam (’93) is founding partner and executive director of The International School of Hospitality in Las Vegas. He founded the school in 2005 to offer continuing education and career development programs to workers in the hospitality industry. More at bit.ly/3shi4XH
Anne Waring Cherry Stone (MAEd ’94) has earned the Certified Career Counselor credential through the National Career Development Association. She is a college and career navigator at Florence County Adult Education in Florence, SC.

Jennifer Van Zant (’94) was listed in the 2021 edition of Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business in her practice area (antitrust). She also was named to Business North Carolina’s 2021 Legal Elite for appellate and litigation law. She is a partner at Brooks Pierce in Greensboro, NC.

Jason Vuic (’94) has written his fourth book, “The Swamp Peddlers” (UNC Press), about the dark side of real estate development in postwar Florida. Vuic is a historian and writer who specializes in creative nonfiction and a former college professor and administrator. He lives in Fort Worth, TX.

Charlie Baum (’95) was reelected to the Tennessee House of Representatives in November 2020. He served as vice chair of the House Finance, Ways and Means Committee during the 2021 legislative session. Baum is a professor of economics at Middle Tennessee State University and lives with his wife, Kelly, and three children in Murfreesboro, TN.

Sinclair Bell (’95) was named a 2021 Presidential Teaching Professor at Northern Illinois University, where he is an art history professor. He also received a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities to study ethnicity in antiquity. Bell has taught courses on Greek and Roman art history, architecture and archaeology since joining the NIU faculty in 2008.

Robbie Boone (’95) was promoted to general counsel of the Farm Credit Council, the national trade association representing Farm Credit institutions before Congress, the executive branch and others. Farm Credit provides credit to farmers before Congress, the executive branch and others.

Kevin J. Long (’95) was named senior pastor at Independent Presbyterian Church in Birmingham, AL. He was pastor at Sewickley Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh.

Amy Boyer Rosen (’95) was named executive sales director for Vi at Aventura, a continuing care retirement community in northern Miami-Dade County (FL). She has more than 20 years of sales and marketing experience in the senior living industry.

Edwin L. West III (JD ’95, P ’24) was named to Business North Carolina’s 2021 Legal Elite for criminal law and to the 2021 North Carolina Super Lawyers list for criminal defense. He is a partner at Brooks Pierce in the Raleigh and Wilmington, NC, offices.

1996

John A. Burroughs (MD ’96, P ’20) joined Crossroads Hospice & Palliative Care in Kansas City, MO, as a medical director. He practiced family medicine for 20 years in Liberty, MO.

Brian Calnon (MBA ’96) was named head of strategy and innovation at REVERED, an integrated marketing agency headquartered in Raleigh. Calnon has more than 25 years of experience leading global marketing teams and supporting such brands as Humana, Life Savers, Coca-Cola and E*TRADE. He was director of digital marketing for Turning Point Brands.

Henry “Hal” Kitchin Jr. (JD ’96) was named to Business North Carolina’s 2021 Legal Elite for litigation. He was named to the Legal Elite Hall of Fame for antitrust law in 2019. He is a partner at McGuireWoods LLP in Wilmington.

Amy Pinne Wang (JD ’96) was appointed chair of the Environment, Energy & Natural Resources Law Section of the North Carolina Bar Association. She is an environmental attorney at Ward and Smith PA in New Bern, NC. She leads the firm’s environmental practice group and its Green Initiative, which promotes environmentally sustainable professional practices.

Derek Waugh (JD ’96) was named athletic director at Marist School, a private Catholic school in the Atlanta metro area. He has more than 20 years’ experience in athletics at BSN Sports apparel and equipment, as president and CEO of the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame, athletic director at Dalton State College and head men’s basketball coach and assistant athletic director at Stetson University. He was the first basketball Academic All-American at Furman University, where he received his undergraduate degree.

Robert “Bob” Zeglarski (’96) has joined the law firm Frost Brown Todd in its securities and corporate governance practice group. He is based in Nashville, TN.

1997

Russ Allen (’97) was named director of investment strategy at Sage Mountain Advisors LLC, a boutique independent wealth management firm in Atlanta. He was chief investment officer at Bernstein Capital Advisors in Atlanta.

Chris Ashwell (PhD ’97) was named director of the Animal and Nutritional Sciences program at West Virginia University’s Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Design. He spent 18 years at N.C. State University, where he was a professor of animal genomics and director of the Office of Undergraduate Research.

Chris Dunbar (MBA ’97) was named to the board of visitors at High Point University. He is the president of Blue Ridge Companies Inc. in Greensboro, NC.

Michael V. Lee (JD ‘97) was named to Business North Carolina’s 2021 Legal Elite for real estate law and to the 2021 North Carolina Super Lawyers list for real estate law. He is a partner at Lee Kaess PLLC in Wilmington, NC, and is serving his third term in the North Carolina Senate.

Anthony “Tony” L. Yarnall (’97) was named business development manager, North America, at Fabreeka International Inc. in the Greater Boston area. The company manufactures shock-control products for aerospace and automotive equipment.

1998

Christopher K. Behm (JD ’98) was named to Business North Carolina’s 2021 Legal Elite for construction law and to the 2021 North Carolina Super Lawyers list for construction litigation. He is a partner at Block, Crouch, Keeter, Behm & Sayed LLP in Wilmington, NC.

Julie Leon Caperton (JD ’98) was named head of Wells Fargo Private Bank, a division of Wells Fargo Wealth & Investment Management (WIM). She is also continuing her current role as head of the Banking, Lending & Trust Center of Excellence for WIM. She has been with Wells Fargo and its predecessor organizations for almost 20 years and has been named multiple times to American Banker’s list of the “Most Powerful Women in Banking.”
Marcus Lam ('98) is director of admissions and marketing at The International School of Hospitality in Las Vegas. The school offers continuing education and career development programs to workers in the hospitality industry. More at bit.ly/3shi4XH

Stacey Gibbs McCray ('98) was named senior director of communications for Bojangles, a Charlotte-based fast-food chain with 760 restaurants in 11 states. She spent 17 years with Charlotte marketing agency Luquire George Andrews, most recently as vice president of public relations.

Coe W. Ramsey (JD '98) was recognized in the 2021 edition of Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business in his practice area (intellectual property). He is a partner at Brooks Pierce in Raleigh.

Amie Fonville Sivon ('99) was elected secretary of the North Carolina Bar Association’s Appellate Practice Section Council for the 2021-22 term, marking her fourth year in council leadership. She is a civil defense litigator and partner at Ragsdale Liggett PLLC in Raleigh. She has been named to Business North Carolina’s Legal Elite for appellate law since 2019.

Carlton Ward Jr. (’98) is a photographer and National Geographic Explorer. His photography and advocacy helped lead the Florida legislature to unanimously pass the Florida Wildlife Corridor Act to provide $400 million to protect the state’s vast network of natural areas. Ward has spent much of his career photographing Florida’s wildlife corridor, an interconnected web of forests, swamps, fields, pastures and timberlands. He founded the Florida Wildlife Corridor campaign in 2010 and Path of the Panther in 2016. Ward shared his story and photographs in the Fall 2015 Wake Forest Magazine. More at bit.ly/1L3TjFw

Will Watson ('98) received his Doctor of Ministry degree from Duke Divinity School. He is pastor of United Baptist Church in Winston-Salem.

Kris Britton (MAEd ‘99, MBA ‘19) was named to Triad Business Journal’s 2021 “Outstanding Women in Business” list. She is CEO of Lucky Dog Volleyball in Greensboro, NC, a lifestyle apparel company that is the official championship event merchandiser for USA Volleyball. She is a former police officer, teacher and school administrator.

Peter Frandano (MBA ‘99) has written a book, “Endurance Real Estate,” about his combined 30-plus years in the Fortune 500 and real estate arenas. He lives in Charlotte, where he owns a real estate consulting company and trains as an endurance athlete.

Perrin W. Jones (MD ‘99) was appointed to the board of trustees of UNC Chapel Hill. He is an anesthesiologist at Vidant Medical Center in Greenville, NC. He is a former member of the North Carolina House of Representatives and former president of the North Carolina Society of Anesthesiologists.

Jason Kaplan (’99) joined First Community Mortgage as a vice president in the Cool Springs office in Franklin, TN. He has 20-plus years of experience in the mortgage banking business, previously with FirstBank Mortgage (formerly Franklin Synergy).

LeeAnne Quattrucci ('01) was named to Business North Carolina’s 2021 Legal Elite for family law. She is managing attorney at The Law Office of LeeAnne Quattrucci in Wilmington, NC. She has been voted the city’s best attorney by Wilmington Magazine and received the Pro Bono Publico Award from Legal Aid of North Carolina.

Amy Chastain-Moore (PhD ‘02) was named vice president of global engagement and patient partnerships at LUNGevity Foundation, the nation’s leading lung cancer-focused nonprofit, based in Bethesda, MD, and Chicago. She was director of science and research at the GO2 Foundation for Lung Cancer. She is a virologist and cancer researcher and an expert on COVID-19 and lung cancer. She earned a Ph.D. in microbiology and immunology from the School of Medicine.

Kyllan Brown Cody (’02) was named CEO of Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of City View in Fort Worth, TX. She has more than 15 years of experience in health administration leadership in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, including as CEO of Cook Children’s Surgery Center.

Mike Felcher Jr. (MBA ’02) was named senior vice president and chief financial officer at NN Inc., a diversified industrial manufacturer based in Charlotte. He had been the company’s chief accounting officer since 2018.

Blake Henry (’02) was named head football coach and assistant athletic director at St. Andrew’s School, an independent private school in Savannah, GA. He was head football coach at the Potomac School in McLean, Va. Henry was a former All-ACC offensive lineman at Wake Forest.

Jill Peters Kaess (JD ’02) was named to Business North Carolina’s 2021 Legal Elite for tax/estate planning law and to the 2021 North Carolina Super Lawyers list for transportation/marine law. She is a partner at Lee Kaess PLLC in Wilmington, NC.

