Reading
the River
COPING IN THE PANDEMIC
Photography by Ken Bennett
Wake Forest’s director of photography captured the first month of the fall semester, when campus community members embraced “Show Humanitate.”

READING THE RIVER
By Carol L. Hanner
Yadkin Riverkeeper Brian Fannon (’89) combines biology, history and a love of water for his exceptional life in the flow.

UNDAUNTED
By Maria Henson (’82)
Karen Baynes-Dunning (’89) infuses arduous work for social justice and children’s progress with lessons from wondrous family lore.

A HISTORY OF THEIR OWN
Illustration by Lisa Perrin
As women move into their second century of voting rights, Wake Forest Magazine offers a series of milestones along with the millstones in the story of women at the University.

LESSONS FROM A TIME OF UPHEAVAL
By Kerry M. King (’85)
Six alumni reflect on student life in the 1960s and early ’70s and how 2020 echoes those times.

CONSTANT & TRUE
By Sophie Hollis (’19)
A young grad learns about isolation and reaching out in a pandemic.

DEPARTMENTS
66 Around the Quad
69 Philanthropy
70 Class Notes
FROM THE PRESIDENT

THIS ISSUE OF WAKE FOREST MAGAZINE is the first of 2021, a year that will mark the University’s continuing challenges with the COVID-19 pandemic and an upcoming personal milestone for me and my wife, Julie.

In this issue, you will see Ken Bennett’s photo essay of what the campus looked like during the first weeks of the fall semester. The way our people have responded to COVID-19 has been an enormous gift. As I have said to the Cabinet, it has been the greatest example of teamwork and collaborative leadership I have ever witnessed. Everything had to be reinvented. There was no playbook. Different universities were handling it in different ways.

We had to ask how one can balance, first of all, the safety of our people, but also the workforce: how people would work, how many students would come back, what their living arrangements would be, how they would eat, how classes would be taught. There were frequent virtual town hall meetings attended by hundreds so that we could be transparent about what was happening. Faculty received grants to prepare better for online blended or in-person delivery of courses. Staff in housing and dining were incredible in their efforts. And the students were tremendously responsible, holding it together and saying, “We’re going to face this challenge.”

The widespread attitude of “Show Humanitate” on our campus is evident in the photo essay.

This is the year I am planning to retire, as noted in the Around the Quad section. Retirement is bittersweet, because this has been the greatest privilege and delight of our lives to be at Wake Forest. What together we as a University community have been able to accomplish is significant. If I brought something to Wake Forest it was bringing into bold relief things that were already here and establishing our identity as a collegiate university, a place that combines excellence with personal attention, community and a commitment to values. I came to Wake Forest with the idea to be radically traditional and radically innovative. However, you don’t just change because everybody else may have changed. Our philosophy of personal attention and commitment to values are constant, but how an institution does things always needs to be rethought. Institutions get stale, and they have to be renewed and refreshed.

The University will have more to say about my retirement and my successor during the year. For now, let me say that I could not be more pleased with where Wake Forest is, and it is not the work of one person. We have become a more open, welcoming community. It is a place where civility, purpose and attention to character are viable. It seems to me Wake Forest is carrying out the best purposes of a university.

© 2021
On the Yadkin, Brian Fannon ('89) combines biology, history and a love of water for his exceptional life in the flow.
The River

by Carol L. Hanner
Photography by Christine Rucker
A warm view of the river from Christine Rucker’s collection of Yadkin photos.
It’s the best kind of day for Brian Fannon (’89), who holds the romantic title of Yadkin Riverkeeper. “It looks like the water might be down enough for us to go paddling,” Fannon says. He has set up the trip to share his work and the river’s history with Wake Forest Magazine.

Fannon’s job with the Yadkin Riverkeeper nonprofit is to monitor and help sustain the quality of the Yadkin-Pee Dee River Basin. It’s the water source for Winston-Salem and most of central North Carolina. He takes samples and tests the river regularly. He and Executive Director Edgar Miller work with state officials, developers, landowners and farmers to protect the watershed and wildlife from runoff and pollution.

He relishes these times when he can leave behind the computer and the phone for a serene day on the stream, where living trees reach into the sky and fallen ones form ghostly gray sculptures along the banks.
Many Deacons remember the Yadkin for annual wacky rafting races and beer-filled afternoons floating on the shallow river. But townsfolk in Winston-Salem tend to forget about the Yadkin or never learn its charms, Fannon says, because it’s 15 miles away. Unlike rivers that gurgle through some cities, the Yadkin doesn’t impose itself on the daily landscape for most of the 800,000 to 1.6 million people it supports across North Carolina and South Carolina.

Fannon points out that the human body is about 70% water. That means if you live and eat and drink at Wake Forest, “you are, in fact, 70% Yadkin River,” Fannon says.

“You are nothing more than a vessel for hauling around part of the Yadkin River for a few years,” he adds, one of his many deadpan quips. “Don’t ignore it just because you can’t see it. It really is a pretty important part of your life.”

Mountain Man
Conjure an oil painting of a man called “the Riverkeeper,” and it surely resembles Fannon. With his untamed gray hair, full beard and stocky tree trunk of a frame, he appears more Jeremiah Johnson come down the mountain than Dr. Fannon, the biologist with a doctorate in biogeography and fluvial systems. Yet he is both, and more.

He did, indeed, come down the mountain, the Blue Ridge variety. His family farmed tobacco and raised cattle in Avery County, North Carolina, near Beech Mountain. “I grew up pretty much in the woods running around like a wild heathen,” he says in his gentle twang.

His house was the last on the electrical line, a half mile from the nearest neighbor, his uncle, and another half mile to the next home. Lightning came down the line and grounded through his house, “and that was always exciting. We would sit in the stairwell during bad thunderstorms to stay away from exploding lightbulbs,” he says.

In his senior year of high school, “I was a little bit, I guess, behind the curve.” He thought the guidance counselor’s office took care of college applications, so when “everybody started getting their acceptance letters, I’m like, ‘What exactly is going on here?’”

Like so many Deacons, Fannon has a knack for navigating unusual currents to reach a destination he hadn’t visualized but which, in the end, suits him just right.

He finagled late acceptance as a freshman at Appalachian State University because he had serendipitously registered there during his junior year of high school. He had shown up for a presentation on becoming a DJ at the radio station, only to discover that it was a college course. “A couple of graduate students in the communications department said … ‘Look, we’ll fix this,’” Fannon says. One met him at the gym on registration day and walked him through signing up as a non-degree-seeking student.
If you live and eat and drink at Wake Forest, “you are, in fact, 70% Yadkin River,” Fannon says.
“I really appreciate what they did for me,” he says. “It showed me that you can do pretty much anything, if you can just figure out how to do it.”

Fannon had friends at Wake Forest who loved it, and he wanted to study ecosystems and aquatics in the Department of Biology, so he transferred his sophomore year.

One of his friends was studying theatre, another draw because Fannon had worked since high school at the “Horn in the West” Revolutionary War-era drama in Boone, North Carolina. He was an usher at the outdoor amphitheatre, and one night “they decided they needed a spare dead body after the last battle scene,” Fannon says. “(They said) ‘Can you just come backstage and put on a red coat and go die?’ So, why not?”

The next year, he worked as a technician and space filler on stage, eventually becoming a master carpenter and, even more fun, a pyrotechnician, taking care of firearms, explosions and cannons. Until a few years ago, he continued to pinch-hit for “Horn in the West” because he was one of the few people who could repair the 1980s turntable critical for rotating sets.

Wake Forest cemented theatre as a life passion. He never appeared on stage — “I act up occasionally, but I’m not an actor” — but he built sets for almost every show for two years. Later, theatre helped him land a job in the wilds of Alaska that he never expected to snag.

**History on the Banks**

Fannon fishes every rare chance he gets, but as a biology major at Wake Forest he set neither foot nor fishing rod into the Yadkin during his three years on campus. He had grown up on the pristine Watauga River, and the Yadkin was too dirty, he says, though he did collect plant samples there for a class. Today, the Yadkin is much cleaner than it was 30 years ago, Fannon says.

When he became Riverkeeper, the nonprofit’s float trips were attracting 100 paddlers at a time. Lugging so many boats and people in and out of the river made for a strenuous day, and the nonprofit didn’t want to take business from outfitters. It lowered the limit for Riverkeeper paddles to 20 people, allowing time for explanation and exploration.

On this September day, clear water gurgles across the rocky bottom at the Roaring River Canoe Rentals launch site. The Roaring River is a tributary that joins the mudrier Yadkin a short distance downstream. Photographer Christine Rucker, a Yadkin River junkie who has a house on its banks, shares a canoe navigated by Riverkeeper board member David White, a marketing and communications professional who is an amateur historian. Fannon and I each paddle a kayak for the three-hour trip.

White and Johnny Alexander, the owner of Roaring River Canoe and a native of the area, share stories before
Alexander sees us off. A big stretch of our trip will wind along Roundabout Farm, more than 1,300 acres of farmland originally settled by Col. Benjamin Cleveland, who led the Wilkes County militia at the pivotal Battle of Kings Mountain in the Revolutionary War. We will pass what is known as the Hanging Tree on Roundabout where Cleveland, known as “the Terror of the Tories,” executed British loyalists and, Alexander adds, horse rustlers. “He’d hang you in a minute.”

(This stretch includes the irresistible ghost tale of a red-coated rider, some say headless, atop a white Arabian stallion galloping along the banks at Bugaboo Creek. Cleveland rode home to Roundabout on such a white horse as a war prize claimed from the British commander killed at Kings Mountain.)

The war history of this stretch of the Yadkin around the town of Ronda helps make it a favorite float for Fannon. He dreams of creating a living history museum along the Yadkin. For fun, he makes 18th-century tools, nails and leather bags and trades them with fellow hobbyists.

“In a different lifetime I would have become an anthropologist focused on tools of the 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th centuries and that progression — as the metalworking got better, the tools got better, and because the tools got better, the techniques of working changed,” he says.

He regularly takes part in Revolutionary War reenactments — always as a British soldier. “First of all because one of my ancestors actually was a Tory and was hated for burning down a lot of stuff,” Fannon says. “But second, more practically, you get invited to a lot more reenactments because everybody needs somebody to shoot at.”
“Don’t ignore [the Yadkin River] just because you can’t see it. It really is a pretty important part of your life.”
Fish Weirs and Beaver Dams

Fannon’s love of history and biology inspires his appreciation of the Yadkin’s rich lore. Archaeology teams from Wake Forest have recovered remains of tribal life around 1000-1600 A.D. along parts of the river. The region was home to the Catawba, one of several Siouan language tribes in the Carolinas.

As we float along the greenish-brown flat waters, White points out a fish weir, a stone structure built by Native Americans in the shape of a V, with a basket or net at the apex to catch fish. This stretch holds two of 30 to 40 visible weirs on the Yadkin ranging from 500 to 800 years old, White says, but many are under water and no longer visible. Even though the river is sometimes so shallow we must navigate around rocks to avoid grounding, the Yadkin of earlier centuries was even shallower.

The beaver dams that Fannon studied — “playing in the water again” — for his doctoral dissertation at UNC Greensboro shed light on why the river is so shallow today. He analyzed how beavers engineer such durable structures and how they affect streams over decades. “Always they’re professionals; they do it for a living,” he says.

“The final most important conclusion was that before Europeans settled and beaver fur became a major commodity and they wiped them out pretty much, beaver would have been one of the primary controlling factors on stream form in North America,” Fannon says.

Beavers built numerous dams on the river and tributaries, abandoned them, then recycled them. The dams slowed the flow of water and sediment and kept flooding to a minimum. With fewer dams, the silt that flows unimpeded has created problems. It covers the riverbed, carries pollutants and alters food sources and the spawning patterns of fish. Native Americans would not recognize the flooding we see today, Fannon says.

Bears, Moose, Fish and Maps

Fannon’s career path to caring for the easygoing Yadkin River began with years of exploring the wilderness of Alaska after his graduation from Wake Forest. Eventually he settled back home to be closer to his aging parents and to pursue graduate degrees.

Fannon says one of the things he appreciated about Wake Forest was “the students and the faculty tend to be very creative people.” He could study both biology and theatre, which almost became a double major.

He says his theatre experience landed him his favorite job: a summer counting sea otters and sea lions on an island in Prince William Sound in Alaska, two hours by
boat from civilization. He had always dreamed of Alaska and applied for the research gig aimed at determining whether salmon nets were harming sea mammals. (They weren’t; fishermen were quickly cutting nets to free animals, which spared damage to creatures and nets.)

Fannon says competition for the job was stiff, and he asked the hiring company’s owner why she chose him over more experienced candidates. She had an avid interest in theatre. “She said, ‘I knew that living in the field camp, you were going to have a lot of challenges and not a lot of resources to fix them. And I figured if anybody could do that, a theatre tech could,’” Fannon says.

The days of endless sunlight allowed for endless fishing and exploring. Fannon knew he and his research partner would have no escape from each other on the small island. “We joked that by the end of this summer, we will be best friends or one of us will be gone. We are still very close friends.”

He meant to stay only a few years in Alaska but kept returning there between positions on the East Coast — restoring American shad in Pennsylvania, surveying fish populations in Massachusetts, interpreting and managing at the Southern Appalachian Historical Association in Boone and consulting and mapmaking as a surveyor.

He discovered that he loved being at sea. He worked on a commercial fishing boat out of Kodiak in the Gulf of Alaska, seeing remote harbors that few tourists or even most Alaskans ever see. The pay was $100 a day, a lot in the 1990s for a young man in his 20s.

He managed tour operations at Denali National Park & Preserve, often ending up alone under the majestic 20,000-foot peak at 2 a.m. to pick up buses, and he liked the magic of those nights. His bear encounters were benign. “Talk to the bear, yell at it, wave your hands. The bear looks at you,” he says. Moose were not so friendly. He once made a frantic 100-yard dash to an open bus, with a territorial moose in hot pursuit.
In 2004, he came home to earn a master’s degree in historical geography at Appalachian in 2006. He worked at a theatre rigging company in Georgia as a set builder, driving back and forth to UNC Greensboro to work on his doctorate, which he completed in 2015. “I finished my dissertation in the machine shop in Georgia,” he says.

**Sharing the Knowledge**

As Fannon points out the Yadkin’s sites, he demonstrates the love of teaching he has developed, from kindergarten to university level, at UNCG, Appalachian, Salem College, Winston-Salem State University, the Allison Woods Outdoor Learning Center in Statesville, North Carolina, and more. When a colleague invited him to teach students about science in Kenya, “my response to the email was, ‘Let me think about it. Yes. When do we go?’ That’s how I got to do a lot of the fun things in my life is to just say, ‘Yeah, I’ll do it. When are we going?’”

Ashley Wilcox (MBA ’21), president of the Riverkeeper board and assistant director for the Sustainability Graduate Programs at Wake Forest, says Fannon is a master teacher. “He’s talked to law school classes. He’s come to talk with some of our graduate school students, and at the same time he can … walk into a second-grade classroom and have the ability to share and break those larger concepts down to an easy-to-understand way,” she says.

Fannon brings both a country sensibility and scientific expertise in working with people to find grants and learn new methods for keeping pollutants out of the river, Wilcox says. “He’s so approachable,” she says. “He’s really great at forging those relationships with people who may have … seen us as more of an enemy than an ally.”
**Birds and Cows**

The quiet of the river, punctuated by the caw of ravens, is soothing as we paddle under rust-colored bridge trusses. Fannon suggests avoiding paddling close to the bank but reassures us that those stories of snakes dropping from a limb are rare, and venomous copperheads don’t care for climbing trees, he says.