Katie Parsons Kurtz (’02, MSA ’03) was named chief financial officer at Silverstein Properties, a real estate development, investment and man-
agigation firm based in New York. The firm’s recent projects include several buildings at the World Trade Center. Kurtz was an executive vice president at real estate investment trust AR Global.

Gina Russo (JD ’02) was appointed Franklin County (OH) Municipal Court judge by Gov. Mike DeWine. She was a judge on the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, an assistant prosecutor in the Franklin County Prosecutor’s Office and an attorney in private practice.

2003

Robert “Robby” Lawson (JD/MBA ’03) is a partner in the Raleigh office of Williams Mullen and chair of the law firm’s Diversity and Inclusion Committee. He joined the firm in 2010 and focuses on commercial real estate. He was named to Business North Carolina’s Legal Elite Hall of Fame in 2013.

Robyn Byrd Michalove (MDiv ’03) earned a doctorate in ministry from Brite Divinity School in Fort Worth, TX. Her research focused on transforming congregational outreach to those in material need through reflection about systemic wealth inequities and away from other models of charitable action. She is the associate pastor for mission and family ministries at First Presbyterian Fort Worth.

Michael Terry (’03, MDiv ’24) was named research and stewardship manager in Wake Forest’s Corporation and Foundation Relations office. He was commitment communications writer in University Advancement’s Alumni and Donor Services office. He also worked in gift administration at Wake Forest and at 88.5 WFDD.

Anna Holt Upton (’03) was appointed to the Northwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board by Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis. Upton is managing member of the law firm Anna H. Upton PL in Tallahassee and general counsel to The Everglades Foundation.

2004

Gadson “Will” Perry (’04, MAEd ’05) was appointed District Chancery Court judge in Shelby County (TN) by Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee. Perry is a partner at Butler Snow LLP in Memphis. He was named to the Memphis Business Journal’s “40 Under 40” class of 2021.

Samuel H. Porter III (’04) was named to the 2021 “40 Under 40” class by Columbus Business First Journal. He is a senior counsel in the public affairs and gaming practices group at Ice Miller LLP in Columbus, OH.

2005

Caitlin Dempsey Bognaski (’05) was the keynote speaker at the Utah Department of Veterans & Military Affairs’ 2021 Sisters in Service virtual celebration, honoring Utah’s women veterans and those currently serving. Bognaski was a track and cross-country athlete and ROTC cadet at Wake Forest and was commissioned as a U.S. Army officer at graduation. She served in Iraq and Afghanistan and was only the 12th female to graduate from the Army’s combat engineer program. She was honorably discharged in 2009.

2006

Anderson T. Ellis II (’06) was elected as a shareholder in The Van Winkle Law Firm in Asheville, NC.

Justin Gray (’06) was named head basketball coach at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC. He was an assistant coach at Winthrop University. Gray was a three-time All-ACC selection at Wake Forest and ranks second in career 3-pointers and eighth in career points. He played professionally overseas for 12 years.

Porsche Jones (’06) partnered with Shekinah Glory Christian Church in Winston-Salem to renovate its gymnasium. The project was funded through Jones’ Team BOND (Building on New Development), one of the region’s top AAU basketball programs. The gym was named in honor of her late grandparents, Robert and Dr. Manderline Scales. Jones grew up in Winston-Salem and was a basketball star at Wake Forest.

2007

Christopher Fugaro (MBA ’07) was named partner at Guardian Capital Partners, a private equity fund based in suburban Philadelphia. He joined Guardian in 2010.

Mary Frances Triplett Matthews (MA ’07) was one of 29 finalists for the 2021 Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medals, which recognizes unsung heroes in the federal government for outstanding accomplishments. Matthews, who has a master’s degree in psychology, is an assistant decision review operations center manager at the Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Benefits Administration. She reduced the lengthy backlog of disability appeals from veterans by 87% in two years by developing a new workflow system across 56 field offices. She lives in Church Hill, TN, with her husband, Rick Matthews (MBA ’08).

Charlie Tennyson (’07) was named director of the Transportation & Parking Services department at Princeton University. He was deputy director of the department and led the university’s first Campus Mobility Plan to study transit issues and bike and car sharing.

2008

Erin Tanner Choi (’08, JD ’11) was named a 2021 Texas Rising Star for litigation by Super Lawyers. She is an associate in the Dallas office of Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP.

Benjamin “Ben” Ginn (’08) was named director of equipment services at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA. He was a student manager for the Wake Forest football team from 2004-08.

Danielle Goodwin Linn (’08) appeared as a contestant on “Jeopardy!” in June. She is a historian and auctioneer at Cowan’s Auctions in Cincinnati.

Clint Morse (JD ’08) was named to Business North Carolina’s 2021 Legal Elite for bankruptcy law. He is an attorney at Brooks Pierce in Greensboro, NC.
Oderah Nwaeze ('08) joined the law firm Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP as a partner in its Philadelphia office. Nwaeze, who focuses on corporate and commercial disputes, received the Philadelphia Business Journal’s 40 Under 40 and Best of the Bar awards in 2020.

Sean Shields ('08) joined InterMed in South Portland, ME, as manager of physical therapy, overseeing all operations of the 33-person department. InterMed is the largest physician-owned primary care practice in the state. Shields earned his doctorate in physical therapy from the University of New England and is a specialist in orthopedic physical therapy. He lives in Cumberland Center, ME.

2009

Wes Day ('09) was appointed to the board of directors of Triad Business Bank, located in Winston-Salem, High Point and Greensboro, NC. He is managing partner and chief strategy officer at Teall Capital Partners, a Winston-Salem-based sports and entertainment private equity company. He was selected as one of Sports Business Journal’s “Forty Under 40” honorees in 2020.

Carolyn Jones Friedrich ('09, MA ‘11) was consulting archivist for a project to collect, organize and preserve materials of historical significance to Peters Township, PA, and create the Peters Township Public Library Historical Archives. She lives in Pittsburgh with her husband, Neil Friedrich (JD ‘10), and is the archivist for the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra.

Austin Grayce Hester ('09) has taken a faculty position as a pediatric urologist at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, SC.

Tom Hough ('09, MSA ‘10) was promoted to principal at Parthenon Capital, a private equity firm in Boston. He has been with the company since 2013.

Kristen M. Kirby (JD/MBA ’09) was named a “Young Gun” by Business North Carolina on its 2021 Legal Elite list. She is a partner at McGuire-Woods LLP in Raleigh.

McFall Pearce ('09, MBA ‘16) is co-owner of Mrs. Pumpkins, a 35-year-old bakery, deli and catering business in Winston-Salem. He took over the business in 2020 with fellow Marine Corps veteran Cody Hoyt (MBA ’14). They hope to grow the business’ fundraising program that has helped local groups raise nearly $3 million in the last eight years.

Evan A. Raleigh ('09, MSM ‘10) was named assistant city manager for the city of Raleigh. He had worked for the city of Winston-Salem since 2011, most recently as assistant city manager.

Ben Wooster ('09, MD ‘14) completed his fellowship training at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN, and is practicing orthopedic surgery at the OrthoCarolina Hip & Knee Center in Charlotte. A former tight end on Wake Forest’s ACC Championship football team, he is working with Thomas Fehring ('76), co-director of the center, who also played tight end for the Deacons. Wooster was an undergraduate when he first met Fehring through the student-athlete mentoring program.

2010

Kevin Lang (MBA ‘10) was appointed CEO of Agerpoint Inc., a geospatial technology company based in New Smyrna Beach, FL. The company uses artificial intelligence and advanced analytics to analyze data from drones and satellites. He was CEO and co-founder of a geospatial startup, spadeGEO. He has also been with Precision-Hawk, a commercial drone technology company, Deloitte Consulting and John Deere.

Ish Smith ('10) signed a one-year deal with the NBA’s Charlotte Hornets after playing the past two seasons with the Washington Wizards. A Charlotte native, Smith was a four-year starter at point guard for the Demon Deacons. He remains the only player in school history to reach 1,000 points and 600 assists during his career.

Emile C. Thompson (JD ‘10) was confirmed as commissioner for the Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia, which regulates electric, natural gas and telecom companies. He is an assistant U.S. attorney general for the District of Columbia, where he lives with his wife and children.

Antonia J. Whaples ('10) was named the North Carolina Triad’s Best Visual Artist in Yes Weekly’s 2020 “Triad’s Best” reader’s choice issue. Her business, Kindred Spirits in Winston-Salem, was named one of the Triad’s best visual arts galleries. Whaples also finished drawing a 79-card tarot deck and published a book. She teaches courses on herbal medicine through Piedmont Herb School, a subsidiary of Kindred Spirits.

2011

Natalie Halpern Hales ('11) received the Junior League of Washington (DC) President’s Award for service. She lives in Washington with her husband, Wallace “Woody” Hales ('11).

Laura Bartels Torres (MD ‘11) opened Carolina Gender Care PLLC, a medical practice in Winston-Salem to focus exclusively on the needs of transgender and gender non-conforming North Carolinians.

2012

Amanda Burton (MBA ‘12) was promoted to associate vice president of Primary Care at Wake Forest Baptist Health in Winston-Salem, where she has been a department administrator since 2013.

Holly Fuller ('12) is a training and exercise officer at the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s office in Honolulu. She joined FEMA as an HR specialist in 2014. In 2020 she was selected as the Honolulu Federal Executive Board “Employee of the Year” in the professional/technical category.

Kasha Patel (‘12) joined The Washington Post as deputy weather editor for the Capital Weather Gang blog. The blog provides weather coverage for the metropolitan Washington, DC, region. Patel was a digital storyteller for NASA’s Earth Observatory program, and she managed the social media accounts for @NASAEarth. She continues to work as a stand-up comedian, producing science-themed comedy shows to make science more approachable.

Reed Hoyt Perry Jr. ('12) is manager of external affairs for the Chesapeake Conservancy, a nonprofit that supports conservation of the Chesapeake Bay. He and his wife, Tiffany Virgin Perry ('15), live in Hyattsville, MD.

2013

Thane Campbell (‘13) is practicing family medicine at Midway Medical Center in Clyde, NC, just west of Asheville. He received his medical degree from UNC Chapel Hill.

S. Cooper Hawley (JD ‘13) joined K&L Gates LLP as an associate attorney. He practices with the mergers and acquisitions group in the law firm’s Charleston, SC, office. He was an associate with Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP in New York.

2014

Rusty Everhart (MBA ‘14) was named IT director at Biscuitville Fresh Southern, a regional fast-food chain headquartered in Greensboro, NC. He has more than 15 years’ experience in technical leadership roles, including six years as an IT manager for R.J. Reynolds Tobacco.
Vanessa Gallegos (MD ‘14) joined the medical staff at St. Francis Reflections Lifestage Care, a not-for-profit hospice and palliative care provider in Brevard County (FL). She specializes in physical medicine and rehabilitation. She was at Mid Dakota Clinic in Bismarck, ND.

Jeremy Hefter (‘14) received a 2021 Emerging Leader Award from FierceVideo, the streaming video industry’s daily monitor. He was one of six individuals to receive the award, which recognizes the streaming industry’s brightest professionals under 35. He is the lead product manager for consumer product and discovery at Pluto TV, a free streaming service with 40+ million global users. He lives in Los Angeles.

Cody Hoyt (MBA ‘14) is co-owner of Mrs. Pumpkins, a 35-year-old bakery, deli and catering business in Winston-Salem. He took over the business in 2020 with fellow Marine Corps veteran McFall Pearce (‘09, MBA ‘16). They hope to grow the business’ fundraising program that has helped local groups raise nearly $3 million in the last eight years.

2015

Amber Burton (‘15) joined online media company Protocol, where she reports on technology and the ever-changing workplace. She is based in Charlotte.

Tiffany Virgin Perry (‘15) is an officer of strategic planning and implementation at the United Nations Foundation. She and her husband, Reed Perry (‘12), live in Hyattsville, MD.

Melissa Mary Wilson (JD ‘15) is pursuing a Ph.D. in public policy at UNC Charlotte. She is studying justice policy with a research focus on animal cruelty legislation and enforcement. She is receiving full funding for tuition and a research assistantship. She taught ecological ethics and pre-law courses part-time at UNCC the last three years.

2016

Abrea Armstrong (MSM ‘16) was named “Outstanding Voice” as part of the Triad Business Journal’s inaugural Leaders in Diversity 2021 Awards. She was also named “Diversity Champion” by Atrium Health. She is senior marketing and communications coordinator for Innovation Quarter in Winston-Salem.

Tyler Cavanaugh (‘16) signed a multi-year contract with Zalgins Kaunas, a Turkish professional basketball team in the EuroLeague. Cavanaugh played two seasons at Wake Forest before transferring to George Washington University. He played briefly in the NBA before going to the EuroLeague in 2019.

2017

Dakota Becker (‘17) was selected for a Post-Master’s Fellowship in Advanced Clinical Social Work by the Yale Child Study Center at Yale School of Medicine. She was one of only two students nationally chosen for the two-year program in pediatric mental health. Becker graduated in May from the master of social work program at the University of Pennsylvania’s School of Social Policy & Practice.

Holly Boyles (‘17) was named a "Rising Star" in Atlanta Business Chronicle’s 2021 HR Excellence Awards. She is the senior HR generalist for Gypsum Management & Supply Inc., a distributor of building supply materials in the Atlanta metro area. She began interning at the company in 2014 and was hired full time in 2017.

Katherine Haddock (JD ‘17) was named a 2021 “Rising Star” in immigration law by North Carolina Super Lawyers. She is a senior associate attorney at Helen Tarok Law PLLC in William-

2018

Paras Patel (‘17) received a National Institutes of Health grant that will fund his remaining pre-doctoral research at Virginia Tech University. He is in the translational biology, medicine and health program.

James Cooper (MA ‘19) was named sustainability manager at Unifi Inc., a global textile manufac-
turer headquartered in Greensboro, NC. He was sustainability manager for Global Brands Group.

Anthony Duran (‘19) was sworn in as a firefighter for the Bayonne (NJ) Fire Department. He was with BCB Community Bank.

Katie Hall (MBA ‘19) was named chief advancement officer of the Arts Council of Winston-
Salem & Forsyth County. She was a business development professional with the Vela Agency, a marketing firm in Winston-Salem. She received the 2019 Young Alumni Award from Salem College and the 2019 Leadership Award from Greater Winston-Salem and was named to the Triad Business Journal’s “20 in their 20s” list in 2020.

Kathleen Kind (MS ‘19) is in her first year at Lin-
coln Memorial University, where she is earning a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (DO) degree.

Luke Livengood (MBA ‘19) was named vice president, supply chain, for Hanes Geo Compo-
ants, a Winston-Salem-based distributor and manufacturer of building and landscape supplies. He has been with the company since 2012, previously overseeing the products group.

Brianna “Bri” Reddick (‘19) was one of four graduate students named to the Racial Justice Fellowship Program at the University of California, Santa Barbara. She is conducting research in UCSB’s Department of Feminist Studies.

Cameron Young (‘19) won back-to-back tournaments in May on the Korn Ferry Tour, the PGA’s development tour. He won the Evans Scholars Invitational in Glenview, IL, and the AdventHealth Championship in Kansas City, MO, to become only the 10th golfer in history, and the first since 2013, to win consecutive tournaments on the Korn Ferry Tour. Young was a three-time All-ACC golfer at Wake Forest.
Carlos “Boogie” Basham Jr. ('20) was selected by the Buffalo Bills in the second round of the 2021 NFL Draft. A defensive lineman, he finished his Wake Forest career with the fourth-most sacks in school history and was a first-team All-ACC selection in 2019.

Monet Beatty ('20, MA '21) is marketing and events coordinator at Piedmont Environmental Alliance in Winston-Salem. She was a Presidential Scholar in dance as an undergraduate and a Wake Forest Fellow in 2020-21. She has a master’s degree in sustainability.

Hannah Betfort ('20) signed a contract with Portland Thorns FC, a professional women’s soccer team that competes in the National Women’s Soccer League. She was drafted with the 37th overall pick by Portland after a standout career at Wake Forest, where she started 59 games at defender and earned third-team All-ACC honors.

Jacob Oster (MSA '20) was one of only 89 individuals nationwide to receive the 2020 Elijah Watts Sells Award from the Association of International Certified Professional Accountants. The award recognizes high-performing candidates for outstanding performance on the CPA Exam. Nearly 75,000 candidates sat for the exam last year. Oster is an auditor at the accounting firm Elliott Davis PLLC in Greenville, SC.

Andrew Pannenberg ('20) signed a contract with the Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC of the USL Championship professional soccer league. He was a two-year starter at goalie for Wake Forest and earned third team All-ACC honors in 2019.

Samantha Strelzer ('20) was a featured author in the Harvard Public Health Review, which published her senior thesis, “Why Do International Organizations Fail in Responding to Epidemics?” The thesis was written for her senior seminar with Associate Professor of Politics and International Affairs Will Walldorf (P '17, '24). After working in surgical health care in Boston, she is pursuing her master’s degree at Emory University’s Rollins School of Public Health.

Sarahanne Y. Vaughan (JD '20) joined Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP in Birmingham, AL, as an associate in the labor and employment practice group.

Rue Cooper ('21) received Wake Forest’s 2021 Martin Luther King Jr. “Building the Dream” award. The award is presented annually to a staff member and student at Wake Forest and Winston-Salem State University who promote diversity. Cooper was vice president of fellowship for Alpha Pi Omega, the University’s largest service organization, and she led efforts to establish a Diversity and Inclusion Committee.
Marriages

Stephen M. Hawryluk (’03) and Anna C. Leonard, 9/18/20 in Winston-Salem. The event was a small ceremony due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The couple will celebrate a “non-pandemic sequel” wedding and reception this fall.

Byron James Wyche (’07, MSA ’08) and Madison Kerry Benedict (JD ’16), 5/15/21 in San Antonio, TX. They live in Austin, TX. The wedding party included Chip Dillard (’06) and Stuart Abram Whatley (’07).

Steven Ettannani (’08) and Elizabeth Patterson (’14), 8/15/20 in Lynchburg, VA, with a renewal of vows on 7/24/21. They live in Brooklyn, NY. The wedding party included Meredith Johe (’14), Bill Keenan (’09), Bryan May (’08), Catherine Mudd Miller (’14), Mary Alexander Patterson (’18, JD ’24), Yuti Shah (’14), Sean Shields (’08) and Drew Stifel (’08).

Reed Hoyt Perry Jr. (’12) and Tiffany Frances Virgin (’15), 7/31/21 in Annapolis, MD. They live in Hyattsville, MD. The wedding party included Alan Blount (’12) and Peter Lacerenza (’12).

Kearsley Ann Olcott (’14) and Henry Adams Robinson, 6/6/20 in Summit, NJ. They live in Golden, CO. The wedding party included Grace Kucera (’14) and Elizabeth Rucker (’14).

Eric T. Spose (JD ’16) and Julianna B. Miller (’17, MAEd ’18), 6/12/21 in Cold Spring Harbor, NY. They live in Charlotte. The wedding party included Grant Bishop (’17), Colin Kennedy (JD ’16), John Miller (’14), Caroline Miller (’21), Madie Stambaugh (’17) and Hannah Suttle (’17).

Cameron Silverglate (’17) and Allie Neal (’18), 6/29/19 in Richmond, VA. They live in New Haven, CT. The wedding party included Harris Adams (’17), Casey Costa (MD/PhD ’23), Coleman Greene (’20), Maisie Howland Greene (’20), Antonius Gunawan (’17, MD ’22), Preston Hill (’17), Dakota Lee (’16), Colton Mienke (’16) and Katherine Fraile Wainwright (MD ’21).