We pass a long stand of sensuous green bamboo forest, planted in the 1700s. Herons with stick legs perch among twisted tree limbs that have washed downstream and lodged in the mud. Blue kingfishers swoop across the river, landing on tree trunks that grow horizontally from the bank, like a photo that needs rotating.

A bald eagle flies by. A yellow-bellied slider turtle rests on a log. A brief rain shower leaves us damp but not drenched.

Like a funny image from a children’s book, a black cow stands chest deep in the river, staring at us. The Riverkeeper would rather see a fence to keep the cow and its mates from eroding the bank and depositing manure in the Yadkin.

Fannon sees an abandoned red plastic gas can, and he paddles to the bank to see if he can get to it. He does, and he’s happy. It’s new and in good shape. “I really like that spout,” he says.

Our day ends at the boat launch in Ronda, a convenient 10-minute shuttle back to the Roaring River launch, despite the hours-long meandering path of the stream.

Everyone is smiling, including Fannon. He has removed a bit of debris. He has savored and shared the beauty and history of the Yadkin.

It’s been a good day on the river he keeps.

“My response to the email was, ‘Let me think about it.”

Yes. When do we go?”
Karen Baynes-Dunning (’89) infuses arduous work for social justice and children’s progress with lessons from wondrous family lore and the late Maya Angelou.

By Maria Henson (’82)

Photography by Travis Dove (’04)
A 15-minute drive from the porch is the brick house where he and his wife, Dorothy Totten Baynes, 86, live in retirement. They are content to watch hummingbirds, listen to podcasts and survey the land on which Dorothy’s parents tended fields and worked tobacco for two white sisters who never married and, to Dorothy’s mind, showed her parents barely a kindness until the last living sister shocked them all. This is a story of the Bayneses’ youngest child, Karen Baynes-Dunning (’89) of Greenville, South Carolina. To begin to understand how Karen became a lawyer, a judge, a social justice activist and an advocate for children and families, one must start here in Caswell County with its county seat of Yanceyville, 25 miles from Burlington, North Carolina, and 14 miles south of Danville, Virginia. Here, most summers and on weekend getaways from Wake Forest, Karen would visit the land.
of her grandparents, Beatrice “Mama Bea” and Waymond “Daddy Waymond” Totten. She also tramped the other property, the one that Percy’s grandfather bought — shockingly for the times — from a white man in 1914. That is where the Baynes Family Farm retreat center sits today. It sleeps 16 and is available to rent for overnights, conferences, reunions and weddings, and, Percy points out, to people of all creeds, races and religions. Even though the log cabin of his birth is gone, for him the 90 acres represent “a return to the launch site.”

Over at the Totten farm, Karen shadowed her grandmother and namesake (Karen’s middle name is Beatrice), learning life lessons.

“It’s just something about them, even to this day,” says Dorothy about her daughter and the late Mama Bea.

“ ‘When (Karen) needed to find a place of peace, this is where she would come.’

In conversations on Zoom, Karen in her big stylish glasses is quick to smile and laugh. She speaks joyfully of her days as a city girl, born in Washington, D.C., raised in Silver Spring, Maryland, but cherishing visits to the Totten farm with her three siblings. “That’s what the farm symbolized to us, especially throughout our childhoods, just running through the woods and being free and … being a kid,” Karen says.

To this day, she knows how to quilt, boil preserves and can vegetables the way her Mama Bea taught her. She speaks admiringly of how her grandmother served as an informal foster parent to hungry children, and to this day she lives Mama Bea’s final pronouncement. “The day before she died, she called for us,” Karen says. “And when I say all of us, there must have been 60, 70 people in the room,” counting cousins, aunts and uncles. “And basically, she gave her last sermon. And I remember it, because she said, ‘Take care of the children. … Not just the children in your own homes but all the children.’ And that’s just who she was.”

In her 30s beside the deathbed that day, Karen already had been answering Mama Bea’s call, at home and in what she describes as “my nonlinear career path.”
hen Percy set out for Washington, D.C., he left a place of few opportunities for Black men beyond sharecropping. He left a county notorious in North Carolina history but not mentioned in the lessons I learned in public schools in the 1970s nor referenced on the county’s Wikipedia page even today.

The years after the Civil War were meant to offer freedom and rights of citizenship to formerly enslaved men. The backlash from white supremacists was swift, marked by the rise of the Ku Klux Klan. In 1870, nine years after the birth of Percy’s grandfather, a Klan mob decided to punish a white Republican state senator, John W. Stephens, who championed the rights of freedmen. They took him to a room in the courthouse in Yanceyville, tied a noose around his neck and choked him, then stabbed him three times, twice in the neck and once in the heart.

“(M)urdering a state official in broad daylight in a courthouse, generally a place where people expected justice — emphasized the power and arrogance of North Carolina Klansmen,” writes historian Jim D. Brisson.

The state Supreme Court in Raleigh required bail for three men arrested and wrote: “No motive is assigned for this murder, except ‘political animosity.’ The circumstances show it was done on premeditation, with fatal skill, and by a number of conspirators, (either taking part in the killing, or else keeping watch, and being on the lookout,) to whom the unsuspecting victim was led up for sacrifice.” No one was punished. A Klansman’s deathbed written confession in 1919 — only released years later — laid out the Klan’s role.

Stephens’ lynching and that of Wyatt Outlaw, a Black town commissioner in neighboring Alamance County, served as catalysts for Gov. William W. Holden to declare martial law in the Piedmont region. Holden paid the price for challenging white supremacy. In 1871 he became the first governor in U.S. history to be impeached and removed from office. (The state Senate pardoned him in 2011.)

A year after Percy left for Washington, Yanceyville drew national attention again when a black farmer named Matt Ingram was arrested and convicted on assault charges (at first charged with rape) after a young white woman said he “leered” at her, frightening her.

The state Supreme Court struck down the conviction in 1953. Ingram throughout denied any ill intent. The justices wrote that he may have had “a sinister purpose” or “looked with lustful eyes” but ultimately concluded: “We cannot convict him of a criminal offense solely for what may have been in his mind. Human law does not reach that far.”}

Karen refers to the case sarcastically: “Yeah. ‘Old evil-eye Ingram.’ Ebony did a piece about it.” Time magazine did, too, headlining its article, “Assault by Leer.”
Percy found his bright future away from Yanceyville. Not only did he earn his B.S. and M.S. in mathematics at Howard University, but he also landed a job at NASA. He developed expertise in on-flight software for the space shuttles and rose to executive director of NASA’s orbiter division. In 1984, he left for private industry, joining a defense contractor as director of software engineering. By his side was the woman who had been his friend since they were teenagers in Caswell County, Dorothy Totten, a schoolteacher. She became his wife and the mother of four children. At home their lives centered around church in D.C., family and community service, with a faux-wood-paneled station wagon to take them anywhere they pleased.

Karen, the youngest, helped her dad with such projects as Meals on Wheels or fixing houses for the elderly. On some Christmas Eves they assembled bicycles and wrapped toys for children whose foster father was a local judge. The scene was “loving chaos,” Karen says, and this introduction to the “formal” foster care system would figure in her lifelong mission.

Dorothy says Karen was her “little angel” who talked all the time from age 3, stood up for kids who were bullied and believed she could do anything. Percy came home one day with a new suit and pants that needed altering. Dorothy instructed him to find a professional. “And the next thing I know … he’s tried them on, and (Karen, then in junior high) measured, and she did it,” Dorothy says. “Karen, have you ever done that before?” “No, but I can do it.” That’s just how she grew up.

She attended high school with mostly white students and, her mother says, made no distinction about race in her friendships. When it came time for college, she was recruited by several universities and received the offer of a full-ride Benjamin Banneker Scholarship from the University of Maryland. As an additional incentive in favor of Maryland and perhaps a destiny in physics, her father offered a Mazda RX7. Karen passed on the fatherly bribe and chose Wake Forest instead.

The beauty of the campus attracted her, but the big draws were Mama Bea nearby and the chance — with no guarantee — to study with Reynolds Professor of American Studies Maya Angelou (L.H.D. ’77).
“I took her class in the fall of ’87,” she says. “From Day One it changed my life.” The class examined African culture in the United States and returned repeatedly to Roman playwright Terence’s quote: “I am human, I consider nothing human alien to me.” Angelou would read a poem or break into song or have the class sing songs of the civil rights movement amid myriad surprises in her living room.

“One day the doorbell rings, and it’s Alex Haley,” Karen says with an abiding sense of awe when remembering the author of “Roots.” (After Haley died, his farm in Tennessee became a Children’s Defense Fund retreat center — “Where we grow justice” — in training the next generation of advocates for children and families, including Karen. It later inspired the Baynes Family Farm’s mission.)

Attorney Neil Stanley (‘89) of Washington, D.C., remembers arriving at Wake Forest as a first-year student from Florida when Black student enrollment was lower and “looking around and not seeing anybody like me at all.” On the Quad, though, he spied Karen, “and I was like, ‘Hey, that’s my person!’” They ate meals in the Pit, studied together, tailgated and danced to D.C.’s Go-go funk music. Whether it was about promoting disinvestment in apartheid-era South Africa or working to establish Wake Forest’s first Black sorority or advancing race relations on campus, he says Karen “was the leader of most of those movements.”

Wake Forest’s was “a tough climate while we were there,” Stanley says, but it allowed Karen, a politics major, “to really expand her thinking about what justice looked like.” To Karen, “it didn’t matter whether (people) were Black, white or whatever,” says her mother. “(But) she went to Wake Forest, and everything was black and white. She said she thinks she lived in a shade of gray until she went to Wake Forest, but she wouldn’t have traded it for anything.”

Karen, 53, professes a love of Wake Forest despite the challenges on campus for Black students in the 1980s. “It helped me get active and even more civically engaged around issues of equity, around inclusion, just all the things that I’ve now worked on throughout my career. I really found my voice at Wake Forest.”

Mama Bea taught Karen to quilt, and Karen continues to quilt with fabrics inspired by her travels in Africa.
some ways she is this weaver of justice. She knows how to weave or sew this quilt, and she puts together people, practices and power.”

– RAFAEL LÓPEZ, FORMER SENIOR WHITE HOUSE POLICY ADVISER
HEN IT CAME TIME to study abroad, Stanley chose Casa Artom in Venice. Karen chose Liberia. Her parents vehemently opposed the idea. Angelou wrote them on Karen’s behalf and sent along an autographed copy of her latest book. Case closed. Karen, a junior, was going to Africa.

A man passed Karen as she disembarked from the plane that landed near Liberia’s capital, Monrovia. “Welcome home, sister,” he said. From those words and experiences during her semester abroad, she found “a sense of wholeness, a sense of belonging” and “my power as a Black woman.”

Stanley remembers how she came back “on a whole different level. Her awareness, I think, became much more global and connected to a larger framework and a larger movement.”

She made her way, as always during her college days, to Caswell County with this larger view of the world, reminded of the work to be done close to home. As she drove to see Mama Bea, she passed handmade KKK signs pointing to the woods, she says. She figured a Klan meeting was underway. There was no sense in stopping to find out.

Karen’s trajectory after Wake Forest could fill volumes. It started with a law degree at the
University of California Berkeley School of Law and a job at the esteemed Alston & Bird law firm in Atlanta working on antitrust litigation. Working pro bono assignments prompted her to abandon the high salary and international law firm prestige to follow her heart and work on behalf of children and families — all before she was 30.

She helped create and run the Court Appointed Special Advocates program (CASA) to help foster children with permanent placement in Fulton County, Georgia. Barely 30, she was appointed to the bench in Fulton County as a juvenile court judge by Glenda Hatchett, then-chief presiding judge of the juvenile court and now in private practice. She continually relies on Karen’s counsel.
“First of all, she is brilliant,” Hatchett says. “I’ve seen her in tough situations, and she is just unflappable. She has this strong moral compass. She is going to do what is right even when it’s not popular.”

Her jobs in the past decades were never easy — or, as she would say, linear. Among her other roles, she was appointed as a federal monitor overseeing reform in Georgia’s children and family services department. She led a special initiative in Alabama for an alternative to detention for juveniles. She developed training and research at the University of Georgia’s Carl Vinson Institute of Government to educate and influence policymakers about children and family issues. She taught at Emory University and the University of Alabama.

At the University of Georgia, she met and eventually supervised Allison McWilliams (’95), now assistant vice president, mentoring and alumni personal & career development at Wake Forest. “She’s this teeny, tiny person who walks into a room, and you would swear she’s 6 feet tall,” McWilliams says of her mentor for life. “She’s probably one of those people I learned the most from about lifting other women up.”

McWilliams will never forget how Karen was a reference for her first Wake Forest job. Before the call was over, the topic changed from McWilliams to an invitation to Karen for a speaking engagement. “With a 10-minute reference call, she just blows you away,” McWilliams says.

Rafael López, a former senior policy adviser in the Obama White House, has known her since the mid-2000s on their way to becoming national fellows with the Annie E. Casey Foundation. At López’s invitation, Karen took foster children to the White House to encourage and motivate them.

“You can see children and families who are nothing but broken and problems” in the child welfare system, he says, “or you can see children, youth and families who have possibility and hope and strength and beauty. I think Karen is one of the people who sees that everyone has strength and possibility and beauty already in them.” He adds, “She embodies justice. She embodies empathy. She embodies ethics and morality.” Her concern for children, he says, is genuine.

Some of that empathy flows from her experiences on the bench and in tackling policy questions, some from her personal life. She and her first husband adopted a 15-month-old Black foster child born to a troubled mother of 13 children. Karen had a biological son later, and he is in high school. She has two stepsons with her current husband, Art Dunning, the retired president of Albany State University, a historically Black institution in Georgia.

Despite having been brought up in an upper-middle-class home, her adopted son, at 20, got into serious legal trouble that Karen says has been “heart-wrenching.” Karen and her son have minimal contact. “I pray for him,” she says. “I just try to keep a lifeline open.”

Her private pain cannot help but fuel her public life. She reminded her audience of Maya Angelou’s lesson and Terence’s quote about nothing human being alien to her — whether someone’s circumstances are bad or good — when she spoke at an NAACP awards banquet in Jackson County, Florida, in 2019. “When you see injustice, even when it does not impact you personally, remember ‘I am human’ and take action,” she told the audience.

She takes action even when others would run the other way. She made national headlines when the board at the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) in Montgomery, Alabama, asked her to relinquish the board seat she had held since late 2017 and take over as interim president and CEO of an organization in an uproar. Since its founding in 1971, the nonprofit has been known for tracking and exposing activities of hate groups and for its civil rights cases, including multimillion-dollar verdicts against Klan groups in the 1980s. In the past it had been criticized for its fundraising tactics and financial practices.

In March 2019, a new level of turmoil engulfed the SPLC after national news broke — its co-founder Morris Dees had been fired for unspecified misconduct and its president had resigned. Employees alleged mistreatment of all stripes. At the board’s request, Karen stepped into this fire the following month.
Bryan Fair, the Thomas E. Skinner Professor of Law at the University of Alabama School of Law, is the SPLC’s board chair and knew Karen and Art Dunning from their days in Tuscaloosa. Karen “had almost no significant involvement before the turmoil nearly brought the organization to a halt,” he says. But she had to deal with the issues that had been festering: “systemic structural racism and feeling that the organization wasn’t living its beliefs and values.”