Drew Nix (’18) and Kylie Shirley, 12/18/20 in Atlanta, where they live.

Births

Darrell Carter (’98) and McKenna Carter, Blythewood, SC: a daughter, Molly Katherine. 3/11/21. She joins her brother, Grant James (4), and sister, Addison Grace (2).

Callaway McKay (’03) and Patrick L. Gregory, Raleigh: a daughter, Rhodes Virginia McKay-Gregory. 3/25/21

Anna Warburton Munroe (’03, JD ’09) and John C. Munroe (MBA ’11), Winston-Salem: a daughter, Elizabeth “Libby” Stuart. 4/19/21. She joins her brother, John “Jack” Corry Munroe Jr. (4).

Christina Stockamore Martens (’06) and David Martens, Washington, DC: a son, Lucas John. 7/1/21. He joins his brothers, Henry (4) and Thomas (2).

Matthew Ulan (’06, MSA ’07) and Kristen McCrorie Ulani (’08), Columbia, MD: a daughter, Hannah Libby. 3/10/21. She joins her sister, Olivia Tillie (3).

Katie Hendrick Vincent (’06) and Bill Vincent, Tampa, FL: a son, Andrew Frederick. 4/9/21. He joins his brother, James Thomas (2).

Ryan Stephen Gray (’07) and Shannon Taylor Cross Gray (’08), Denver, a son, Connor Taylor. 1/26/21

Ali Hines Hart (’07) and Brian Hart, Washington, DC: a daughter, Hazel Elizabeth. 6/18/21. She joins her brother, James Brian (1).
Deaths

Hubert "Eldridge" Allen ('40), Feb. 9, 2021, New Bern, NC. He served in the U.S. Army Air Force as a flight instructor during World War II and later in Germany and Vietnam before retiring after 30 years and going into commercial real estate.

Joseph Randall Blackshear ('45, MD '47), April 12, 2021, Hendersonville, NC. He served in the Korean War as a medical officer and was a physician and surgeon in Gallatin, TN.

Dorothy "Dot" Jenkins Hicks ('45), May 1, 2021, Shelby, NC. She taught 26 years at Mari- on Elementary School in Shelby and was chosen "Teacher of the Year" in the 1980s. She was a past president of Cleveland County Retired School Personnel. Survivors include daughter Gloria Helton ('71, P '94) and son Steve Poston ('68).

John "Jack" Dinwiddie Mobjley ('45), Feb. 14, 2021, Williamston, NC. He served in the National Guard during the Korean War. He retired from the U.S. Postal Service after more than 40 years.

James Luther "Luke" Jarvis (MD '46), April 27, 2021, Concord, NC. He served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps in China and Japan. He practiced radiology and nuclear medicine at Gaston Radiology in Gastonia, NC.

Donna Lewis Urban ('46), April 6, 2021, Greensboro, NC.

Walter Nelson Cosby ('47), April 19, 2021, Den- ham Springs, LA. He served in the Pacific Theater during World War II in the U.S. Army Air Corps. He was an executive with Sears Roebuck & Co., retiring in 1980.

Nancy Hoover Root Hanes ('48), June 13, 2021, Charlotte. She was an elementary school teacher.

William "Bill" G. Hornsby ('48), March 24, 2021, Morgantown, WV. He served in Europe during World War II in the Army National Guard and earned numerous honors, including a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star Medal. He was a teacher, coach, principal and administrator in Lexington County (SC) schools. He was president of the 30th Infantry Division Association and the Cayce-West Columbia (SC) Kiwanis Club.

William "Bill" Simpson ('49), June 14, 2021, Ra- leigh. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He took part in the Battle of Anzio and the invasion of southern France and earned a Bronze Star, three Purple Hearts and the French Legion of Honor. He was an administrator at N.C. State University for 33 years until retiring in 1990 as secretary emeritus of the university.

William Kenneth Powell ('50), May 21, 2021, Danville, VA. He served in the U.S. Army and was past master of the Roman Eagle Masonic Lodge in Aberdeen, NC. Survivors include son Steven Powell ('88).

Edward Warren "Casey" Taylor Jr. ('50, MD '53), Feb. 9, 2021, Florence, SC. He was a urol- ogist who operated Florence Urological Associ- ates for several decades before retiring in 2004.

Angelene "Angle" Woodruff Wright ('50), Feb. 19, 2021, Pinehurst, NC. She was a medical lab technician at North Carolina Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem before moving to Edenton, NC, where she worked in a hospital and nursing home.

She was preceded in death by her husband, David Orlo Wright (MD '58). Survivors include daugh- ter Katherine Wright Bankhead ('80).

Thomas Eugene "Gene" Carroll Sr. ('51), Feb. 11, 2021, Greensboro, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. He was a con- tract buyer for AT&T/Lucent Technology for over 40 years. He was president and treasurer of the Alamance County Lions Club during his 56 years as a member.

Charles Gaston Lee III ('51), March 30, 2021, Asheville, NC. He served in the Merchant Marines and the U.S. Army Signal Corps during World War II. He was a retired attorney and a past chair of the board of directors of Asheville Feder- al Savings and Loan Association.

Charlotte Lane Wilson Wilkening ('51), March 6, 2021, Chesapeake Beach, MD. She was an early recruit for the National Security Agency in 1952. She later worked in the fashion industry and health insurance before opening a catering and decorating business.

Trent Calvin Bowen ('52), March 16, 2021, Blacksburg, VA. He was an attorney with State Farm Insurance for 35 years until retiring in 1992. Survivors include daughter Beth Bowen Howell ('77) and son Rodney Bowen ('83).

Marion Horn Ellis ('52), April 24, 2021, Anderson, SC. She was a medical technologist at AnMed Health Medical Center in Anderson. She was twice the president of the Garden Trail Garden Club. Survivors include her husband, E.P. Ellis Jr. ('52, MD '55), and son James Michael Ellis ('76).

Bennett L. Evans ('52), May 8, 2020, Spindale, NC. He served in the U.S. Army during the Koren War. He owned and operated Evans Depart- ment Stores with his wife, Shirley.

Douglas Gallager ('52), June 26, 2021, Albany, NY. He served in the U.S. Army. He worked for the New York State Senate and owned two restaurants.

Joyce Silvers Garrison ('52), Feb. 3, 2021, Hoover, AL. She was preceded in death by her sister, Merle Silvers Koester ('49).

Julia Ann Higdon Green ('52), July 1, 2021, Tal- lassee, FL. She was a math teacher in Burling- ton (NC) City Schools for nearly 30 years.

Russell Etheridge Twiford (JD '52), Feb. 27, 2021, Elizabeth City, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and in the Navy Re- serve. He founded The Twiford Law Firm in Eliz- abeth City and Manteo, NC. He donated land to Jockey’s Ridge State Park, Nags Head Woods Preserve and for municipal and education sites in Dare County in the Outer Banks. He was a past member of the Wake Forest School of Law Alum- ni Council and the Board of Visitors. He estab- lished the Russell E. Twiford Scholarship for law students from northeastern North Carolina.

Glauces "Carlton" Cox Jr. ('53), Aug. 9, 2020, Navarre, FL. He served in the U.S. Navy and
‘The Mayberry Effect’

Filmmaker Chris Hudson (MFA ’18) creates a documentary that delves into the passions driving six decades of fan worship and cultural fascination with “The Andy Griffith Show.”

By Carol L. Hanner

“Citizen’s arrest! Citizen’s arrest!”

Gomer Pyle shouts those words — with Southern emphasis on arrest as “Uh-RAY-ist” — at Deputy Barney Fife for making an illegal U-turn in his black-and-white in downtown Mayberry.

Gomer has just pleaded with Barney for mercy for the same offense and been rebuffed, ticketed and lectured by Barney, who smugly tells Gomer, “It’s from little misdemeanors that major felonies grow.” Anybody who sees a scofflaw should make a citizen’s arrest, Barney says, because we’re all “working together for a common cause.” After Barney swaggers off and commits his own misdemeanor, Gomer loudly exercises his civic duty, to the cheers of gawkers. As always, Sheriff Andy Taylor rushes in to mediate and calm the crisis.

Filmmaker Chris Hudson (MFA ’18) says “Citizen’s Arrest” is his favorite episode from the eight seasons of “The Andy Griffith Show.” If you’ve ever watched the 1960 hit CBS classic or the ubiquitous reruns since it ended in 1968, your mind’s eye can see and hear Gomer with his ball cap askew and his hard-R twang. You can hear Barney’s trademark sniff and see him mug with the comedic genius that won Don Knotts five Emmy awards.

And you might have experienced fans’ laugh-every-time-you-see-it phenomenon. If you haven’t watched, you’re missing one of life’s delights, especially since bucolic Mayberry, North Carolina, bears a striking resemblance to Griffith’s real hometown of Mount Airy, just up the road from Wake Forest. The town has adopted the persona of Mayberry with an annual festival and a lock on Andy Griffith tourism, with a museum and replicas of Floyd’s Barber Shop, the jail and more.

Hudson’s fascination with the fascination felt by the show’s fans, superfans and tribute performers led him to make “The Mayberry Effect,” a 90-minute documentary that is an outgrowth of Hudson’s master’s thesis film at Wake Forest. The film has won 12 awards in three dozen film festivals since he completed it in 2020. Gravitas Ventures began digital distribution on iTunes and other platforms this fall.

Hudson is an Emmy-nominated producer, editor, videographer and director who won a 2006 Silver Telly Award for “How I Survived World War II,” a 2005 documentary he directed about Greatest Generation veterans. He has produced local, state and national commercials and promotional videos. He and his wife, Angela Mabe Hudson, own Creative Drama Children’s Theater in Clemmons, North Carolina. They have two daughters, Selah, who turns 11 in October, and Sadie Belle, 7.

Studying TV

Hudson was born in North Carolina, and his father, a Baptist preacher, moved the family to new churches every three years until settling in Charlotte when Hudson was 9. He grew up watching PBS television, soaking in every documentary by Ken Burns and studying technique. “I was always trying to figure out how they put logos over the footage as a kid.”