Karen’s task was formidable. She worked extraordinarily long hours, he says, and listened to everyone from the line staff up to board members to assess the organization’s infrastructure and management. The conversations were at times contentious. “I don’t think anyone could have done the job as well as Karen did,” he says. “It required all of her talent. And I think one of her talents is this ability to listen with empathy and to operate with a kind of grace that I think few people have.” Her leadership, he says, was “vital to rebuilding the sense of community within the organization.”

Karen found “a trauma-filled work environment” that had “a conflation of Me Too and gender-related issues” with issues of race and class, she says. The organization had doubled in revenue and staff after the 2016 presidential election and had not established the infrastructure and human resources policies to support that growth, she says. She had the difficult job of leading conversations around “any vestiges of white supremacy culture that may exist” and took heat for problems created before her time.

In the end, a new director was named in spring 2020, as planned. Karen says, “I think we went a long way in starting to create those systems to support the staff and the work.” She remains optimistic about the organization’s mission of confronting racism, teaching tolerance and supporting voting rights. “There are young, passionate advocates that will change the world,” she says.

Today, Karen makes her home in Greenville, South Carolina, the place she and her husband selected after Art Dunning retired in 2018 from his university presidency. Karen is a consultant and executive coach, working on Zoom like so many of us in the time of COVID-19. But it took only a few months after her tenure ended at SPLC for Greenville officials to come knocking.

In July the city council appointed Karen to an ad hoc citizen advisory panel on public safety to assess policies, training and use of force in the police department in the wake of George Floyd’s killing in police custody in Minneapolis. By summer’s end, Greenville leaders from the chamber of commerce, the Urban League and the United Way had persuaded her to be a member of their newly formed Greenville Racial Equity and Economic Mobility Commission. The group’s charge is to develop strategies “to implement significant change in the areas of racial inequities, social justice, and other key gaps identified as focus areas of the Black community.”

If the work of confronting and dismantling institutional racism tires Karen or burdens her soul, she does not speak of it publicly. Her strength, her friends say, is rooted in faith and family. Peace she can find in Caswell County, for one place. If she chooses, she can sit under an ancient sycamore tree at her parents’ house and contemplate the miraculous journey of her family. This property is part of the 400 acres where Mama Bea and Daddy Waymond did back-breaking labor for the Harrelson sisters. Back then, the two sisters thought nothing of giving the Tottens a used frying pan for Christmas. Mama Bea spent night and day caring for the surviving sister, who was ill, leaving her own family at times to fend for themselves. Who would have ever imagined that the sister would call Daddy Waymond to her deathbed with news to floor him and surely the whole of Caswell County?

She announced she was leaving him all the acreage; the white, wooden, two-story farmhouse where she lived (and now was dying); the antiques and enough cash stashed in...
a hiding place to pay the estate taxes. It was 1969, and with that bequest the fortunes for the older generation changed utterly. They lived in the house until it burned five years later. With the help of Percy and Dorothy, a brick house was built in its place. The Tottens subdivided the property, but there are 178 acres left for Dorothy and Percy with the brick house, and it represents home, abundance and family.

On Karen’s father’s side, the Baynes property with its modern log house functioning as a retreat on what Percy calls “my very own launch site” brings Karen and her family a sense of purpose and a gift for the next generation. Every summer, except during COVID, the family hosts Camp Phoenix, a one-week adventure for children who are homeless. Here, they can run and play and be free, just as Karen and her siblings did. Karen leads the annual tie-dye session. The children make “special pillowcases” that are signed by fellow campers and carry memories from Camp Phoenix, “so that you can always know where you can lay your head.”

These family lands are an anchor for Karen, a place where she feels her ancestors’ spirits abiding. “There’s something special about our family’s ability to keep this land because a lot of African Americans were not able to,” she says. They remind her of what Maya Angelou used to say to her: “Surviving is important, but thriving is elegant.”

Though the work remains to fashion a more perfect union, the land of Caswell County, with all of its stories and all of its mysteries of justice, will keep calling Karen home, no doubt to thrive.

“When you look at her life, it’s about richness and about wholeness and about diverse and broad-based experiences.”

– NEIL STANLEY (’89)
As women move into their second century of voting rights, Wake Forest Magazine offers a series of milestones along with the millstones in the story of women at the University since the founding in 1834 as a manual labor institute for men.

It took more than a century after Sarah “Sally” Merriam Wait helped her husband, Samuel, establish Wake Forest before women were accepted as undergraduates. Today, Michele Gillespie is dean of the College, and women account for half the 28 department chairs. Jane A. Aiken is dean of the law school, and Michelle Roehm became interim dean of the business school recently. Dr. Julie Ann Freischlag is CEO of Wake Forest Baptist Health, the first female dean of the medical school and chief academic officer of Atrium Health.

Evabelle Simmons, whose father is a professor, becomes Wake Forest’s first female graduate and possibly the first female college graduate in North Carolina. Trustees at first deny Simmons a diploma. They relent following male students’ protests and faculty approval of her degree. She becomes a teacher at Union Female Academy in Eufaula, Alabama.

Female undergraduates are admitted, helping offset falling enrollment during World War II. (Women, especially professors’ daughters, had always participated unofficially in campus life.) Beth Perry Upchurch (’43, P ’67) is considered the first among the 47 women enrolled.

Lois Johnson becomes the first dean of women; later her namesake is an all-female dorm.

Beth Perry’s roommate, Martha Ann Allen Turnage (’44, P ’80), reaches the finals in a debate tournament in Charlotte after passing the tryout for the Pi Kappa Delta forensics fraternity. As the Old Gold & Black reports on April 9, “She holds … the distinction of being the first member of the weaker sex ever to represent Wake Forest in a varsity debate tournament.” In the fall of 1943, Allen takes over as the first female editor of the Old Gold & Black.

Women buoy the spirits of sailors aboard the SS Wake Forest Victory cargo ship launched during World War II. The men ask for a “charming feminine mascot.” Students vote to crown Ruth Blount Fentress (’46) of Salisbury, North Carolina, as “Miss Wake Forest Victory” and send the sailors photos of her and 15 other coeds.
Elizabeth Phillips in English and Mary Frances Robinson in Romance Languages are named female full professors who later chair their departments in the 1970s. They follow trailblazer Jeanne Owen, a business professor. Owen earned the rank of full professor in 1963 while serving as acting dean of women from 1962-64.

The mandate to wear skirts or dresses is relaxed to allow slacks on campus but not to class. It is the last gasp before the dress code dies the next year.

Wake Forest opens New Dorm (now Luter Residence Hall), its first coed dorm. Beth Norbrey Hopkins (’73, P ’12) is the first Black woman named as homecoming queen. She graduates cum laude and retires in June 2016 from the law school faculty.

Enrollment in the College reaches what the trustees call an “ideal population,” with 1,865 men and 1,030 women. President James Ralph Scales says the presence of women is “total, pervasive, inescapable” and points to Marylou Cooper Green (’74) as the first female student government president and Margaret Perry (P ’80) as registrar. A rule requiring chaperones for social occasions ends in 1969, and in 1970 no longer are women required to make up their beds by 10 a.m. Students still push to ax the curfew for first-year women, succeeding in 1974.

Women join the ROTC, taking part in all activities except handling weapons.

Dolly McPherson, an English professor, becomes the first full-time Black female faculty member.
On an impromptu lark on a cold night, student government president Elizabeth “Beth” Daniels (’75) is one of several women in a crowd of 200 who join the latest fad — “streaking” — running nude around campus. Years later in an essay in “The History of Wake Forest,” Daniels writes, “I will never forget (President) James Scales’ line: ‘Well, we don’t have all the bare facts; so we’re just not going to discuss it.’”

Rep. Barbara Jordan (LL.D. ’75), D-Texas, becomes the first woman and first Black person to speak at Commencement.

To move toward parity under Title IX, the University raises the women’s athletic budget from $153,000 to $461,500 over three years and estimates in four years reaching $1 million annually to bring travel and women’s athletic facilities closer to men’s.

Author, poet and civil rights activist Maya Angelou (L.H.D. ’77) joins Wake Forest as Reynolds Professor of American Studies.

Wake Forest launches its Women’s Studies minor, which evolves into a major in the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Department.

Former women’s athletic director Marjorie Crisp and her successor, Dot Casey, become the first female Wake Forest Sports Hall of Fame inductees.

The women’s field hockey team, led by Coach Jen Averill, wins three consecutive NCAA championships, Wake Forest’s only national team titles in female athletics.

The Women’s Center opens in Benson University Center, offering support and advocacy.

Suzanne Reynolds (JD ’77) is named the first female dean of the law school, and Donna Boswell (’72, MA ’74) becomes the first woman to serve as chair of the University Board of Trustees.

Photographer Kate T. Parker (’98) publishes her national best-selling “Strong is the New Pretty: A Celebration of Girls Being Themselves,” showing young girls’ fearlessness and character.

Despite having a migraine, Jennifer Kupcho (’19) becomes the first woman (pro or amateur) to win at Augusta National, a golf club famed for its Masters Tournament and notorious for not admitting women until 2012.

Compiled by Carol L. Hanner, Michael Breedlove and Maria Henson (’82)
First-year student Ellen Emge of Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, does homework in her hammock on Davis Field.
KEN BENNETT, Wake Forest’s director of photography, captured scenes from the first month of the fall semester, when campus community members embraced “Show Humanitate” — donning masks, keeping social distance and creating classroom experiences to inspire learning indoors or out.
Outside Z. Smith Reynolds Library, first-year students Aisha Turner, left, and Olivia "Liv" Lockland, both of Arlington, Virginia, study ancient Greek athletics for their First-Year Seminar.

With the required masks and social distancing in place, students tackle the climbing wall in Reynolds Gym.
Students join a watch party with outdoor screens to cheer on the football team in a nationally televised game against Clemson University.
Above: Even the Demon Deacon at the Sutton Sports Performance Center and Shah Basketball Complex wears a mask.

Below: Christopher Gilliam, assistant professor of music and director of choral activities, leads a group of 10 students in his choral class outside Scales Fine Arts Center.
Students play Ultimate Frisbee on Manchester Plaza.
Ulrike Wiethaus, professor of religion and American ethnic studies, teaches a class outside Scales Fine Arts Center.
Fans wait for the football game against Clemson University to begin on the drive-in theater screens set up at the Winston-Salem Fairgrounds. They couldn’t watch inside the stadium because of the pandemic.
Above left: Students work in the atrium of Farrell Hall. Below left: Students navigate between classes outside Farrell Hall. Above: Socially distanced students attend the First-Year Seminar on Greek and Roman history taught by Amy Lather, assistant professor of classical languages, in Tribble Hall.
Campus Garden shed.

BEAUTY IS EVERYWHERE. YOU ONLY HAVE TO LOOK TO SEE IT.

—BOB ROSS
Leah Roy, teaching professor of performance in the Department of Theatre and Dance, leads a class in warmup exercises from the Tedford Stage.
Against a backdrop of a pandemic, political turmoil and protests in the streets, 2020 had echoes of the collective uprising that marked U.S. history in the 1960s and early 1970s.

In “The History of Wake Forest University, Volume V,” Provost Emeritus Edwin G. Wilson (’43, P ’91, ’93) wrote that 1969-1970 was “the most turbulent period in modern Wake Forest history. … The campus troubles in the spring of 1970, were, for a college like Wake Forest, without precedent.”

While street scenes were more dramatic across the country and had been for years, Wake Forest students regularly, but peacefully, protested the Vietnam War. In May 1970, more than 400 students marched to President James Ralph Scales’ on-campus house to oppose the war and present a list of demands, chief among them: abolish the ROTC program, reform the campus police department and end campus social rules. On Memorial Day, on the grassy field along Polo Road, students erected 1,200 small wooden crosses emblazoned with the names of North Carolina Vietnam dead.

Students also began linking opposition to the Vietnam War with support for civil rights and social justice. Black students formed the Afro-American Society in 1969 and sponsored the first “Black Week” to highlight inequities on and off campus, this at a time the University’s 2,500 undergraduates included only 35 Black students.

By 1971, protests on campus largely faded. Students had claimed some significant victories in their top-of-mind quest to end outdated social policies. The dress code for women was abolished. Chaperones were no longer required for off-campus social functions. And women would no longer receive a “call-down” for failing to make their beds by 10 every morning. But intervisitation rules restricting “coed” visits to men’s dormitories remained for several more years.

What was it like being a student in those days? What lessons from that period might help us navigate today’s societal turmoil and challenges? Wake Forest Magazine asked six alumni to reflect on their experiences from that time of upheaval. (Interviews, which have been condensed, occurred in September and October.)
What do you remember about the late 1960s?

So much was happening between 1967 and 1970. I have memories of the last Homecoming football game played at Bowman Gray Stadium in 1967. Riots were occurring in downtown Winston-Salem. We drove from campus to the stadium single file and with a police escort. I remember seeing an Army jeep with a machine gun in the back. You didn’t grow up this way, at least not in Piedmont and rural North Carolina.

Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated in April of 1968. I heard about it during a Better Politics on Campus meeting held in the Reynolda Cafeteria. That was a horrible time. When school was out, I came home in June after a date with my future wife, Deb, to watch Robert Kennedy win the California primary. I went to bed excited about his victory. My mother wakes me up the next morning to tell me he had been killed. It touched most of America, but particularly the younger people. That triggered many painful emotions. A lot of saying, “What can we do?” and “How can we stop all of this?”

What was happening on campus?

During the late 1960s, positive things did happen on campus. There was a march from campus to downtown in 1968 as students and faculty sought ways to alleviate community problems. Students pledged to mentor children (in the community) and do other constructive interaction. Later, there were about 500 people in Wait Chapel for a celebration of Dr. King’s life.

There was a war going on in Vietnam, causing much concern and response on campus, including our participation in the national Vietnam moratorium held at colleges across the country on Oct. 15, 1969. We had 1,600 people in Wait Chapel in our own version of a demonstration against the war. Later, students marched to Dr. Scales’ house to protest the Vietnam War and campus issues. Five hundred students held an evening vigil in front of Reynolda Hall in protest of the Kent State student killings.

One thousand two-hundred wooden crosses with the names of North Carolina Vietnam deceased were placed along the campus streets. You knew people who were there and who were killed. I had a fraternity brother, Forrest Hollifield (‘68), who lost his life (in an air crash). He was one of the nicest guys I have ever met in my life. That really hit home. To this day, his death still greatly saddens me.

There were other issues. A car was buried (in front of Tribble Hall) during the first Earth Day celebration in 1970.
There was the advancement of women’s rights led by our women students. The Afro-American Society was very active on campus. You had four different causes transpiring at the same time: racial relations and justice, the Vietnam War, the environment and women’s rights. If you couldn’t find a cause to support, something was wrong with you.

The causes, movements and activities energized Wake Forest. Not all of it was pretty, but it was good for us as a University to look at those issues, be involved and then be part of the solution. Certainly not all of the students participated. However, we had come a long way from protesting about not being able to dance on campus. We really grew up. Instead of looking inside, we were now looking outside. We were viewing the world, or at least our country, through a different perspective and searching for answers. We may not have had masses of people, but you regularly had students coming into Reynolda Hall and elsewhere on campus to express opinions ranging from concern to outrage. The late 1960s brought a life-changing experience at Wake, both individually and as a University family.

**Are there comparisons to what is happening today?**

There are certainly similarities between now and the late 1960s. There’s no question about the intensity of what is happening today, particularly with Black Lives Matter. There are different issues today, yet in a way they’re the same issues. What we learned at the time was you need to get involved. You need to be part of the solution, but you also need to do it the right way. And you can’t give up. You can’t have one mass demonstration and go home. The future leaders are on college campuses now. There are different viewpoints, and not everybody is comfortable with the same resolution. America definitely needs changes. Yet, we all need to pitch in and accomplish something constructive.

When you look back in history, 1968 has been judged to be the worst year in our country’s history. We have probably obtained that label in 2020. We have work to do. How can you make changes on campus? How can you make changes in this country? Let’s don’t be blue and red. Let’s be Americans. We can have different ideas and different viewpoints, but still work together. And, we need to respect everyone’s opinion. We have a tendency today to make people good guys and bad guys. We need to get past that and look at what is best. Together, we can once again make a difference.
What was Wake Forest like during your student days?

My class came to Wake in 1966; there were about 500 male students and 200 female students in my class. We were not a university yet; we were still Wake Forest College. Wake operated under a mantra of *in loco parentis*, in place of our parents. There was no dancing permitted on campus, much less drinking. Girls’ roles were different from boys’ roles. We were not permitted to wear pants across the street from the girls’ dorms. We had curfews. We had to sign in and out. We wore heels, dresses and gloves to football games.

Wake sent us a book to read (the summer before freshman year), and I have to give Wake Forest credit for this, the book was “The Autobiography of Malcolm X: As Told to Alex Haley.” Reading it was shocking to me. In some respects, reading that book has influenced the rest of my life. The author was Alex Haley, who years later wrote the book “Roots,” which became a television series. So here we are sitting around in a circle of freshmen discussing “The Autobiography of Malcolm X.” We were smart kids, but I didn’t know anything about this. In my junior year, Alex Haley was the featured speaker in the College Speaker Series. I got to drive over to the Greensboro airport and pick him up.

There was “consciousness raising” about Black culture, Black history, Black experience, even though our campus was almost totally white, and we were in the South. There was obviously an awareness that all these things were happening, but we were still in our bubble. We were a little conservative, and we weren’t going to go out and rabble-rouse too much. We weren’t even pushing back so much on those ridiculous rules about what coeds could not do.

In the summer of 1969, I enrolled in summer school at Columbia University. That spring, the students had taken over the administration building. So here I am in the midst of all this protest and activism. I would go down to Washington Square, which was the heart of the hippie territory, very much anti-war, anti-Vietnam, protesting, bell bottoms, smoking pot, and I’m thinking, “Boy, this is different from the world of Wake Forest.”

Like many other girls, I got married right after graduation, and we moved to Africa. I taught in a Methodist girls’ high school in Sierra Leone and international schools in Liberia and Congo. It gave me a perspective and a world view, and I’ve never been the same since. Once a week, I’d get Time magazine, and I read about bra burning and protests and equal rights and the feminist movement and Gloria Steinem. When I came back, I didn’t even recognize what was going on at Wake Forest. There had been not an evolution, but a revolution (on campus).
Do you see any similarities between the late 1960s and today?

It was a time of great angst in our country. The Vietnam War, the racial situation, the rise of the Black Power movement. It was a fraught time. It is a very fraught time now as well.

The biggest thing that I’m concerned with is who we are as a country. I think we have to do some soul-searching, and we have to learn to respect others’ opinions and to listen. And what I see instead is a lot of people in their corners who just stake out their position, and they’re not willing to walk in somebody else’s shoes. That’s why I think it’s so important with all the efforts we’ve made at Wake Forest to try and increase the diversity of our student body, to see whether or not we can encourage students to pick somebody different from them and learn how to walk in their shoes.

Above left: The Strings society from the 1970 Howler; Alex Sink is third from right, standing. Above right: More than 400 students marched to President James Ralph Scales’ home in May 1970 to protest the Vietnam War and campus social and racial issues.
How did you end up at Wake Forest?
I’m from a farm family. My parents had eight children, seven boys and a girl. We all went to a one-room Black school and (later) to all-Black schools. In 1966, my principal, for some strange reason, selected a friend and me to go to Boys State that summer. I didn’t know what Boys State was, but it happened to be held at Wake Forest. It was the first integrated setting I had ever experienced in my life. The next year, when I had to decide where to go to college, what stood out in my mind was Wake Forest. I had been preceded by other Black students on athletic scholarships, but in my class there were about five or six of us who were not athletes. I think some of us were very isolated because we were not involved in athletics.

Do you recall any specific events that were traumatic?
I was walking on the Quad, and a professor’s daughter ran up to me and said very negatively, she was glad that (Martin Luther) King had been shot and killed, because he was nothing but a damn communist. Those were her words. And I never saw that in her before because she, and some of her friends, had befriended all of the Black students. And she said that with such venom and animosity. So I had two thoughts at the same moment: King’s death and her rejoicing over it. I’ve often thought of that since then, what provokes such hatred? And it dawned on me, this is who she really is and who he (her father) really is.

I read in the Old Gold & Black that you and nine other Black students, along with 13 white students, burned the Confederate flag and a record of the song “Dixie” on the Quad in November 1968. We had a discussion as to whether any of the (Black) athletes should be involved. Some of them wanted to be, and we said no, we don’t want you to jeopardize your scholarship and have trouble with the University. I can’t remember burning “Dixie.” The aim was the Confederate flag. This Confederate monument thing (today) is not new; that’s been protested since before I was born. A lot of people were happy that we were doing it, and others were disgusted. I never forgot that I got a letter from a lady in Winston who disparaged me for having the audacity to burn the Confederate flag. If it did...
anything, it brought it to the surface, but probably more flags went up as a result. Those were exciting times. There was a lot of disharmony; as far as I know, there were no physical fights, but there were a lot of verbal ones.

**Did you consider yourself an activist when you were a student?**

There were many protests against the Vietnam War and during the riots of ’68. I didn’t participate, because any extra time I had, I studied. We were activists in the sense of getting things done, but not going out and marching and so forth. That was not me. I do not think I was ever one (an activist), but only a “reactionist” to what we as Blacks encountered. One instance, when I met Dr. Bryan for the first time, and it was my first time doing anything openly in the way of protest. It was immediately after the Martin Luther King assassination, and many Caucasians were opining that the race riots and burnings in U.S. cities were uncalled for and unjustified, and articles were being carried in papers to that effect, and one had appeared in the Old Gold & Black. I responded with a letter basically saying although one may not agree with the protest methods, certainly I could empathize and understand why it was happening. An antagonistic professor responded critically in a subsequent letter, and I replied in disagreement to his. After the letters ended, Dr. Bryan looked me up and applauded my writing and my confrontation of the professor’s position.

**Did you personally face racism?**

Constantly. But the beautiful thing is, and I want to hasten to add this, at the same time you found a lot of love and respect and dignity from Caucasians. The professors were less racist than students, but there were racist professors. I had professors that were dear professors, just wonderful professors. At the same time, you had those that you knew something was going on. There were more instances of acceptance by professors and students than rejection. We didn’t go there to be accepted or rejected, but Wake served a good purpose in our lives.

**Do you have any advice for today?**

I think that it applies from perhaps the time of Adam and Eve until now. Don’t let the negative rule you. Let the obstacles that you face cause you to excel. These were all things that we were taught in the Black community. Never give up and don’t be discouraged by things against you. Let them propel you. And always go back and help those from where you came. You have to do something for someone other than yourself. Those were the examples that we got from the wonderful educators who helped multiple Black students survive our Wake Forest experience: Dr. Bryan, Dr. (Franklin) Shirley, Dr. (James Ralph) Scales, Dr. (Ed) Wilson (’43, P ’91, ’93), Dr. (Herb) Horowitz, Dr. (Merwyn) Hayes and Dr. (Julian) Burroughs (’51, P ’80, ’83).

Above: The Afro-American Society from the 1970 Howler; Freeman Mark is at back center. Left: A student protest on the Quad in 1969.
What do you remember about the late 1960s?
I lived in Bostwick dorm, and Dana Hanna (’65, MAEd ’71, P ’95) was the house mother. Her fiancé, Wally Dixon (JD ’72, P ’95), was in Vietnam. In those days, most of us didn’t have TVs in our rooms; we didn’t have computers or cell phones, no easily available current news, so I felt rather cocooned. But Dana had a TV, and we would talk about where Wally was and what was happening. She was on pins and needles, as we all were, because it was not a pleasant time. That was my source of information about the war.

Anytime you have personal knowledge about what’s happening to people, it definitely changes things. And then Forrest Hollifield (’68), a fraternity brother of John’s (her future husband John Stone (’69, P ’94)), was killed. As an innocent, naïve person, I believed what people said. You believed the president. When My Lai happened (a massacre of Vietnam civilians by American soldiers in 1968) and (I saw) all the cruelty, it was an awakening for me. A lot of guys at Wake were in ROTC. When the lottery started, I was student teaching at Reynolds High School. I wanted to teach the short story, “The Lottery,” by Shirley Jackson. One of the parents called because she thought it was about the draft (lottery). That was where everyone’s mind was.

Were you involved in any of the protests on campus?
The protests were never so disruptive that it interrupted anything close to me. I wasn’t a participant; none of my friends were, either. It wasn’t like we were ignorant or unaware or that we didn’t care. I guess I thought that protesting wasn’t the best way to respond to issues. I never felt intrigued enough by the idea that protests would lead to meaningful change. I always felt, sometimes with regret, that our campus was more protected or innocent than some of the larger schools that had more diversity.
What was the role of the Women's Government Association?
The WGA advocated for more freedom. It was a big deal to wear pants to class or get a later curfew. I know that sounds quaint now, but those were big issues for us. Our social culture at Wake embodied the *in loco parentis* philosophy, and it was a protective place for girls. There was bubbling resentment about unequal pay and unequal opportunities. But we really haven’t solved that. The situation during this pandemic has been especially challenging for women who are working from home while supervising their children’s remote learning. It seems some employers still don’t appreciate those difficulties.

Are there any lessons that we can apply that you learned in the ’60s?
I’m thinking about all the political partisanship, which to me is just such a tragedy, because we have big problems to solve. I think relationships are the key to solving problems. If I know your story, and you know my story, I see you and I hear you in a whole different way. You take on dimension and depth that just a superficial read might not indicate or allow. If we could sit down together and I listen to your story and you listen to mine, we would have a harder time disliking one another.

If our leaders could embody that philosophy and try to approach some of these volatile situations and say, “Let’s talk.” If you can listen to people respectfully and try to gain some understanding of that person’s perspective, it can change everything. In her book “Becoming Wise,” Krista Tippett says, “The most basic and powerful way to connect to another person is to listen. Just listen. Perhaps the most important thing we ever give each other is our attention. …” And, I believe that.
What was the atmosphere like at Wake Forest in the late 1960s?

Wake Forest was in a severe identity crisis that wasn’t resolved until many, many years later: Whether it was going to be a local, small college affiliated with a religious institution or whether it was going to be a different kind of institution with different aspirations, looking outward toward the world more. To oversimplify it, it’s the difference between a cosmopolitan and a parochial outlook.

In that context, even so, the concern that touched me most, at the same time as it did practically every other young man, was the draft. When the lottery went through, my birthday came up number 341, so there was no chance I was going to be drafted. And you can imagine, it was like the weight of the world taken off my shoulders. This added to the aura of division among us.

I associated with a number of young men who were getting commissions through ROTC. I remember several cases quite vividly, when, if you got into a discussion with them about patriotism and politics, they would turn against you if you had anything but the most absolute willingness to die for your country. *Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori.* (It is sweet and fitting to die for the homeland.)
out for him. I remember several people who did everything they could to get enough money to go to Woodstock. At the same time others just avoided it, paid very little attention to this kind of, let’s call it energy. Sometimes the energy was fairly muted, but a lot of the time it was anything but.

We had the moment of the terrible starvation in Biafra (during its failed attempt to separate from Nigeria). We had a number of students raising money, raising awareness, trying to get food to those who were starving. It was a small-scale commitment perhaps compared to Berkeley or such campuses, but it was just as intense. People were just as committed to issues of social justice and looked for ways to express their commitment. They were not so much interested in starting riots as they were in trying to coordinate efforts to change things. From where I stood, this was a minority but a very vocal minority. And to the credit of the institution, these students and the faculty who supported them were recognized and helped in ways that at least were available to help them.

**Do you see any comparisons between now and then?**

I do. Many people were resigned to voting for Nixon because he kept promising there would be no more Vietnam War. And that was the candy stick that he held out. And it was effective. It was a time of serious political dissatisfaction and disillusionment. And disillusionment is the word I would use for now. The disillusionment now is, I think, worse, but I say that hesitatingly because it felt pretty damn bad back then. We knew then as we know now that politics are corrupt. We were younger and perhaps naïve, but we were not so naïve as to be blind to the corruption. And I suppose that I feel, in that particular line of historical reflection, that I guess I would say nothing has changed, and it has gotten worse.

**Above:** Seniors Al Shoaf, left, and Melvin Whitley, both Woodrow Wilson Fellows. **Left:** The staff of the 1970 Student magazine; Al Shoaf is at center left.
Do you see any comparisons between what happened in the late 1960s and today?

Look at the Old Gold & Black from March 18, 1969, and there are four articles that capture what was going on. It’s almost like déjà vu. (Articles include the formation of the Afro-American Society and Challenge ‘69, a symposium that included speeches by Sen. Edmund Muskie, D-Maine, and community activist Saul Alinsky.)

Challenge ‘69 was about the urban crisis. Wake Forest was not standing on the sidelines but doing something about it by bringing thought leaders of the day to campus to talk about social injustice, the economy, racial inequality— the same issues we’re talking about today. It was the kind of hard stuff that we needed to be learning about and thinking about. (Dean of Men) Mark Reece (‘49, P ’77, ’81, ’85) and (Dean and later Provost) Ed Wilson (‘43, P ’91, ’93) and President (James Ralph) Scales were guiding us.

We also had a symposium in ’65 and ’67. Challenge ‘65 was about Black inequality. In 1967, they brought in George Lincoln Rockwell, the leader of the American Nazi Party. (Some Black and white students walked out of Wait Chapel in protest of Rockwell’s speech.)

My first thought was, “Why is Wake Forest allowing somebody like this on our campus?” But then I realized you do it because you bring controversy to the table to discuss and to learn and not be ignorant. That was one of the blessings of the way Wake Forest did it. It used intellectual curiosity and dialogue and freedom of speech to bring prominent leaders to campus.

Some people like to say Wake Forest was a bubble. It was kind of a bubble, but it was not without meaning and engagement and involvement. Through things like the symposium and College Union lectures, Wake exposed us to the Big Bad World or the Great World of Opportunity; which is it going to be?

In that same issue (of the OG&B), there are letters from Black students. They had just formed the Afro-American Society, sort of a version of Black Lives Matter. So again, déjà vu. They had been encouraged to do that through the social unrest throughout the country and on college campuses, not only about Black inequality, but the death of Martin Luther King, John Kennedy and Robert Kennedy, as well as the Vietnam War. We learned to protest appropriately; we learned to speak up; we learned to work to change things.
You were one of the students who went to New York in 1969 to purchase art for the then-new College Union Collection of Contemporary Art; does the art purchased that year reflect the times?