After a year as a high school exchange student in Germany, he chose to stay near his family and earned his bachelor’s degree in 2002 from Queens University of Charlotte. “For four years I had more equipment than Queens did, so they would always hire me to do their videos. It was trial by fire, … word of mouth, cut my teeth.”

After graduation, his freelance work for WTVI in Charlotte on an oral history project on World War II veterans led to directing and editing the award-winning 2005 documentary. “They were truly the Greatest Generation,” he says.

Wake Forest opens avenues

Synchronicity led Hudson both to Wake Forest’s master’s program and to five years focused on “The Andy Griffith Show.”

A friend brought Wake Forest’s film program to his attention when it was established in 2010. “I had always wanted to go to Wake Forest as an undergrad,” he says, but he wasn’t accepted,
perhaps thanks to his “terrible” SAT score, which Wake Forest no longer requires for admission.

When he was laid off after he and his wife had moved to Clemmons, the flexibility of the couple’s small theater business allowed him time to pursue his master’s in film at Wake Forest.

“It was a perfect fit. They were very generous, and the scholarships they gave, it was very affordable and very close to the house. It was an amazing three years,” Hudson says.

The program loosened his resistance to sharing incomplete work and opened him to feedback. “We were able to push each other, and it was iron sharpening iron the whole time,” he says. “I didn’t realize the education that I got from that program until after the program was over.”

Cara Pilson, the film program director and teaching professor, says, “Chris is emblematic of the larger role our students are playing in important conversations,” whether in cultural films like his or with historical or social justice topics.

The road to Mayberry

Hudson remembers watching “The Andy Griffith Show” around dinner time growing up. “It was always on, so I was familiar with the show.”

But even living in Winston-Salem, Hudson wasn’t familiar with Mayberry Days, the Mount Airy festival that helps offset the town’s economic losses in textiles and tobacco. Griffith, who died in 2012, insisted that the show wasn’t based on Mount Airy, but he infused the writers’ work with its small-town details.

Hudson said his documentary began with actor David Browning while filming him in a car commercial in Kernersville, North Carolina. Browning, a ringer for the late Don Knotts, built a long career playing the character he calls “The Mayberry Deputy” to perfection across the country.

Hudson wanted to focus his master’s thesis on Browning, but the actor, who retired in 2017, urged Hudson to delve into the show’s larger impact and its superfans. Hudson began filming farther afield and digging into the nature of nostalgia. Why do superfans fill their homes with memorabilia and embody characters as a passionate hobby? What makes this show so enduring and enduring after six decades?

The documentary presents the impressive and obsessive array of collectibles and tribute artists, including Griffith’s daughter, Dixie Griffith, who appears at festivals as one of the show’s risqué “Fun Girls.”

Hudson’s film includes Bible study and school programs that use the show for values and anti-bullying education. Two professors who study nostalgia add philosophical and psychological observations. The film discusses the show’s cultural presence, from “Seinfeld” to late night talk shows.

Hudson points out that even in the 1960s when it aired, the show already represented a sentimental version of American life that seemed lost in a decade of Vietnam War marches, civil rights protests and assassinations.

He examines racial questions — raised by Oprah Winfrey and others — of why Black residents seemed invisible in Mayberry. Black extras did populate background scenes, but only one episode featured a Black main character — actor Rockne Tarkington as a professional football player who moves back home to coach Opie’s team. The show’s response was that portraying Black participation in majority town life was unrealistic for a comedy in a time when the Southern reality was tense racial segregation.

Superfans tell Hudson they embrace the show because they yearn for communities filled with love and neighbors caring for each other. They admire what many see as a utopian simpler time — which may or may not have existed for everyone, as those in the film express with differing opinions. But all the fans long for the kindness exemplified by Sheriff Andy, who tries to resolve conflict without embarrassing anyone, including his overzealous deputy.

The fans and tribute artists are like kin now to Hudson. Their time at festivals isn’t just about discussing trivia, he says. “They’re with their friends and having a good time. They’re not worrying about anything on social media, … on television or in the world,” Hudson says.

“And when they leave, they go back to their normal lives, but they still bring a lot of that Mayberry feeling back with them. And that might put you in a good place for a day. It might make you happy.”

More at themayberryeffect.com
taught at the Merchant Marine Academy. He also served in the Navy Reserve and retired as a commander in 1977. He retired from Aflac insurance as district manager in Annapolis, MD.

Mabel Jones Hall ('53), June 23, 2021, Winston-Salem. She delivered meals for Forsyth County’s Meals-on-Wheels program for 19 years. She was a member of the Samuel Wait Legacy Society.

James C. Hunt (MD ’53), May 1, 2021, Maryville, TN. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps in World War II. He was chancellor of the University of Tennessee Health Science Center and chair of the department of medicine, Mayo Clinic and Mayo School of Medicine.

Sara McNeil Johnson ('53), April 13, 2021, Salisbury, NC. She and her late husband were Southern Baptist missionaries who ministered in Mexico and California for 15 years. She later worked in Baptist organizations and churches and returned to her native Salisbury.

John Edgar Teague ('53), April 13, 2021, Greensboro, NC. He served in the U.S. Army in Austria. He operated Teague Auto Supply in Greensboro with his brother Tommy Teague ('57). He was preceded in death by brother O.B. Teague Jr. ('49). He was a member of the Samuel Wait Legacy Society.

John Kenneth Corbin ('54), Feb. 22, 2021, Fresno, CA. He served in the U.S. Army and was a patent examiner in the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office for 34 years before retiring in 1989.

Richard Louis Cousineau ('54), Feb. 4, 2021, Englewood, OH. He served two years in the U.S. Army in Germany. He was an attorney in Dayton, OH.

Kenneth Andrew Grigg Sr. ('54, MD '57), Jan. 26, 2021, New York City. He served in the U.S. Air Force, achieving the rank of captain. He was a psychoanalyst in Washington, DC, for 37 years before retiring in 1997. He was preceded in death by his wife, Betty Carpenter Grigg ('54). Survivors include son Kenneth Grigg Jr. (JD ’84), daughter Alexandra Grigg Beitz (MBA ’85) and brother Irvin Grigg ('53).

Lawrence “Larry” Prescott Shepard ('54), Feb. 17, 2021, Penn Hills, PA. He was a tobacco salesperson and twice caddied for golf legend Sam Snead at the U.S. Open.

Rosa Faison Smith ('54), Feb. 16, 2021, Graham, NC. She retired after 30 years as a teacher with the Alamance-Burlington School System.

Arthur “Art” C. Stallings Jr. ('54), July 5, 2021, Winder, GA. He was a U.S. Naval aviator and carrier pilot who retired as a commander after nearly 20 years of service.

Charles “Frederick” Britt ('55), June 9, 2021, Bladenboro, NC. He worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

James “Jim” Clifton Casey ('55), June 6, 2021, Florence, SC. He retired as marketing manag-

Revered English professor Bob Shorter spent his career teaching 20th-century students to discover the wisdom and relevance in the writings of 14th-century poet Geoffrey Chaucer.

When he retired in 1999, Shorter, a wise and gentle soul, said he tried to teach important lessons about what it means to be a human being “to sustain us on our pilgrimage through life. (Students) want to ponder and to wrestle with questions about human responsibility, moral issues, about the possibility of spiritual meaning in their lives, about their own humanity. (Chaucer) gives them that chance.”

“As much as Shorter reveled in teaching Chaucer, he taught important lessons of his own during his 41 years teaching medieval literature. “He was a great professor, with his dry wit and wicked sense of humor. I loved listening to him reading from ‘The Canterbury Tales’ in the original Middle English,” said Deirdre Parker Smith ('83). “He taught me a lot about confidence and trusting in yourself. I always felt like we were partners in whatever he was teaching. He wasn’t just the department chair, he was my friend and on-campus indulgent parent.”

Shorter died July 10, 2021, in Winston-Salem. He was 90. He is survived by his wife, Professor Emerita of English Nancy Cotton, and son Geoffrey ('83) and his family.

His family wrote after his death, “(His) special love was Chaucer, whose description of the knight in ‘The Canterbury Tales’ might well have fit Bob: ‘He loved chivalry/ Trouth and honor, freedom and curteisie . . . .He was a verray, parfait, gentil knyght.’

Shorter grew up in New Rochelle and South Salem, New York, and graduated from Union College. He received his master’s degree and Ph.D. from Duke University and joined the Wake Forest faculty in 1958. He chaired the English department for a dozen years and was associate dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences and director of the Master’s in Liberal Arts program.

Provost Emeritus Ed Wilson (43, P ’91, ’93) said Shorter lived the lessons that he taught. “When we take Chaucer as a student, we marvel at his temperament and his ability to understand other people. I think that carried over to his (Shorter’s) teaching. He saw the variety of human beings we have in the world, and he tried to look at them fairly and honorably, with truth and inner decency.”

When he was a student, Associate Professor of English Omaar Hena (’90) took Shorter’s last Chaucer class before Shorter retired. “Little did I know (or even come to expect) the extent to which his style of teaching his most beloved poet would come to inspire me,” Hena said. “He has been an abiding influence … through his deep investment and profound learning in poetry, history, culture and philosophy as well as the ways in which he treated others through his kindness, compassion and humility.”

And gladly wolde he lerne, and gladly teche.” —Geoffrey Chaucer, “The Canterbury Tales”
er for the southern division after 38 years with Duke Energy. Survivors include his wife, Ann Stanley Casey (‘54).

Thomas “Tommy” George Cole (‘55), April 3, 2021, Goldsboro, NC. He was a scholarship All-ACC outfielder and co-captain of the Deacons’ 1955 national championship baseball team. He worked in banking in Goldsboro. In 2021 he was inducted into the Kinston-Lenoir County (NC) Sports Hall of Fame.