There were some subtle things about the times we were living in: protest, sexual revolution, anti-war, question the military, question patriotism, question nationalism. Take Jasper Johns, my favorite artist of that collection and my favorite work. Presenting the flag the way he did in orange and green and gray, and then the visual trick that you see red, white and blue, wow. I remember thinking when I saw that orange and green flag how unpatriotic. And then you see it change. That whole experience with that work of art is to take a symbol that we take for granted, and maybe we need to think of it in new ways. There was a lot of art that dealt with social injustice, power and the powerless threaded through that collection.

What lessons did you learn during those times?

Be involved, try to help, try to make a difference, constantly learn and listen, listen, listen. Listen to others, (be) very diverse and inclusive in every way. I believe the more you embrace diversity of people and opinion, the stronger fabric of humanity you become, and you are better able to see the world how it might be and help get it there.

I just hope we can get through whatever’s coming as well as we did then. Again, if you look at some of the art in 1968-69, some of the message is uncertainty. What’s going on? Where are we going? What’s happening? If we can find creative ways to get through whatever’s coming, God bless us.
Hatch came to Wake Forest from the University of Notre Dame, where he began his career as a history professor and moved into administration. As Wake Forest’s 13th president, he has focused on educating the whole person, developing a community of leadership and character and honoring the mission of Pro Humanitate.

On the national level, he served as chair of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities and on the board of the American Council on Education. As chair of the NCAA Division I board of directors, he helped with reforms to better support student-athletes and member schools.

He was inducted in 2015 into the prestigious American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He is the author of “The Democratization of American Christianity,” an award-winning book on the study of American religion.

Also among the hallmarks of his presidency, always with an emphasis on the liberal arts and residential college experience, are transforming the college-to-career experience, pioneering test-optional admissions and supporting Wake Will Lead, the largest fundraising effort in the University’s history. The University has renewed athletic facilities, enhanced diversity and inclusion and weaved together strong tradition and high innovation.

Under his leadership, Wake Forest has continued to invest in the Winston-Salem community, developing the Innovation Quarter and launching new biomedical science and engineering programs. In October, the University formalized the affiliation of Wake Forest Baptist Health and the School of Medicine with Atrium Health in Charlotte.

The challenges of dealing with the pandemic in 2020 reinforced for Hatch the University’s “remarkable creativity, determination and goodwill. I could not be more grateful for this incredible work and dedication.”

Wake Forest Magazine will offer more later this year on Hatch’s tenure at Wake Forest.

More at bit.ly/3e3cGlz
Read Hatch’s message at bit.ly/36bXw9R

President Nathan O. Hatch intends to step down at the end of the academic year after leading Wake Forest for 15 years, he announced in October. He had intended to share news of his 2021 retirement earlier but postponed as he and the Board of Trustees dealt with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March.

“It has been the adventure of a lifetime to lead Wake Forest with you,” Hatch said. “I continue on in these next months with many of the same emotions that have driven my time at Wake Forest — excitement for what we can accomplish for our students, enthusiasm for the ways we can explore and innovate within higher education, and a strong belief in the core values that have anchored this institution, shaped our community and will see us into the future.”

Hatch and his wife, Julie, plan to retire June 30 or whenever it is appropriate for a new president to take office. The search for a new president was underway at press time.
Atrium Health and Wake Forest Baptist Health, including the School of Medicine, officially joined together as Atrium Health in October. They will build a second medical school campus in Charlotte and an Eye Institute in the Innovation Quarter in Winston-Salem. A new critical care, emergency department and surgery tower will go up at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center in Winston-Salem. Dr. Julie Ann Freischlag, CEO of Wake Forest Baptist Health and dean of the medical school, will add the role of chief academic officer for Atrium Health. More at bit.ly/3lIEHbD

Wake Forest plans to establish a School of Professional Studies in Charlotte with innovative degree and non-degree programs for professionals. Charles Iacovou, dean of the School of Business, will serve as the dean and vice provost for Charlotte programs. Michelle Roehm, vice dean of the business school, marketing professor and Peter C. Brockway Chair of Strategic Management, was appointed interim dean of the business school. More at bit.ly/33K7I9e

In University administrative leadership, Dedee DeLongpré Johnston was appointed vice president for human resources and sustainability and will continue as chief sustainability officer. More at bit.ly/3YmjFz7 Ken Gilson, the dean of academic records and registrar at Biola University in La Mirada, California, succeeded Harold Pace, who retired, as registrar and assistant provost of academic administration. More at bit.ly/3bfl1b9 Attorney Aishah Cassese was named director of the Title IX Office. She held similar positions at Winston-Salem State University and Florida State University. More at bit.ly/3Ie2z2M

In November, on the anniversary of dedicating an Indigenous Land Acknowledgement plaque in 2019, Wake Forest offered a statement, available to read aloud to open community events, that honors the native people who lived on current or original campus lands. They include Saura, Catawba, Cherokee and Lumbee in Winston-Salem and Shakori, Eno, Sissipahaw and Occaneechi on the original campus in Wake Forest, North Carolina. More at bit.ly/34YMf6A

Faculty, staff and students in October launched a multidisciplinary research initiative called the Race, Inequality and Policy Initiative (RIPi). More at ripi.wfu.edu

The Face to Face Speaker Forum hosted a virtual conversation between Pulitzer Prize-winning political columnists Peggy Noonan and Eugene Robinson in October. More at facetoface.wfu.edu

U.S. News & World Report’s 2021 Best Colleges guide ranked Wake Forest 28th overall among 389 national universities, its 25th consecutive year in the top 30. It also was named in the top 25 Best Values list, the top 25 for alumni giving and the top 10% of undergraduate business programs at 38th. More at bit.ly/3mEBxVI

The School of Business welcomed its largest incoming summer/fall class ever, at 875 students, including its newly launched online MBA program.

The School of Law faculty is supervising students in offering guidance to North Carolina residents with questions about unemployment insurance and has partnered with Thomson Reuters to offer a free 15-hour course for small-business owners facing bankruptcy. It convened its faculty experts to examine police violence resulting in death and injury in the Black community. The school’s Environmental Law and Policy Clinic teamed with the Department of Anthropology to research housing loss for a national report and spotlight the issue locally. A daylong symposium focused on U.S. and North Carolina voting rights. More at law.wfu.edu

Sherry Moss (P ’21), Benson Pruitt Professor and professor of organizational studies in the School of Business, shared her research on when and why as much as 35% of the workforce works a second or third job. She was featured on The Inc. Tank podcast co-hosted by Christina Elson, executive director of the Center for the Study of Capitalism at Wake Forest. More at theinctank.org

Mercer University Press is publishing “Our Story of Faith: The History of Wake Forest Baptist Church 1835-2015” by the Rev. Dr. Timothy Shaun Price. The book chronicles the intertwined history of the University and the church, which continues in Wake Forest, North Carolina. In 1956, another Wake Forest Baptist Church formed in Winston-Salem with the move to the new campus. More at wakeforestbaptistchurch.org

In January 2020, 16 students in Associate Professor of Art History Jay Curley’s seminar class began researching Black contemporary art, including viewing and discussing a collection with 700 works belonging to Wes and Missy Cochran, a LaGrange, Georgia, couple. Hanes Gallery hosted an exhibit of 41 of the works. More at bit.ly/32k8bhK

The Institute of International Education ranked Wake Forest fourth among U.S. doctoral colleges and universities in the percentage of students studying abroad. Nearly 81% of undergraduates studied abroad in the 2018-2019 academic year or summer, surpassing the 2020 goal of 75%. The University also earned a “Gold Seal of Inclusive Excellence” from Diversity Abroad, which aims to increase access to global programs for underrepresented groups. More at bit.ly/3wzn4l

Brittany Battle, assistant professor of sociology, has received the Praxis Award from the Division on Critical Criminology & Social Justice in the American Society of Criminology for her activism, scholarship, service, teaching and efforts to increase justice for marginalized populations. More at bit.ly/2InPuTE

Dan Cohen, executive director of Wake Forest’s Center for Entrepreneurship and professor of practice in the School of Business, has been named one of five educators globally as a Master Educator by the Annals of Entrepreneurship Education & Pedagogy. More at bit.ly/35Jl23C
What we can learn from pandemics past and present

IN SPRING 2020, the Humanities Institute invited faculty members to analyze some aspect of the COVID-19 pandemic emergency. They were asked to draw upon their disciplinary knowledge and scholarly training to write essays that would be broadly accessible to educated readers. The result? “How We Know/What We Know: Humanities Responds to the Pandemic.” Eighteen faculty members from philosophy, classics, music, English, Spanish, Italian, German, art history, divinity, religion and history submitted essays, all online at bit.ly/2lkuUL. To whet your appetite to read the collection’s 18 essays from some of your favorite professors, here are the opening paragraphs for three of them.

The Trouble with Wilderness ... Again
March 16th was the day my COVID-19 retreat began, as it did for many of us, hastily and unexpectedly ushered in by the global pandemic. It was also my birthday, and from now on I will have a coincident benchmark by which to measure the passage of time and change. Over these long months at home, I’ve been adjudicating a dispute between the idealist in me who has hope for truly evolutionary change and the realist who grapples with the terrifying power of social, political, and economic momentum. So far, neither the idealist nor the realist has won, yielding a deadlock between two enemy combatants.

I try not to ruminate on circumstances that lie beyond my control, and prefer instead to focus my energy on hope. Inarguably, I’m not always successful at doing so.

During these dark times, I’ve been mining hope from the more-than-human universe, that vast, seemingly infinite realm that makes my human concerns seem trivial and small. I try to embrace the cosmos in all its grand mystery, to internalize the infinitesimal fraction of a microsecond that, compared to the universe, is the sum total of my brief life on earth. There are lessons about power, love, and meaning we discover (or recover) when we lose ourselves, our egos, and our anxieties in nature.

— Eric Stottlemyer, associate dean for the engaged liberal arts and associate teaching professor in the Department of English

Writing (about) Disaster
Holding a tool or a pot constructed and used by a person who lived thousands of years ago is always a humbling experience. I feel connected to these people. We all work, laugh, eat, and face our own mortality. I am now exploring a new point of connection. I am (and hope to remain) a survivor of a worldwide pandemic. Maybe I am living in a moment that will be defined as a societal collapse or a rebirth by future scholars.

As an archaeologist, I work in the ruins of other people’s lives. Tragedies, whether of the everyday variety like a broken cooking pot, or the extraordinary, think Pompeii, are snippets of human experiences frozen in time. We speculate about the causes of depopulation, abandonments of urban areas, or mass casualties in a landscape; was it famine, economic turbulence, plague, warfare? Now I am one of their kindred, a person living through a tipping point.

— Leann Pace, assistant teaching professor in the Department for the Study of Religions and an archaeologist with expertise in the ancient Near Eastern/biblical world

Cold War Cottagecore: Self-Soothing and the Written Word
One cannot get very deep into an ‘80s playlist without encountering what is arguably the biggest international hit of the neue deutsche Welle, (New German Wave) music genre: Nena’s 1983 nuclear protest anthem 99 Luftballons. In this frantic cautionary song, a warmongering general with an overactive imagination misidentifies as sinister craft a flotilla of balloons drifting in the sky. What follows is an escalating military show of force as subsequent nations follow suit, culminating in a third World War. The song ends with dismal imagery of the world in ruins — and for German teachers like me, a handy lesson on gendered nouns. (A related linguistic gimmick: the German press recently has taken to using neue deutsche Welle as an irreverent term for the second wave of COVID-19 that appears to be imminent in that country).

Borne of the collective unease due to Germany’s unenviable strategic Cold War geography — and intensified by its role as host to almost 300,000 U.S. troops as a condition of the post-WWII armistice — 99 Luftballons continues to enjoy regular radio playtime, and for my colleagues and me often serves as one of few common linguistic reference points for beginner students of German. Die-hard ’80s fans could argue for the song’s renewed relevance in the age of COVID: like Nena’s looming nuclear threat, the virus quickly metamorphosed from a distant possibility into a frightening reality.

— Alyssa Howards, associate professor and chair of the Department of German and Russian
Wake Forest aims to become a hub for leadership and character

By Kerry M. King (’85)

In the last four years, the Program for Leadership and Character has attracted more than $15 million to fund scholarships, courses and programs, enrolled a second class of scholarship recipients, enlisted an advisory council of national leaders, expanded course offerings from the humanities to engineering, and hosted a conference on the arts and leadership, with another conference planned for this spring.

“I think people are recognizing Wake Forest now as one of the leading universities doing this work in the country and even around the world,” says Michael Lamb, executive director of the Program for Leadership and Character and an assistant professor of politics, ethics and interdisciplinary humanities.

Lamb came to Wake Forest in 2016 and started the Program for Leadership and Character a year later. The program seeks to embed leadership, character and ethics into the campus culture, building on the University’s Pro Humanitate motto. “Our vision is to develop a program that is transformative for students and equips them to be the leaders of character that our society needs right now,” Lamb says.

Gifts from alumni, parents and foundations are fueling the program’s growth, including:

- The Lilly Endowment Inc. has given $3.4 million to support programs for students, hire new staff and postdoctoral fellows, help faculty integrate leadership and character into new or existing courses and bring distinguished speakers to campus.
- The F.M. Kirby Foundation has given $2 million to support leadership and character staff.
- The John Templeton Foundation has given $1.68 million to study the effectiveness of using role models, or moral exemplars, to shape character and behavior. Researchers from other universities in the United States, Canada, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom are also involved in the study.
- The Kern Family Foundation has committed $707,000 to incorporate an entrepreneurial mindset, virtue and character into the engineering curriculum, from introductory courses through the final capstone design course.
- Also, trustee Mike Selverian (P ’13, ’16, ’19) has given $500,000 to support the program. A number of donors have endowed scholarships for Leadership and Character Scholars, including Truist Bank, which gave $2 million; Steve Jenkins (P ’21) and Carole Jenkins (P ’21), $1.5 million; and the Rixey Street Foundation, $500,000.
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The University is on track to eventually award scholarships to 40 Leadership and Character Scholars, or about 10 in each class. Ten students were in the inaugural class in 2019, and 12 were selected last fall. The students have opportunities for internships, summer research projects and mentoring.

Lamb and his colleagues are working with faculty in the College and professional schools to integrate leadership and character into existing courses or design new ones and with campus life offices to expand cocurricular programs for students. Postdoctoral fellows are teaching courses on leadership and character in the School of Divinity, Center for Entrepreneurship, Interdisciplinary Humanities Program and the computer science department, with more to come.

In the last year, Lamb has assembled an advisory council that includes Wake Forest alumni and parents, as well as nationally known leaders, including David Brooks, New York Times columnist and author of “The Road to Character;” Angela Duckworth, founder of Character Lab and MacArthur “Genius” award winner; Eboo Patel, founder of the Interfaith Youth Core; Daniel Porterfield, president and CEO of the Aspen Institute; former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice; and Krista Tippett, author and host of the “On Being” public radio program.

The success of a 2019 conference, “The Arts of Leading: Perspectives from The Humanities and Liberal Arts,” is leading to a second, virtual, conference, “Character and the Professions,” March 18-20. Prominent leaders in business, divinity, law, medicine, public life and engineering and technology will discuss the importance of character in their professions. The conference is open to the public. Register at bit.ly/2JFC1qY

Wake Forest was the only university included in a recent book, “The Fabric of Character: A Wise Giver’s Guide to Supporting Social and Moral Renewal,” by Anne Snyder in a chapter on how the Program for Leadership and Character is translating research into forming future leaders. The book also recognizes the ongoing research on character by Wake Forest psychology professors Will Fleeson, Mike Furr and Eranda Jayawickreme and philosophy professor Christian Miller.