John Robert “Bobby” Frederick (‘55), March 5, 2021, Goldsboro, NC. He played football and was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity. He ran Frederick’s Music Store in his hometown of Goldsboro for 50 years. He and his three brothers formed The Frederick Brothers quartet and recorded “I’d Give Anything in the World” for Columbia Records in the 1950s.

Charles “Stan” Greene (‘55), May 1, 2019, Moneta, VA. He was a fellow of the American Association on Mental Deficiency and retired as a social worker at the Salem VA Medical Center in Salem, VA.

Ann Winningham Logsdon (‘55), May 4, 2021, West Palm Beach, FL. She was the director of social work for Franklin Hospital Medical Center in Valley Stream, NY, for nearly 25 years before retiring in 1997. She was preceded in death by her husband, Donald Neil Logsdon (‘56), and sister, Betsy Winningham Stanfield (‘49).

James Wade Marlow (‘55), June 25, 2021, Fayetteville, NC. He served in the U.S. Army in the Korean and Vietnam wars, earning a Bronze Star. He retired from the military in 1975 and began a second career in real estate.

William “Bill” R. Slade (‘55), Feb. 9, 2021, Staunton, VA. He served in the U.S. Army and was a high school biology teacher for 25 years.

Alan Joseph White (JD ’55), June 20, 2021, Milton, GA. He served in the U.S. Army. He retired in 2003 as an administrative law judge for the Social Security Administration in Atlanta.


Paul R. Bauer (MD ’56), April 3, 2021, Wilson, NC. He was an OB-GYN at U.S. Navy hospitals, in private practice in Portsmouth and Chesapeake, VA, and at the U.S. Coast Guard base in Portsmouth. He was an assistant professor at Eastern Virginia Medical School.

James Ward Burch (‘56), July 11, 2021, Greensboro, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and was a Baptist minister at churches in Georgia and North Carolina until retiring in 1997.

James R. Gross (‘56), Jan. 28, 2021, Spartanburg, SC. He served in the U.S. Army. He was an English and theatre professor and chair of the humanities department at Wofford College until retiring in 2003 after 37 years.

Donald Ray Monroe (‘56), June 22, 2021, High Point, NC. He was project manager of global operations and systems with American Express Bank in New York and later a teacher at Guilford Technical Community College in North Carolina.

Cecil D. Rhodes Jr. (MD ’56), March 20, 2021, Wilson, NC. He was a physician in the U.S. Navy for two years. He practiced internal medicine at the Carolina Clinic and was a medical missionary. Survivors include sons David Rhodes III (‘78) and Richard S. Rhodes (‘80) and grandchildren Rebecca Rhodes (‘05), Sarah Rhodes (‘06) and Ryan Rhodes (‘20).

Juanna Joy Mitchell Winfree (‘56), July 20, 2021, Wilson, NC. She was valedictorian of her high school and a cheerleader at Wake Forest. She was an English teacher and head of the English Department at Kinston (NC) High School.

Abner Laurance “Larry” Aydlett Jr. (‘57), April 24, 2021, Martinsville, VA. He served in the U.S. Army and was a volunteer firefighter. He was executive vice president of the Martinsville-Henry County Chamber of Commerce for more than three decades until retiring in 2000. He received the chamber’s highest honor, the Heck Ford Award. He was an adjunct professor of management at Patrick Henry Community College.

Jack D. “Coach” Bryant (‘57), March 14, 2021, Dry Fork, VA. He served in the U.S. Army. He was a second baseman on Wake Forest’s 1955 national title team and set a record for doubles (four) in a College World Series game. He played professionally in the Chicago Cubs organization and later worked as a high school teacher, counselor and baseball coach in Virginia.

Jay Ronald Conway (‘57), March 21, 2021, Cinnaminson, NJ. He served in the U.S. Army and Army Reserve. He was an accountant who owned his own firm.

Horance Ronald “Ron” Grubbs (‘57), April 27, 2021, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. Navy and was a teacher in Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools.

Carolyn E. Killian Tillman (‘56), May 16, 2021, Burlington, NC. She was a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and worked in Baptist churches in North Carolina.

George “Philip” Bunn (‘58), March 11, 2021, Knightdale, NC. He was a certified public accountant who owned his own firm.

Henry “Hank” Thomas Carson (‘58), June 1, 2021, Yorktown, VA. He was an All-American football player in high school and a veteran of the U.S. Marines.

Stephen McIntyre III (‘58), June 28, 2021, Columbia, SC. He served in the U.S. Army with the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions during a distinguished military career of nearly 30 years. In two tours in Vietnam as a helicopter pilot and commander, he earned four Bronze Stars, the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal, among other honors. He earned badges with the U.S. Army Rangers and Pathfinders and served in Germany and Iran.

Robert “Bob” C. McKone (MD ’58), Feb. 21, 2021, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He joined the Wake Forest School of Medicine faculty in 1964 as a pediatric cardiologist and retired in 1989. He was preceded in death by his wife, Marjorie Wahlberg McKone (MA ’86). Survivors include son Mark McKone (‘84).

H. Shelton Patterson (‘58), Jan. 9, 2021, Jefferson, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. He was a minister who went into real estate and owned his own firm in Charlotte before returning to the ministry.

Billie Lynn Poole (‘58, JD ’65), March 16, 2021, Salemburg, NC. He was a catcher on Wake Forest’s baseball team that won the 1955 College World Series. He served in the U.S. Army and was an attorney in his native Sampson County (NC) for 49 years before retiring in 2014.

Jesse Allan “Al” Proctor (‘58), Feb. 19, 2021, Raleigh. He had a distinguished career in sports medicine that included stints with the New York Yankees and N.C. State University before he became director of athletics and sports medicine with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. He established the nation’s first student-trainer clinic and helped launch high school sports medicine programs and teacher certification programs, which led to greater safety for student-athletes. Known as “the father of sports medicine,” he was inducted into the North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame in 2011.

Maurice Thomas Taylor Jr. (‘58), June 30, 2021, Fayetteville, NC. He served in the U.S. Army in Germany. He spent 30 years in the banking industry in Fayetteville, retiring as an executive with Southern National Bank in 1995.

Hubert Dial (‘59), April 26, 2021, Virginia Beach, VA. He was a flight officer in the U.S. Navy for 25 years and a real-estate broker and developer in Virginia Beach.

Larry Clifton Dorsett (‘59), July 14, 2021, Wilson, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force. He worked primarily in commercial fire protection, retiring as owner/partner of VSC Fire & Security Inc.

John Joseph “Joe” Ladd (‘59), May 19, 2021, Stanley, NC. He was a record-setting basketball star in high school who played at Wake Forest before transferring to Lenoir-Rhyne University. He was inducted into the Gaston County (NC) Sports Hall of Fame in 2010. He retired from J.P. Stevens & Co.
Dixie Lee Boney Soo (MD ‘59), March 29, 2021, Chapel Hill, NC. She was a neurologist in Lima, OH, before retiring to Chapel Hill. She was president of the Wake Forest School of Medicine Medical Alumni Association and established the Liang Yee and Dixie Soo Professorship of Neurosurgery at the School of Medicine. Survivors include her husband, Liang Yee Soo (MD ‘58).

Avery Jake Dennis (‘60), June 23, 2021, Carthage, NC. He was a chemistry professor and chair of the science department at Sandhills Community College in Pinehurst, NC, for 30 years before retiring in 1999. The school’s annual chemistry award is named in his honor.

Gerald “Jerry” Scott James (‘60), March 29, 2021, Fort Pierce, FL. He was an attorney and businessman in southeast Florida. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Judith Hughey James (‘60).

G. Terry Johnson (‘60), June 14, 2021, Sparta, NC. He earned a doctorate of dental surgery at the UNC School of Dentistry and was a dentist in Sparta for 52 years.

James “Jim” W. Martin (‘60), Feb. 28, 2021, Morristown, NJ. He was a chiropractor for 50 years. Survivors include daughter Deborah Martin Adamo (‘86).

Tom Mills (‘60), June 18, 2021, Greensville, SC. He was a third baseman on Wake Forest’s baseball team and later coached baseball while serving in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In the mid-1960s, he co-founded Builders Marts of America and later founded Sunbelt Companies, a building material retailer. He was a member of the Legacy Society. Survivors include son John “Buddy” T. Mills (‘84).

Margaret “Peggy” Patterson Rogers (‘60), March 28, 2021, Raleigh. She was preceded in death by her husband, William “Bill” Boyd Rogers (‘55, JD ‘59), brother Grady Siler Patterson Jr. (‘48, JD ‘50) and parents Grady Siler Patterson (1924) and Elizabeth Lake Patterson. Survivors include daughter Dorothy Rogers Adcock (‘80, MAEd ‘82), son William “Boyd” Rogers Jr. (‘82) and grandson Alex Adcock (‘14).

Samuel Taylor Bickley (MD ‘61), Feb. 11, 2021, High Point, NC. He was a doctor and veterinarian who had a sign in his Elkton (NC) office welcoming “man or beast.” He served in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps before attending Bowman Gray School of Medicine. He was chief of staff at Lula Conrad Hoots Memorial Hospital in Yadkinville, NC, and medical examiner of Surry County (NC).

Janelle Smith Bunn (‘61), May 21, 2021, Lexington, NC. As a student, she and her friends were at the center of the red letter “D” days of student walkouts from Chapel and bunny hops on the Quad in response to the campus ban on dancing. She was the executive administrative assistant for the United Church of Christ Southern Conference office in Burlington, NC, until retiring in 2018.

Pollyann Young Hartman (‘61), June 1, 2021, Greensboro, NC. She was a volunteer for the public library and school system.

Thomas Neal Ivey (MD ‘61), Feb. 13, 2021, Big Timber, MT. He was a lieutenant commander in the U.S. Coast Guard. He was a physician at Indian Health Services in Lame Deer, MT, and in private practice in Big Timber from 1966-1988, making house calls and seeing patients at his home. For eight years, he was the town’s only doctor and was on call 24 hours a day.