“Our vision is to develop a program that transforms students and helps them think about how they can lead in different contexts and communities,” Lamb says. “We also hope to become a resource for other colleges and universities and help their faculty and staff learn how to integrate leadership and character into their own classes and programs. We aspire to be a model for this kind of work across the country.”

More in the fall 2019 Wake Forest Magazine at bit.ly/3m46zRo
While 2020 brought us many challenges, I’m truly amazed by the resilience and adaptability of our students. How many of us can imagine waiting in line at the Pit while social distancing and wearing masks — all without being able to eat inside? From navigating the pandemic to having difficult and necessary conversations about race, we should feel encouraged by the ways in which students are learning and demonstrating Pro Humanitate. Read on for how alumni are continuing to adapt and interact virtually.

— Alex Reyes Schroeder ('06, JD '09) | President, Wake Forest Alumni Council

Connecting Virtually | alumni.wfu.edu

Upcoming Events | wakecommunities.wfu.edu

Wake Women’s Week | March 21 - 27 | wakewomen.alumni.wfu.edu
The biennial event moves online. Join fellow alumnae for personal, professional and intellectual development and meaningful connection.

Alumni Personal and Career Development | go.wfu.edu/next
The Alumni Personal & Career Development Center offers free 30-minute Wednesday Webinars (two per month) on goal setting, searching for a new job, networking, mentoring and more. Watch past Webinars at go.wfu.edu/next

Lifelong Learning Courses | continuingstudies.wfu.edu
Join courses taught by Wake Forest faculty on Zoom. Winter/spring courses include World War II, North Carolina music, the Bible and the ancient Near East, the history of fairy tales and the country house movement exemplified by Reynolda House.

Continuing Traditions Virtually

Maya Angelou Celebration: The Association of Wake Forest University Black Alumni (AWFUBA) was scheduled to hold on Jan. 30 a 50th anniversary virtual celebration of the groundbreaking autobiography “I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings” by Maya Angelou (L.H.D. ’77). The event included a new short film featuring special guests reading excerpts from the book, produced by Los Angeles-filmmaker Devin Smith ('99), and a panel discussion led by AWFUBA president Kelly Starnes ('93, MBA ’14).

Christmas Lovefeast: Since alumni and students couldn’t gather in Wait Chapel for the annual Lovefeast, a cherished tradition for the last 55 years, a virtual Lovefeast was livestreamed Dec. 6. Missed the livestream? Watch it at lovefeast.wfu.edu

Alumni Admissions Forum: More than 150 alumni and their high school age children attended a virtual Alumni Admissions Forum on Dec. 1 to learn more about the college admissions process, especially in the age of COVID.

Hit the Bricks: About 150 alumni on 24 teams ran and walked in their own neighborhoods in a virtual Hit the Bricks fundraiser for the Brian Piccolo Cancer Fund, with the class of 1990 leading the way.

Homecoming 2020: Even though reunion classes (those ending in 0 and 5) couldn’t celebrate in person in November, many classes held virtual events. Watch videos from the classes of ’70, ’75 and ’90 at homecoming.wfu.edu
1940s

Tom “Pinkky” Funderburk ('49) lives in Rock Hill, SC. He was in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II and was co-pilot of a B-17 that flew combat missions over German cities and later, humanitarian missions that dropped food into Holland. He received the French Legion of Honor. After the war, he attended Wake Forest on the GI Bill. He was a Delta Sig and ran the fraternity dining room in Mrs. Bazemore’s house. He remembers great professors and friends, dances held in Raleigh and Shorty’s grill.

1960s

Henry A. Mitchell Jr. (JD ‘61, P ‘86, ‘91) was named to the 2021 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for corporate law. He is an attorney at Smith Anderson in Raleigh.

Ken Moser (’65, JD ’68, P ’91, ’94, ’96) was named to the North Carolina Bar Association’s Legal Practice Hall of Fame. He practiced law for 43 years at Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice in Winston-Salem until retiring in 2012. He is a member of the Wake Forest Alumni Council, past chair of the Golden Deacs (formerly Half Century Club) and a former president of the Wake Forest Law Alumni Council.

Sam Gladding (’67, MAEd ’71, P ’07, ’09) has written “A Concise Guide to Opioid Addiction for Counselors.” Gladding has written 19 books, including 10 which have been revised numerous times. He is a professor of counseling at Wake Forest and a past president of the American Counseling Association and the International Association of Marriage and Family Counselors.

C. Ernest “Ernie” Simons Jr. (’67, JD ’71, P ’96, ’07) was named to the 2021 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for medical malpractice law and product liability litigation. He is an attorney at Smith Anderson in Raleigh.

1970s

Hugh McManus III (’70, P ’04) was elected to the New Hanover County (NC) Board of Education in November. He is a retired teacher and administrator who earned numerous distinctions during his 40 years in education, including Principal of the Year in New Hanover County and neighboring Pender County. He retired in 2017 and lives in Wilmington, NC.

David H. Coates (’71, JD ’78) retired to Greensboro, NC, with his wife, Suzanne, after a successful legal career in central New Jersey. In addition to being a longtime stockholder at the law firm Turp, Coates, Driggers and White, he was counsel to East Windsor (NJ) Regional School District for 38 years. In 2019 he and Suzanne were named “Shining Stars” in the Hightstown-East Windsor, NJ, community after many years of civic service.

Mike Davis (’71) has had his own public relations firm since 1994 in Raleigh. He had a long career in North Carolina politics and public service as an aide in Gov. Jim Hunt’s first two administrations, as campaign manager for Hunt’s 1992 gubernatorial campaign and as chief of staff to Attorney General Mike Easley. Davis and 20 classmates were among the first group of Wake Forest students to study abroad when they spent a semester in India in 1970 with Professor B.G. Gokhalé (P ’67, ’72). More at bit.ly/3kebDAW

Linda McArthur Crissman (’72) and Charles Crissman (’72) are retired and live in Spain. They have spent 40 of the last 50 years abroad, working in nonprofit international agricultural research in Asia, Africa and South America. They were among the first group of Wake Forest students to study abroad when they spent a semester in India in 1970 with Professor B.G. Gokhalé (P ’67, ’72). More at bit.ly/3kebDAW

Ken Wright (’72) has served as the legislative liaison for the North Carolina Department of Revenue since 2017. He lives in Wake Forest, NC, with his wife, Andrea, and son, Spencer.

John D. Davis III (’73) owns a real estate company in Banner Elk, NC. Davis and 20 classmates were among the first group of Wake Forest students to study abroad when they spent a semester in India in 1970 with Professor B.G. Gokhalé (P ’67, ’72). More at bit.ly/3kebDAW

John P. Paisley Jr. (JD ’73) was elected to the Alamance County (NC) Board of Commissioners. He has practiced law in Alamance County for 47 years. He lives in Burlington, NC, with his wife, Joyce Aldret Paisley (’71, MAEd ’72).

Debra Conrad (’74) is president of Conrad CapitoLink LLC, a newly formed state lobbying company in North Carolina. Previously, she served four terms in the North Carolina House of Representatives and 18 years as a Forsyth County commissioner. She did not seek reelection in 2020.

Mark C. Christie (’75) was nominated by President Trump and confirmed by the U.S. Senate to serve on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Since 2004 Christie has chaired the Virginia State Corporation Commission, which regulates public utilities, insurance and financial industries. He is a former Marine Corps officer and college professor.

Ken Robinson (’75) has retired after 22 years at Wake Forest. He worked in the Public Archaeology program for 12 years and the last 10 years as assistant director of Corporate and Foundation Relations.

Perry R. Safran (MBA ’75) was named to the N.C. State University Board of Trustees. He is a former president of the N.C. State Alumni Association and a 2019 recipient of the Alumni Association’s Meritorious Service Award. Safran is a founding partner of the Safran Law Offices and a former Raleigh City Council member.

James N. Atkins (MD ’76) joined the medical staff at the Hematology and Oncology Clinic that opened in August at Wake Forest Baptist Health — Wilkes Medical Center in North Wilkesboro, NC. Atkins, an oncologist, is known for his work in clinical trials.

Deb Richardson-Moore (’76) has written her fourth novel, "Murder, Forgotten" (2020, Lion Hudson). She retired last summer after 15 years as pastor of Triune Mercy Center, a nondenominational church in Greenville, South Carolina, that ministers to the homeless. She lives with her husband, Vince Moore, in Taylors, South Carolina. More at bit.ly/3jx3Jd

James K. Dorsett III (JD ’77) was named to the 2021 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for commercial and bet-the-company litigation. He is an attorney at Smith Anderson in Raleigh and past president of the North Carolina Bar Association.

Wake Forest Magazine welcomes Class Notes submissions from alumni. There are three ways to submit information:

STANDARD MAIL: Class Notes Editor Wake Forest Magazine PO Box 7205 Winston-Salem, NC 27109-7205

EMAIL: classnotes@wfu.edu

ONLINE: magazine.wfu.edu/class-notes/submit/
JoAnn Sager Gilley (’78) is CEO and co-owner of Overture Promotions, a marketing firm based in the greater Chicago area. The business was named one of the “50 Fastest-Growing Women-Owned/Led Companies for 2020” by the Women Presidents’ Organization and American Express. Ranked No. 38 on the list, Overture saw its revenue grow 73.5%, from $47.1 million in 2017 to $81.1 million in 2019.

John D. Graham (’78) was named chair of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Science Advisory Board. He is a professor and former dean of Indiana University’s O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs in Bloomington, IN.

Roger Pearman Jr. (’78, MAEd ’81) has released the third edition of his book, “I’m Not Crazy, I’m Just Not You: Using Personality Insights to Work and Live Effectively with Others” (Nicholas Brealey Publishing), which was co-written by Sarah C. Albritton (’82). The book was recently translated into Japanese and Arabic. Pearman is an internationally recognized consultant, speaker, trainer and author who lives in Winston-Salem.

Rudy Ogburn (’79, JD ’82) received a Distinguished Service Award from the Estate Planning and Fiduciary Law Section of the North Carolina Bar Association. He is a shareholder at Young Moore and Henderson PA in Raleigh, where he is head of the estate planning and business law team. In 2020 he was named to Business North Carolina’s Legal Elite Hall of Fame in the area of tax and estate planning.

Rebecca Lee Wiggs (’79) was named to Benchmark Litigation’s 2020 Top 250 Women in Litigation. She has made the list every year since 2016. She is an attorney at Butler Snow in Jackson, MS, where she focuses on pharmaceutical product liability litigation.

Carolyn “Carolee” Williams (’79) was sworn in as a commissioner for the South Carolina Public Service Commission. She previously worked in land and energy conservation for a statewide nonprofit and the city of Charleston, SC. While she and her husband live in Charleston, they enjoy caretaking an 1840s log cabin, moved to Fancy Gap, VA., by former religion professor Owen Herring (P ’63, ’65) and Ethel Herring (P ’63, ’65).

David M. Warren (’81, JD ’84, P ’13) was appointed to a three-year term on the Bankruptcy Judges Advisory Group by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts. He represents the 4th Circuit (NC, SC, VA, WV, MD) and provides recommendations on bankruptcy court operations to the national committee. He lives in Raleigh.

Craig E. Wheaton (JD ’81, P ’17) was named to the 2021 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for employee benefits (ERISA) law. He is an attorney at Smith Anderson in Raleigh.

Sarah C. Albritton (’82) released the third edition of her book, “I’m Not Crazy, I’m Just Not You: Using Personality Insights to Work and Live Effectively with Others” (Nicholas Brealey Publishing). The book was co-written by Roger Pearman Jr. (’78, MAEd ’81). Albritton is president of the consulting firm Leadership Innovations Inc. in Winston-Salem. She is known for delivering high-impact coaching and leadership consulting to corporate executives and their teams throughout the world.

Andy Avram (’82, JD ’90) was named to the 2021 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in workers’ compensation law. He is an attorney at Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP in Charlotte.

Grovetta Nelson Gardineer (’82, P ’22) is senior deputy comptroller for bank supervision policy for the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency in Washington, DC. She was a keynote speaker at the 2020 Solutions for Housing Communications, a virtual event presented by the National Housing Conference.

Elna C. Green (’82, MA ’84) has retired after 30 years in higher education and moved to Olympia, WA, where one of her two sons lives. She most recently served as dean of the Pamplin College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences at Augusta University in Georgia. She also held appointments at Sweet Briar College, Florida State University and San Jose State University.

Charles Mathis (’82, P ’07) is retiring from Science Applications International Corporation as chief financial officer in early 2021. He joined SAIC in 2016 after working as CFO for defense companies, including Force Protection and EFW Inc. A former officer in the U.S. Marine Corps, he has more than 30 years of financial and accounting experience.

Eric R. Spence (JD ’82) was named to the 2021 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for real estate law. He is of counsel at Ragsdale Liggett PLLC in Raleigh.
Sarah Wesley Fox (JD '83, P '17) was named to the 2021 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for employee benefits (ERISA) law and labor & employment law. She was also named “Lawyer of the Year” in Raleigh for ERISA law. She is an attorney at Smith Anderson in Raleigh.

Robert Griffin ('83, JD '86) was named to the 2021 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in insurance litigation. He is an attorney at Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP in Raleigh.

Barbara Williams Humpton ('83) is president and CEO of Siemens USA. She spoke on business and leadership at Penn State’s Smeal College of Business last fall. Humpton has served in various leadership roles over the past decade at Siemens, the world’s largest industrial software provider. She and her husband, David Humpton ('83), live in Washington, DC.

John D. Madden (JD '83) was named to the 2021 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for insurance law, medical malpractice and personal injury litigation. He is an attorney at Smith Anderson in Raleigh and leads the firm’s medical malpractice defense practice group.

Maurice Solis (MD '83) was appointed senior associate dean at Mercer University School of Medicine. Solis joined Mercer’s faculty in 1988 and was most recently professor of surgery. He will be based at the university’s Columbus, GA, medical campus.

Craig A. Minegar (JD '84) was named to the 2021 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for real estate law. He is an attorney at Winderweedle, Haines, Ward & Woodman PA in Winter Park, FL.

Gary Neil Gupton ('85) has published a Young Adult (YA) novel, “Natural Causes,” about adolescents dealing with tragedy and coming of age. He published a children’s chapter book, “Time to Meet Max,” in 2017 and is writing a middle-grade fantasy for 2021 publication. He lives in Leland, NC.

Toni D. Newman ('85) was named interim executive director of LYRIC, which supports low-income LGBTQ+ youth in San Francisco. Newman is among the first transgender women of color to lead a nonprofit with an operating budget more than $4 million. She is also a consultant for the Transgender Strategy Center and a best-selling author. Her 2011 memoir, “I Rise: the Transformation of Toni Newman,” was inspired by the poem “Still I Rise” by Maya Angelou (LHD ‘77), whom she interviewed in 2012. A short film based on Newman's life, “Heart of a Woman,” was selected for the 2020 Golden State Film Festival.
George M. Cleland IV (’86, P ’19) was appointed a district court judge in Judicial District 21 (Forsyth County) by North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper. Cleland has been a solo practitioner since 2002 and has practiced law in Forsyth County since 1990.