Jerry Steele (‘61), July 11, 2021, Greensboro, NC. He was co-captain of Wake Forest’s 1961 ACC championship basketball team. He coached the men’s basketball team at Guilford College for eight years before reuniting with his Wake Forest coach, Horace “Bones” McKinney (‘56), to coach the ABA’s Carolina Cougars. Steele amassed a school-record 458 wins as head men’s basketball coach at High Point University from 1972 to 2003. He was inducted into seven Sports Halls of Fame, including the Wake Forest Sports Hall of Fame.

Carolyn Rowe Hale (‘62), Philadelphia, Oct. 12, 2020. She was an administrator in Philadelphia’s public library system for 29 years.

Maxine Hamrick Kennedy (‘62), March 27, 2021, Shelby, NC. She was a teacher and an office manager at a Shelby law firm.

Edward Earl Ledford (‘62), April 20, 2021, Charleston, SC. He served four years in the U.S. Navy before enrolling at Wake Forest, where he was an All-ACC runner on the cross-country team. He was director of the Carolina Youth Development Center in North Charleston for 30 years. He was a past president of the National Association of Social Workers and was named the association’s “Social Worker of the Year.”

Anne Wilson Warren (‘62), May 6, 2021, Newport News, VA. She was a guide for Colonial Williamsburg and a tour director for Globus.

Carl “Wayne” Dillon (‘63), June 6, 2021, Fugay-Varina, NC. He was a public school teacher and a professor in the School of Education at Campbell University.

Harold “Hal” Franklin Greeson (‘63, JD ‘66), May 31, 2021, Greensboro, NC. He was an attorney and a lifetime member and former president of the Greensboro Jaycees. He was named a Jaycee International Senator, the organization’s highest honor for outstanding service.

James “Ray” Israel (MD ‘63), Feb. 15, 2021, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. Army Reserve, attaining the rank of major. He was a psychologist at Winston-Salem and was on the Wake Forest School of Medicine faculty. Survivors include daughter Dawn Israel McCall (‘80) and son Mitchell Ray Israel (‘81).

Lindsay Buckalew Leinss (‘63), March 23, 2021, Cocoa, FL. She was a sales rep and manager in the apparel industry for more than 25 years. She was an original member of the Dolphinettes, a synchronized swim group that first rose to fame in the 1950s.

Robert “Blair” Little (‘63), April 27, 2021, Lillington, NC. He served in the U.S. Marines and was a Baptist minister. He was preceded in death by his wife, Rachel Cloer Little (‘61).

Joseph “Scott” Vincent Jr. (‘63), April 13, 2021, Clemmons, NC. He served as a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army Field Artillery. He owned an accounting and tax service firm in Clemmons.

Julian Cleon Josey Jr. (MD ‘64), May 10, 2021, Spartanburg, SC. He served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam and received a Bronze Star. He was a radiologist for Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System for nearly 50 years and helped establish the Bearden-Josey Center for Breast Health.

William “Bill” Raines Land III (‘64), Feb. 6, 2021, Roswell, GA. He worked at Atlanta-based printing company Foote & Davies.

Betsy Winstead Allen (‘65), April 25, 2021, Winston-Salem. She was fiction editor of “The Student” magazine at Wake Forest and a features writer for the Old Gold & Black. She was a reporter for the Winston-Salem Journal before becoming editor of The Piedmonitor, Piedmont Aviation’s employee newspaper. She later operated a local antique shop, The Corner, whose regular customers included James Earl Jones and Maya Angelou (LHD ‘77).

Larry Grant Ford (JD ‘65), June 19, 2021, Salisbury, NC. He retired in 2006 as a Superior Court judge for Rowan County (NC). He received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine from Gov. Jim Hunt in 1982.

Peter Thomas Lillard (‘65), May 20, 2021, Brevard, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy on the USS Okinawa during the Vietnam War. He retired from Peapack-Gladstone Bank in New Jersey in 2012.


John W. Strawcutter (‘65), April 16, 2021, Wilmington, NC. He was a nursing home administrator with Mariner Health of Wilmington.

Edwin Leon Wiles (MA ‘65), May 18, 2021, Mount Airy, NC. He taught chemistry and biology for 33 years at Surry Community College in Dobson, NC.

Judith Ragan Gonzalez (‘66), Feb. 4, 2021, Chapel Hill, NC.

Eva Janice “Jan” Summer (‘66), June 25, 2021, Houston. She was an attorney and adjunct faculty member at the University of Texas School of Law. She was founding director of the law school’s Center for Public Policy Dispute Resolution from 1993 until retiring in 2010.
Richard Williams was already well known in the physics world for his work at the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory when he returned to his alma mater in 1985 as Reynolds Professor of Physics. “It caught the attention of the Wake Forest community that we were able to attract this outstanding young physicist,” said Professor Emeritus of Physics Howard Shields, who knew Williams as a student and later as a colleague. “He put Wake Forest out there in the eyes of the physics world.”

Over the next three decades, Williams increased the visibility and reputation of the physics department, helped establish the department’s Ph.D. program, mentored numerous students and co-founded the University’s interdisciplinary Center for Energy, Environment and Sustainability (CEES).

“He enhanced the department in many, many ways,” Shields said. “Through his publications and research, other universities and the NIH (National Institutes of Health) and NSF (National Science Foundation) were aware of the work that he was doing at Wake Forest. He was internationally known.”

Williams, who was 75, died July 5, 2021, in Winston-Salem.

A native of Tarboro, North Carolina, and son of Baptist minister James Dockery Williams (’35), Williams first distinguished himself as an undergraduate. He was the first recipient of the Speas Award, the highest undergraduate award given by the department.

After earning his master’s and Ph.D. from Princeton University, he joined the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C.

Williams was a research physicist and head of the ultraviolet technology section of the optical probes branch when he was recruited to Wake Forest as the first Reynolds Professor at the departmental level. During his career, he hosted three international conferences at Wake Forest, including the 1996 International Conference on Defects in Insulating Materials. He was co-author of the authoritative book “Self-Trapped Excitons.” He helped design a laser lab for Olin Physical Laboratory, which opened in 1989.

When he retired in 2017, Williams was recognized for his influential work in scintillators and ultrafast laser spectroscopy, his love of teaching and his high standards of scholarship. He received the physics department’s first Outstanding Alumni Award the following year. After the death of his wife, Jean, in 2019, he set up a planned gift to create an endowed chair in the department.

Williams’ influence extended beyond the physics department through his research at the Wake Forest Center for Nanotechnology and Molecular Materials and his research, teaching and leadership in the Center for Energy, Environment and Sustainability. He also taught classes on renewable energy in the sustainability master’s program.

“I, and I suspect many others, will remember him for his thoughtfulness, his kindness, his mentorship and his uncontrollable and wonderful enthusiasm for all things energy,” said Miles Silman, the Andrew Sabin Family Foundation Professor of Conservation Biology and CEES director. “I learned a lot from Richard, not just about energy, but also about leadership and cooperation and multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary work.”
BERNARD LEE “BERN” BEATTY (P’88)

Bernard Lee “Bern” Beatty was not only a consummate educator known for his mentorship. He left a legacy throughout the School of Business and through 23 years of military service, earning a Bronze Star during the Vietnam War. For several years of his Wake Forest career, he supported exceptional business students through the full-expenses, two-year Bern Beatty Scholarship. This endowed scholarship is still awarded annually. His legacy also continues through the Beatty Faculty Fellowship, established by alumni to recognize his teaching and mentorship. When Farrell Hall was dedicated in 2013 as the new home of the School of Business, it included the Bern Beatty Colloquium, an innovative meeting space named in his honor.

Six times between 1975 and 2003, Beatty was recognized as Babcock Educator of the Year. He retired in 2016 as associate professor of management after teaching accounting, management and case writing for 42 years.

Beatty passed away on Aug. 4, 2021, at the age of 92, leaving many bluebird houses he built and the friendly environment he established for hummingbirds at his home in Pinnacle, North Carolina. After graduating from The Ohio State University in 1951, he embarked on his U.S. Air Force career, serving all over the world. He tutored the then-crown prince, now king, of Thailand and ran with the bulls in Pamplona, Spain. He retired from service in 1974 as a colonel.

He received an MBA and a doctorate in business administration from the Harvard Business School. He led many student trips to Europe, Russia and Scandinavia and worked closely with the Central and East European Management Development Association to advance the use of case studies in management education. After he retired, he created a consulting company for educational seminars and acted as an adviser on competence-based education.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Elspeth “Beth” Irving Beatty; three children, including Lisa M. Beatty (’88, MBA ’94); six grandchildren; and a brother.

JERRY ALLEN SHEPHERD (’69), June 16, 2021, Winston-Salem. He served four years in the U.S. Navy and was a rental property manager.

LUCINDA “LUCI” CORETHA VAUGHN (’69), March 7, 2021, Winston-Salem. She was a representative with US Airways for 47 years until retiring in 2019. Survivors include her husband, Jerry Allen Shepherd (’69); three children, including Lisa M. Beatty (’88, MBA ’94); six grandchildren; and a brother.

JOAN MARIA NELSON ALLEN (’70), April 6, 2021, West End, NC. She was a retired counselor at Pine Forest High School in Fayetteville, NC. Survivors include her husband, David Allen (’74).

RONALD G. BLANCHARD (’70), March 31, 2021, Oak Island, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy as a second lieutenant and was an attorney in Hendersonville, NC.

ROBERT “BOB” M. BRENNER (’70), May 28, 2021, Winston-Salem. He was an Eagle Scout and a member of Sigma Chi fraternity. He retired from retailer Cato Corporation in Charlotte.

ROBERT ALEXANDER CASKEY IV (’70), Dec. 19, 2020, Los Angeles. He taught math in public and private schools for 11 years and worked in the aerospace, computer and television industries.

COLEEN RODABUSH RICHARDSON (MAEd ’70), April 11, 2021, Winston-Salem. She was a career counselor at Forsyth Technical Community College.