Michael W. Mitchell (’86, JD ’89, P ’18) was named to the 2021 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for commercial, construction, real estate, intellectual property and bet-the-company litigation. He is an attorney at Smith Anderson in Raleigh.

Thomas A. “Tad” DiBiase (’87) was named general counsel of the United States Capitol Police, a federal law enforcement agency that protects the U.S. Congress, including its members, employees, visitors and facilities. He was previously the agency’s acting general counsel for 11 months and the deputy general counsel for 10 years.

David P. Larsen (JD ’87) was listed in Chambers High Net Worth 2020 guide as one of Michigan’s leading attorneys for private wealth law. He is an attorney at Bodman PLC in Detroit, where he advises a number of high-net-worth families. In 2020 he was named Detroit’s “Lawyer of the Year” for litigation — trusts and estates by The Best Lawyers in America.

Paul Gilbert (’88) was named general counsel and corporate secretary at Rite Aid, a Pennsylvania-based drugstore chain with more than 2,400 retail pharmacies across 18 states.

Kim Plybon Penberthy (’88, MA ’91) has co-authored a personal development book, “Living Mindfully Across the Lifespan: An Intergenerational Guide” (Routledge/Taylor & Francis) with her daughter, Morgan Penberthy (’17). The book provides user-friendly, empirically supported information to frequently asked questions and dilemmas of human living, interactions and emotions. Kim, a clinical psychologist, is the Chester F. Carlson Professor of Psychiatry and Neurobehavioral Sciences at the University of Virginia. Morgan works at the American Psychological Association in Washington, DC.

David Rhoades (MBA ’88, JD ’89) was named to the 2021 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in workers’ compensation law. He is an attorney at Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP in Charlotte.

Nick Valaoras (’89, JD ’92) was named to the 2021 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in workers’ compensation law. He is an attorney at Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP in Charlotte.

Patrick H. Flanagan (JD) was named to the 2021 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in civil rights law, employment law, labor and employment litigation and municipal litigation. He is an attorney at Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP in Charlotte.

Lew Starling (JD) was named to the 2021 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for commercial litigation. He is managing partner at Daughtry, Woodard, Lawrence & Starling LLP in eastern North Carolina and mayor of Clinton, NC.

Fred “Jule” Smith III (MBA ’96) was named chief operating officer at Construction Partners Inc., a vertically integrated civil infrastructure company specializing in roadway construction and maintenance in the Southeast. Previously Smith was president of Construction Partners’ North Carolina subsidiary, Fred Smith Company, in Raleigh.

Amy Peacock Trojanowski joined Armstrong Flooring Inc. as senior vice president and chief financial officer in Lancaster, PA. She has more than 20 years’ financial management experience including, most recently, as vice president, business finance and global services at the Chemours Co.

Scott Wierman (MBA) was named president and CEO of the Community Foundation of the Lowcountry, based in Hilton Head Island, SC.

Previously, he was president of The Winston-Salem Foundation and oversaw the foundation’s growth from $45 million in assets to $605 million during his 23-year tenure.

1992

Farhad Aghdami (JD) was listed in Chambers High Net Worth 2020 guide as a “Band 1” attorney for private wealth law, the highest rating available. He is managing partner at Williams Mullen law firm in Richmond, VA, and is the Virginia state chair of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel.

David E. Inabinett (JD ’96, P ’22) was named to the 2021 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for elder law, trust and estates. He is a member of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys and has received an AV™ Preeminent Peer Rating from Martindale-Hubbell. He is managing member of Brinkley Walser Stoner PLLC, working in the firm’s offices in Greensboro and Lexington, NC.

Perri Helms Kersh (MAEd ’94, P ’23) is a professional organizer and the owner of Neat Freak Professional Organizing. She is president of the North Carolina chapter of the National Association of Productivity and Organizing Professionals. She lives in Chapel Hill, NC, with her husband, Carter (’93, P ’23), and son, Hamner. Her daughter, Phereby, is a sophomore at Wake Forest. More at bit.ly/3kErSI5

Reji Puthenveetil (MBA) joined 3D Systems Inc., based in Rock Hill, SC, as executive vice president of its Industrial Solutions group, which includes the aerospace & defense, ground transportation and energy areas.

Robert J. Ramseur Jr. (JD ’95, P ’23) was named to the 2021 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for real estate law. He is a partner at Ragsdale Liggett PLLC in Raleigh.

Matthew C. Rill was featured in a Jacksonville (FL) Business Journal special section, “The Future of Florida Health Care,” which highlights major drivers of change in Florida’s health care industry. Rill is the co-founder and CEO of TeleScope Health, a mobile app that allows users to immediately see providers for many health care needs. Trained as an emergency medicine physician, Rill has 25 years of experience in health care. He lives in the Jacksonville area with his wife, Lynn Neitzey Rill (’92, MS ’93).

1993

Jeri Young was named managing editor of the Winston-Salem Journal. She has worked at the newspaper since 2000 in a variety of roles, including night editor, assistant features editor, assistant metro editor and, most recently, news editor. She is the first Black woman to be named managing editor of the Journal.
1994

Amy Wallace Stewart, founding partner of the Stewart Law Group in Dallas, became one of the first trial attorneys to present a case to a jury over Zoom this summer. She has since participated in eight national panels about the experience. She was named one of America’s “Top 100 Personal Injury Attorneys” and was recognized in the 2020 National Black Lawyers Top 100.

1995

Deanna Davis Anderson (JD) was named to the 2021 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for medical malpractice and professional malpractice law. She was also named “Lawyer of the Year” in Raleigh for professional malpractice law — defendants. She is an attorney at Smith Anderson in Raleigh.

Katherine Puryear Black joined global management consulting firm Kearney as a partner in its consumer practice. Based in the New York City metropolitan area, she has more than 20 years of management consulting and retail industry experience. She was most recently at KPMG, where she was a founding principal and partner in the consumer and retail strategy practice.

Curtis C. Brewer IV (JD) was named to the 2021 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for corporate law, leveraged buyouts and private equity, mergers & acquisitions, private funds/hedge funds and venture capital law. He is an attorney at Smith Anderson in Raleigh.

1996

W. Ross Forbes Jr. (JD) was named to the 2021 edition of The Best Lawyers in America for commercial litigation. He is a partner in the Dallas office of Jackson Walker LLP.

Robb Lawrence Jr. was named vice president of commercial strategy at Camargo Pharmaceutical Services LLC, a global drug development and commercial company. He has 20 years of experience in pharmaceutical development, focusing on managing commercialization strategies for products.

1997

Tosha Raynor Diggs (MAEd) was named assistant superintendent of academic services for Craven County Schools in eastern North Carolina. She has 20 years’ experience as a counselor, coach, assistant principal and principal. In 2017 she was honored as “Principal of the Year” for Pender County (NC) Schools and received the 2019 Dr. Sam Houston Leadership Award.

Shellie D. Ellis (MA) was selected to participate in the National Cancer Institute/AcademyHealth Healthcare Delivery Research Visiting Scholars Program. She will be studying the research capacity of rural community oncology. She is an associate professor in the Department of Population Health at the University of Kansas School of Medicine.

Graham Honaker has written his first book, “The Cinderella Strategy: The Game Plan Behind Butler University’s Rise to Prominence” (Pediment Publishing). The book details how Butler leveraged back-to-back Final Four appearances in the 2010 and 2011 NCAA Basketball Tournament, resulting in significant increases in fundraising, applications and national exposure. Honaker has worked at Butler since 2012, currently as the executive director principal gifts. A portion of profits will support Project 44, promoting the National Marrow Donor Program in honor of the late Andrew Smith, a Butler basketball player who died of cancer.

Michele Jedlica (MD) joined the faculty at High Point University as an assistant professor in the Department of Physician Assistant Studies. She has been a pediatrician since 2000.

Dan Katzenbach (JD) was named to the 2021 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in construction law, professional malpractice law and product liability litigation. He is an attorney at Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP in Raleigh.

Michael V. Lee (JD) was elected to the North Carolina State Senate, representing most of New Hanover County, in November, reclaiming the seat he held from 2014-2018. He is an attorney in Wilmington and a former chair of the North Carolina Ports Authority Board of Directors.
Donald R. Pocock (JD ’00) was appointed to the North Carolina Bar Association Judicial Independence & Integrity Committee. He is a partner at Nelson Mullins law firm in Winston-Salem. His practice areas include banking and financial services, insurance and construction law.

Anne Reineke (JD) was named president and CEO of the Transportation Intermediaries Association, a trade association representing the third-party logistics industry. Reineke is an attorney and a former executive at CSX Transportation. She lives in Alexandria, VA.

### 1999

James B. Black IV (JD) was named to the 2021 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in workers’ compensation law. He is an attorney at Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP in Raleigh.

Jessen Snyder Carroll was named vice president of human resources at Abt Associates, a global consulting and research firm based in Rockville, MD. She has more than 20 years of HR experience, most recently serving as director of HR technology and operations for SAIC (Science Applications International Corp.).

Ben Erwin was named CEO of PSAV, a global event production company, in addition to the title of president he has held since 2018. He joined PSAV in 2015 as chief financial officer.

Erin Grall was elected to a third term as a Florida state representative. A native of Vero Beach, FL, she is a partner at her family’s firm, Grall Law Group, and former president of the Indian River County Bar Association.

### 2000

Jason R. Harris (JD) was named to the 2021 edition of The Best Lawyers in America in admiralty and maritime law and personal injury litigation. He is an attorney at Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP in Wilmington, NC.

Khalid Jones is CEO of SourceStream, an interactive political livestreaming network. He co-launched the network in August with President Wade Murphy (’00), ahead of the Democratic National Convention. Jones is an attorney, investor and entrepreneur, splitting time between New York and Los Angeles. He and Murphy are also co-founders of SourceRock, a private asset management firm.

Wade Murphy is president of SourceStream, an interactive political livestreaming network. He co-launched the network in August with CEO Khalid Jones (’00) ahead of the Democratic National Convention. Murphy is a third-generation gas and oil executive who worked in the Department of Energy for the George W. Bush administration. He lives in Denver. He and Jones are also co-founders of SourceRock, a private asset management firm.

### 2001

Annah Leah Reese is founder of Isabella Grace Refined Homes, a boutique custom homebuilding business in Wilmington, NC. She has 17 years of experience, previously working as sales and marketing manager at Bill Clark Homes. For each home sold, a portion of the proceeds helps fund housing improvements for local families in need.

Wes Schollander (JD) was appointed to complete an unexpired term in the North Carolina House of Representatives until last November’s election. He was also appointed a trustee in United States Bankruptcy Court, where he focuses on Chapter 11 bankruptcy filings in the Middle District of North Carolina. He lives in Winston-Salem, where he practices law and lives with his wife and 6-year-old twins.

### 2002

J. Michael Ellis is executive director of the immunology and neuroscience chemistry team at Bristol Myers Squibb pharmaceutical company in Cambridge, MA.

Jason Michael Peltz (JD) was appointed to a three-year term on the Real Property Section Council of the North Carolina Bar Association. He is managing partner at Worley & Peltz PLLC in Asheville, NC.

### 2003

Jess Doss Owens is the founder and CEO of a “fashtech” startup, Greenlist. Greenlist enables the direct transfer of merchandise from a customer returning a product to another customer who wants to purchase the product. By eliminating the middle steps in the process, Greenlist saves a retailer time and money and lessens the impact on the environment by eliminating additional packaging materials and carbon emissions from trucks and planes that transport each return.

Eve Tannery Russo, a morning news anchor at WFMZ-TV in eastern Pennsylvania, received a 2020 regional Emmy Award for outstanding arts program/special for co-hosting the 2019 Freddy Awards ceremony honoring excellence in high school musical theatre in the Lehigh Valley area (PA).
Daryn Bunce Stylianopoulos was elected president of The American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts. She is pastor of First Baptist Church in Needham, MA.

William O. Sweeney IV was named partner at Young Clement Rivers LLP in Charleston, SC. He practices primarily with the law firm’s transportation and regulatory law groups.

Jeff Weiner (MBA) was named chief information officer at Gateway First Bank in Tulsa, OK.

David B. Willhoit was promoted to managing director in J.P. Morgan’s Corporate & Investment Bank, where he is head of event marketing for Europe, the Middle East and Africa and global co-head of event marketing for investment banking. He is based in J.P. Morgan’s London office. He is also a corporate leader in the Council on Foreign Relations’ Term Member Program, established to cultivate the next generation of foreign policy leaders.

2005

Mike Freno (MBA) was appointed chairman & CEO of Barings LLC, a global investment management firm headquartered in Charlotte. He has been with the company for 15 years and was previously president.

Anna Hustrulid Jarrell is an artist in Winston-Salem. She painted 100 people in 100 days last spring and summer to raise funds for Wake Forest Baptist Health’s COVID-19 Response Fund. She shared new portraits on Instagram each day for 100 straight days. She painted front-line workers, doctors, business owners and others, offering a snapshot of life during the pandemic. Her project, “100 Faces of Winston-Salem,” was displayed at the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art in Winston-Salem. More at bit.ly/3gwTQas.

Kerry E. Johnson (JD) was named to Crain’s Chicago Business’ list of the 2020 Notable Women in Law. She is a partner in the finance practice and co-chair of the real estate sector at DLA Piper in Chicago.

Ryder Mathias was named tax partner at Tidwell Group LLC, an accounting and consulting firm based in Birmingham, AL. Mathias, who lives in Charlotte, has more than 10 years of public accounting experience.

Justin B. Moose was named to the Iredell (NC) County Sports Hall of Fame Class of 2021. A soccer star at Statesville High School, he was named Conference Player of the Year in 2001 before becoming a two-time All-American midfielder at Wake Forest. He was drafted in the first round by Major League Soccer’s DC United.

Mary Wallace Teague Shaver is chief financial officer (or directrice financière in French) of Ecole Bilingue de la Nouvelle-Orléans, a French immersion private school in New Orleans, where she lives with her husband and three children.

Adam Gabrault has joined a global digital IT services firm, SoftServe, as executive vice president, based in the Boston area.

Raymond J. Harbert Jr. (MBA ’10) was promoted to executive vice president and chief financial officer at Harbert Management Corporation, an alternative asset management firm based in Birmingham, AL. Harbert has been with the firm since 2010, most recently as senior vice president of finance and administration.

Tara Lentz was named to the Nashville Business Journal’s list of “40 Under 40” for 2020. She is senior director of strategic growth for Conexión Américas, a nonprofit that supports and advocates for the Hispanic community in the greater Nashville, TN, area. She has worked for Conexión Américas since 2006 and is also an adjunct professor at Vanderbilt University.

Stacey Mercandetti is a certified financial planner. She works at Eagan Capital Management LLC in upstate New York and has more than 13 years of experience in the investment advisory and insurance industries.

Christopher D. Stackhouse (MDiv) moderated a virtual discussion for North Carolina A&T State University featuring indie recording artist and activist Chance the Rapper. The discussion was part of the university’s Chancellor’s Speaker Series and focused on the importance of voting. Stackhouse is the pastor at Lewis Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Fayetteville, NC.

Heath Tripp (JD ’12) was named to the 2021 edition of “Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch,” an inaugural list recognizing top U.S. lawyers who have been in private practice less than 10 years. He is an attorney at Smith Anderson in Raleigh, where he focuses on corporate law, finance and mergers & acquisitions.