JAMES WILSON TRENT JR. (’70), April 14, 2021, Wrenham, MA. He taught sociology and social work at the University of Southern Mississippi, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and Gordon College (MA). He was the author of several books, including “Inventing the Feeble Mind: A History of Intellectual Disability in the United States.” Survivors include his wife, Sue Norman Trent (’72).
Weldon “Jack” Campbell Jr. (‘81), April 1, 2021, Falls Church, VA. He served in the U.S. Navy. He was a senior executive for the Defense Intelligence Agency in Washington, DC. In 2020 he received the Outstanding Eagle Scout Award from the National Eagle Scout Association. He is survived by sisters Harriette Campbell Brown (JD ’84, P ’07) and Marye Campbell Boggs (JD ’87). He was a member of the Samuel Wait Legacy Society.

Blonnie Yancey Thompson (PhD ’82), April 15, 2021, Oxford, NC. She was the first African American woman to earn a doctorate from the medical school, receiving her Ph.D. in microbiology and immunology. She was director of the Human Nutrition Institute at the University of Bridgeport (CT) and taught biology at Sacred Heart, Lincoln and Holy Family universities and the Community College of Philadelphia. She was an ordained Baptist minister.

Kenneth “Ken” Bill Newman (JD ’89), June 2, 2021, St. Louis. He practiced law in St. Louis for more than three decades.

Anita Waters Bain (MBA ’93), March 5, 2021, Winston-Salem. She held leadership roles at Sara Lee Corporation and was accounting operations manager at BB&T Bank (now Truist). Survivors include her husband, John H. Bain (JD ’91).

Rebecca Brewer Harrigan (’93), Dec. 27, 2020, Atlanta. She worked for health care consulting firms in Atlanta and New York.

Preston “Scott” Miller (MBA ’93), June 4, 2021, Atlanta. He worked in marketing and business strategies, most recently with Dell Technologies. Survivors include his father, Henry S. Miller (’51, MD ’54).

Geoffrey Stephen Connor (’96), April 28, 2021, Charleston, SC. He was an orthopedic surgeon who practiced in Charleston and Birmingham, AL.

Douglas R. Lewis (MALS ’97), April 2, 2021, Winston-Salem. He was headmaster of Summit School in Winston-Salem from 1957 until retiring in 1990. He helped establish the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art and the Stevens Center and served on numerous civic and education boards, including the Wake Forest Board of Visitors.

William Andrew Lardin (’99), May 11, 2021, Winston-Salem. He worked in information technology and online services.

Adam Christopher Galea (’05), April 30, 2021, Whitefish Bay, WI. He worked in marketing at The Hershey Company and SC Johnson.

Caitlin Elizabeth Smith Nussbaum (’05), May 30, 2021, Alexandria, VA. She was a pediatrics and partner at Pediatric Associates of Alexandria.

Bakhit Kourman Sr. (MS ’02, MBA ’07) and Koulnara Kourman, and sister Algerim “Rima” Kourmanova (’07).

Friends, Faculty, Staff, Students

Michael B. Campbell, Feb. 18, 2021, King, NC. He was a foreman and utility locator at Facilities & Campus Services at Wake Forest.

Brenda Louise Craig, July 31, 2021, Greensboro. She was a security officer at Wake Forest who worked most often at Farrell Hall as the weekend guard. She joined Wake Forest in 2016.

Jesse H. Meredith, April 27, 2021, Winston-Salem. He served in World War II as a mechanic and glider trooper. He spent 41 years at Wake Forest School of Medicine and North Carolina Baptist Hospital as a surgeon, teacher and mentor to several generations of surgeons until retiring in 1993. He designed and ran the hospital’s burn unit, started the transplant program, organized the first EMT course in the state and developed the first institutional department of biomedical engineering in the country. In 1965, his surgical team became the first in the nation to successfully reattach a severed human hand. He earned numerous awards during his career, including the American Medical Association’s highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award. He also served as Chair of the North Carolina Board of Health for 30 years. Survivors include son Wayne Meredith (MD ’78).

Barbara “Bobbye” Berrien Salt, May 29, 2021, Winston-Salem. She was acquisitions manager at Z. Smith Reynolds Library at Wake Forest for 22 years before retiring. Survivors include daughter Martha Salt “Moppy” McGee (’79) and son Ben Salt (’82).

David A. Stump, Feb. 5, 2021, Winston-Salem. He was a renowned researcher who retired as a professor in the departments of anesthesiology and cardiothoracic surgery in 2015 after 38 years at Wake Forest School of Medicine.

John R. Woodard Jr. (’61), March 14, 2021, Germanton, NC. He served in the Vietnam War and retired from the U.S. Army Reserve with the rank of lieutenant colonel. He joined Wake Forest in 1964 as director of the Ethel Taylor Crichten Collection of Baptist History in the Z. Smith Reynolds Library and was later named University Archivist. He retired in 2001.

Joan Corrie Worth, April 11, 2021, Winston-Salem. She was a secretary in the psychology department at Wake Forest for 11 years before retiring in 1999.
How I found my confidence and my calling

By Miles Palmore-Middleton ('21)

"YOU THINK YOU got into Wake Forest without help from affirmative action. I am pretty sure that they just needed to hit a diversity requirement."

That was what my high school classmate told me when I discussed that I was accepted into Wake Forest University. For some time I thought that person was right. I had only a 900 on the SAT and an 18 on the ACT. Furthermore, my GPA wasn’t the highest compared with my other classmates. I wasn’t the smartest person in the room most times. All of this caused doubt in my head.

When I graduated from high school and made my way down to Winston-Salem, I didn’t know what to expect. I was truly concerned what people would think of me if I told them my scores or my GPA. I just wanted to run away from the real Miles. I created almost a facade — this stellar and high-achieving high school student who got into all the great schools, had a high SAT/ACT and had high grades coming in. I was lying to myself and trying to hide who I really was — this Star Wars-loving, social butler, average student who happened to get into Wake Forest.

It wasn’t until my mentors — my professors, administrators and classmates whom I was more honest with — began to tell me not to be ashamed of who I was that I could revert back to the Miles I believed in. We all fall into the trap of letting society dictate who we should be, how we should think and, more importantly, who deserves what. I wanted to change that.

I worked hard at Wake to ensure that I was putting my best foot forward. I wanted to have no regrets when I left campus each time the semester ended. My accomplishments at Wake Forest would almost be a fantasy to high school Miles: dean’s list student, magna cum laude graduate, president of the student government, Army ROTC battalion commander and now 2nd Lt. Miles Middleton in the infantry.

There are lessons I think students and others should know that I learned in my time at Wake. I would start by saying that maybe there are those out there, whether it be in high school or starting a college career, who doubt who they are and want to create a fictional character in order to run away from the past. I say to them embrace your past and who you are, so you are able to learn and grow as an individual. Remember that you cannot do college alone; find friends who will uplift you and make you think differently.

Additionally, lean on your professors. Thank goodness the professors I had were understanding and always available to help. I’ve taken three professors from my majors (history and politics and international affairs) four to five times each, building my relationship with each one. Many thanks to Charles “Will” Walldorf Jr. (P ’17, ’24), associate professor of politics and international affairs; Charles Wilkins, associate professor of history; and Heidi Robinson (MA ’11, P ’18, ’20), assistant vice president of the Career Education and Training Office in Personal and Career Development and associate professor of the practice in the Department of Education. They helped me find my calling and career.

More advice: Don’t be afraid to express yourself to others and tell them what you believe, but don’t have a closed mind when you’re in the classroom. Try to listen as much as possible to others.

Lastly, take care of yourself. You do not have to be involved in everything. You have to be able to say no to the good and yes to the best opportunities that will advance your career and perspective.

Wake Forest gave me hope, courage and the ability to dream. Now I am going to take all of the lessons learned to the next assignment God has given me, serving in our Armed Forces. It’s not a goodbye, but see you later and thank you!

Miles Palmore-Middleton, a native of Long Island, New York, majored in history and politics and international affairs, with a focus on Islamic studies and international affairs. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. and served as vice president of the Xi Eta Chapter. He was headed in the summer to the U.S. Army’s Infantry Basic Officer Leadership Course, taught at The Maneuver Center of Excellence at Fort Benning, Georgia. He is the proud son of Heather Palmore.
OCTOBER 31, 2023

GET YOUR DEAC ON

HOMECOMING AND REUNION WEEKEND

HOMECOMING.WFU.EDU
Ten 2021 graduates are working this academic year in full-time positions as Wake Forest Fellows to experience how higher education leaders operate. Since the program began in 2008, it has given exceptional graduates a window into University administration. Program alumni pursue careers in law, medicine, public policy and many other fields, including higher education. Many go on to receive prestigious academic honors such as Rhodes and Fulbright scholarships. More at bit.ly/3yQ6Mxb

This year’s Wake Forest Fellows are:

**Campus Life:** Zoe Stuckey (MSBA ’23), Greensboro, North Carolina

**Communications and External Relations and Provost’s Office Communication:** Camille Monceaux, Alexandria, Louisiana

**Dean of the College:** Marie Guy, Mechanicsville, Maryland

**Information Systems:** Jennifer Ryan, Montvale, New Jersey

**Office of Personal and Career Development:** Nana Ogburn, New Bern, North Carolina

**President’s Office:** Mary Costanza, Southern Pines, North Carolina

**Provost’s Office:** Bruce Haywood, Franklin Lakes, New Jersey

**Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center:** Aidan Wiley, Bel Air, Maryland

**School of Business:** Rafael Alves de Lima, Natal, RN, Brazil

**Wake Downtown:** Yorjannys Gomez, High Point, North Carolina

From left, front row: Zoe Stuckey, Nana Ogburn, Yorjannys Gomez, Mary Costanza; second row: Bruce Haywood, Jennifer Ryan, Camille Monceaux; third row: Aidan Wiley, Rafael Alves de Lima, Marie Guy