2006

Jennifer Folsom Currin and Mitchell Currin (’07) celebrated their 10th anniversary on Oct. 23. The couple lives in Winston-Salem with their son, Miles, and dog, Deacon. Jenn is the Upper School learning specialist at Summit School, and Mitchell is executive director for the Animal Adoption and Rescue Foundation (AARF).

Jill Ahrens (MSA ’08) was promoted to audit partner in the Houston office of Ernst & Young (EY), a professional services company. She has been there since 2008.

Lou Fiorilla joined the law firm Saxton & Stump LLC in Lancaster, PA, as senior counsel and head of its Banking and Financial Services group. He previously practiced law in the Atlanta office of Burr & Forman LLP. He is a native of Lebanon County, PA.

2007

Anna Hustrulid Jarrell is an artist in Winston-Salem. She painted 100 people in 100 days last spring and summer to raise funds for Wake Forest Baptist Health’s COVID-19 Response Fund. She shared new portraits on Instagram each day for 100 straight days. She painted front-line workers, doctors, business owners and others, offering a snapshot of life during the pandemic. Her project, “100 Faces of Winston-Salem,” was displayed at the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art in Winston-Salem. More at bit.ly/3gwTQas.

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Lou Fiorilla joined the law firm Saxton & Stump LLC in Lancaster, PA, as senior counsel and head of its Banking and Financial Services group. He previously practiced law in the Atlanta office of Burr & Forman LLP. He is a native of Lebanon County, PA.
Chris Paul, a point guard for the Phoenix Suns, received the 2020 NBA Cares Community Assist Award, given to players who positively impact their communities. Paul used his month playing in the NBA Bubble in Orlando last summer to pay homage to more than 20 historically black schools through his HBCU Sneaker Tour. He wore a different pair of customized sneakers displaying the logos and colors of an HBCU during each game.

Erika Bechtold (PhD) is director of technology commercialization at the Harvard University Office of Technology Development. She works closely with the faculty, staff and business teams at Harvard’s Wyss Institute for Biologically Inspired Engineering to commercialize their ideas and inventions through strategic partnerships.

Mary Wills Bode joined the law firm Robinson Bradshaw as an associate attorney in the Charlotte office. A corporate attorney, she has experience in capital markets, leveraged finance and mergers & acquisitions. Previously she was executive director of North Carolinians for Redistricting Reform (NC4RR).

Paul W. Funkhouser (MSM) was named vice president at Silver Falcon Capital, a private investment firm founded by former NASCAR president at Silver Falcon Capital, a private investment firm founded by former NASCAR

Daniel G. Mason launched a nonprofit that provides college and career development advice to teens at his alma mater, Buckhannon-Upshur High School, in rural West Virginia. Called “Mountaineer Connect,” the free program connects students with mentors who work in career fields they may be interested in. Mason hopes to extend the program throughout West Virginia. An expert in data/analytics, he is executive vice president of sales and strategy at Spring Labs, a startup he co-founded in 2017 that’s developing technology for the financial services industry.

Jenna DuMond (PhD) is lead chemist at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s Center for Tobacco Products, Office of Science, in Silver Spring, MD.

Bronwen Gainsford was named head field hockey coach at Wittenberg University in Springfield, OH. She played field hockey at Wake Forest and was previously head field hockey coach at Belmont Abbey College.

Andy S. Lee was named director of supply chain finance at Taulia Inc., which provides working capital technology solutions. Among his responsibilities is to expand Taulia’s funding partner network in North America. He is based in the company’s New York City office.

Daniel Murdock (JD/MBA) was promoted to assistant general counsel for Indivior Inc., a global specialty pharmaceutical company based in Richmond, VA.

Robert Y. Bennett Jr. (JD) was named a senior associate in the New York law office of Ropes & Gray LLP, where he concentrates on corporate finance and restructuring matters. He was previously an associate at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP in New York.

Meredith A. Brewster was named to the 2021 edition of “Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch,” an inaugural list recognizing top U.S. lawyers who have been in private practice less than 10 years. She is a staff attorney with Legal Aid of North Carolina, a nonprofit offering free legal aid, in her hometown of Charlotte. She works with immigrant survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking.

Tiffany Newsome was named principal of Rashkis Elementary by the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board of Education. She was previously an elementary school assistant principal and a teacher at elementary, middle and high schools.

Sam Wellborn (JD) was named vice chair of the Diversity Committee of the South Carolina Bar. He is an associate with the law firm Robinson Gray in Columbia.
Isabelle Ruane White is interim director of development for the Midwest territory in Wake Forest’s University Advancement office. She has worked at the University since 2013, most recently as associate director of development for North Carolina.

**2014**

Chelsea Klein Caughlin (MA ’16) was named program support manager for NC IDEA, a foundation that supports startup companies in North Carolina with a mix of grants, programs, and events. She spent the past four years filling various roles in Wake Forest’s Alumni Engagement office, most recently as assistant director of student engagement. She also managed the 1834 Student Campaign, advised the Traditions Council, created the “Out of the Forest” plan for transitioning seniors and criss-crossed the country as part of the Streakin’ Deacon RV tour.

Kevin Jordan is director of community relations for Get in the Game, a nonprofit he launched with Tom Walter, head baseball coach at Wake Forest. The duo made national headlines in 2010 when Jordan received a kidney transplant from Walter, who was his baseball coach at the time. Get in the Game’s mission is to empower students to create change through school clubs, racial equality education and meaningful conversations.

Andrew Koch was named co-executive director at TCP Global, a volunteer-run microlending and rural community development nonprofit. He will lead global partnerships for TCP, which has more than 40 partners in 14 countries in Latin America, Africa and Asia. He is studying for an MBA at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University.

Aaron Lazarus (MSM ’15) is CEO of EncepHeal Therapeutics Inc., a Winston-Salem drug development company focused on new medications to treat substance abuse. He co-founded the company in 2015 with Omeed Rahimi (PhD ’19), chief scientific officer at EncepHeal. The company received a grant from the National Institutes of Health for up to $3.3 million over four years to advance medication for cocaine addiction.

Bret Raybould, a comedian, debuted his first comedy album and YouTube special in November. He has appeared regularly in New York City comedy clubs and is a member of the sketch comedy group, The Raybould Brothers, with his brother, Jordan, and friend Dan D’Agnes. Their work has been featured on Huffington Post, Bro Bible and Funny or Die. At Wake Forest, he was director of the Litigating Banshees comedy troupe. He was a monologue intern for Conan O’Brien on his TBS comedy show. More at bit.ly/3RQc6sY

Jordan Tippett (MBA) was named director of client experience at Abilitie, an experiential leadership development company based in Austin, TX, for rising leaders and executives around the world. Previously, he was a consultant with the University of Georgia Small Business Development Center.

2015

Johanna Beach is a producer and editor for Tectonic Video in Chicago, which does international and domestic video shoots for nonprofit clients including World Relief, American Lung Association, the Tech Museum of San Jose and Village Enterprise. She has recently begun doing free personal design to brighten the home environment for those who cannot afford it. More at bit.ly/2V5q9h7

Brandon A. Chubb is managing partner of Captain Partners LLC, an early-stage venture capital firm he launched with other Wake Forest alumni. Captain Partners closed its first investment in September and is launching its first fund, Captain Fund I, in the first quarter of 2021. Chubb was a two-time captain for Wake Forest’s football team and a first-team All-ACC linebacker. He lives in Atlanta and serves as CEO of the Chubb Foundation, a nonprofit he co-founded with his brother, Bradley.

Lauren May Doolittle earned her Ph.D. in biomedical science from The Ohio State University. Her research focused on, among other things, changes in cellular metabolism and mitochondrial function during viral lung injury caused by severe influenza infections. She is contributing her expertise to COVID-19 research projects as a postdoctoral scholar at Ohio State’s College of Veterinary Medicine.

Katye Jobe Griffin (JD) was named executive director of the North Carolina Alliance of Public Health Agencies, the North Carolina Association of Local Health Directors and the North Carolina Public Health Association.

Dearca Hamby was named the 2020 WNBA Sixth Woman of the Year by The Associated Press for the second year in a row, becoming only the third player in history to win the award in back-to-back seasons. Hamby averaged 13 points and 7.1 rebounds per game for the Las Vegas Aces this year, her sixth in the WNBA. The former two-time All-ACC player holds Wake Forest’s scoring record for career points (1,801) and single-season points (683).

Linnet Hennkens-Cruz received a 2020 Women of Influence award from Inside Tucson Business. She is an energy trader with ACES Western Regional Trading Center in Benson, AZ. She was recognized for her community service, including tutoring the underserved and interpreting for non-English speaking families seeking medical or legal assistance.

Christina Mayse Lawrence joined the Huntington Internal Medicine Group as a behavioral health specialist after earning her doctorate of psychology from Marshall University in 2020.

Andrew McElhinney was promoted from senior associate to vice president at AE Industrial Partners LP, a private equity firm specializing in aerospace, defense and government services, power generation and specialty industrial markets. He is based in the firm’s headquarters in Boca Raton, FL.

Alan M. Teitleman (MA) was appointed by the Connecticut Board of Regents for Higher Education as a tenure track assistant professor of communication at Naugatuck Valley Community College, which has campuses in Waterbury, CT, and Danbury, CT.

Chelsea B. Yarborough (MDiv) returned to Wake Forest School of Divinity as a visiting professor and extern through Vanderbilt University’s Program in Theology and Practice. She taught a course titled “Womanist Ways in Worship” during the fall semester and helped lead a virtual discussion series, “The Enneagram & The Election.”

2016

Meredith FitzGibbon Hamilton (JD) has received an AV Rating from Martindale-Hubbell, a peer review rating that reflects an attorney’s ethical standards and professional ability. She is an associate attorney in the Charlotte office of Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP, where she focuses on employment law and defense of municipalities and public entities.

Tim Readling (JD) was one of four individuals to receive the 2020 Distinguished Alumni Award from Catawba College. Readling, a 2010 graduate of Catawba, is managing attorney at Davis & Davis Attorneys at Law PC in Salisbury.

2017

Will Craig made his Major League Baseball debut, starting at first base, with the Pittsburgh Pirates in August. Craig was the 2015 ACC Player of the Year. He was drafted by the Pirates with the 22nd pick in the first round of the 2016 MLB Draft.
2019

**Julie Aaron** won the Frank W. Taussig Award for the best undergraduate research paper in economics. Her paper was selected over submissions from across the country by the board of Omicron Delta Epsilon, the international honor society for economics. Her paper focused on how production of wind and solar energy responds to changes in fossil fuel prices.

**Essang Bassey** signed with the Denver Broncos as an undrafted free agent at defensive back.

**Justin A. Cox (MDiv)** is senior pastor of the United Church of Lincoln in Lincoln, VT, where he lives with his wife, Lauren, and their daughter. He is an ordained minister affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and is enrolled in the doctor of ministry program at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.

**Joey DeZart** is a midfielder for Orlando City (FL) Soccer Club. He made the first start of his Major League Soccer career in October against Atlanta United FC. A standout at Wake Forest, DeZart was selected by Orlando City with the 31st pick in the 2020 MLS SuperDraft.

**Jasmine Little (JD)** joined the Deuterman Law firm’s litigation department. She represents clients in various commercial disputes.

**Estelle Laurier** has co-authored a personal development book, “Living Mindfully Across the Lifespan: An Intergenerational Guide.” Her paper focused on how pro-economics. Her paper was selected over submissions in the best undergraduate research paper in economics.

**Omeed A. Rahimi (PhD)** is chief scientific officer at EnceHeal Therapeutics Inc., a Winston-Salem drug development company focused on new medications to treat substance abuse. He co-founded the company in 2015 with Aaron Lazarus, in Charleston, SC.

**Cameron Young** advanced his golf career last summer with several top 15 finishes on the Korn Ferry Tour, the PGA’s developmental tour. He was a three-time All-ACC golfer at Wake Forest.

**Ally Haran** signed a short-term contract with the Orlando Pride, a National Women’s Soccer League team, this fall after stints with the Houston Dash and North Carolina Courage. She started 66 games as a defender at Wake Forest and served as team captain her junior and senior seasons.

**Katie Hunzinger (MS)** was one of 15 women under 30 honored by the U.S. Women’s Rugby Foundation and the Women’s Rugby Coaches & Referees Association for their efforts to improve women’s rugby and their communities. Hunzinger referees rugby matches and is a strength and conditioning educator for USA Rugby. She got engaged in March 2020.

**Cheslie Kryst (JD/MBA)** completed her term as Miss USA in November. Because of COVID-19, her term was extended by six months, making her the longest-reigning Miss USA in history. She is now a full-time correspondent for the entertainment news program “Extra” in New York City. Before the Miss USA pageant, she was a civil litigation attorney at Poyner Spruill LLP in Greensboro, NC as an associate.

**Ryan C. Dibilio (JD)** joined the law firm Robinson Bradshaw as an associate attorney in the Charlotte office. He was an editor of the Wake Forest Journal of Business & Intellectual Property Law.

**Andrea Mazzocchi (PhD)** is co-founder and CEO of Known Medicine, a biotechnology startup in Salt Lake City seeking to improve treatment options for cancer patients. The company is an extension of her doctoral research at Wake Forest, where she completed a Ph.D. in biomedical engineering.

**Timothy P. Misner (JD)** joined the law firm Robinson Bradshaw as an associate attorney in the Charlotte office. While in law school, he was an editor of the Wake Forest Journal of Business & Intellectual Property Law.

2020

**Ryan C. Dibilio (JD)** joined the law firm Robinson Bradshaw as an associate attorney in the Charlotte office. He was an editor of the Wake Forest Law Review as a law student.

**Brandon Larose (JD)** joined the law firm Robinson Bradshaw as an associate attorney in the Charlotte office. While in law school, he was the overall winner of the Wake Forest Transactional Law Competition, which showcases contract analysis, drafting and negotiation skills.

**Estelle Laurier** signed her first professional soccer contract with SGS Essen, a German club team that plays in the top-tier Frauen-Bundesliga league. Laurier, who is from Chaponnay, France, played in 56 games over three seasons on the Wake Forest women's soccer team.

**Stephanie Pavlis (’03)** and Neal Timpe, 10/25/20 in Durham, NC, where they live. The wedding party included Jonathan Willingham (’03).

**Tom N. Rusher (’12)** and Zena C. Zweber (’13), 5/9/20 in Arapahoe, NC. They live in Richmond, Va. The wedding party included Samantha Greenman (’13), Laven Newsom (’12), Jillian Richardson (’13) and Mary Kate Roccato (’13). Rusher is the son of John Rusher (’80, JD ’84) and Mary Nash Kelly Rusher (’80).

**Robert Y. Bennett Jr. (JD ’13)** and Kathleen Elizabeth Reilly, 8/22/20 in Beach Haven, NJ. They live in New York City. The wedding party included Alexander Bennett (JD ’22) and Cooper Hawley (JD ’13).

**Corynn Kolberg (’15)** and Anthony Kilar, 10/3/20 in San Diego. They live in Greensboro, NC.

**Abby Windsor (’19)** and Ben Gilbert (’20), 7/11/20 in Winston-Salem. They live in Lexington, VA. The wedding party included Mary Daniel Cheek (’19), Noah Dill (’20), David Filston (’20), Ansley Rikard Fitzpatrick (19, MSM ’20), Peter Gilbert (’22), Coleman Greene (’20), Lena Hooker (’19), Katherine Laws (20), Taylor Schumpert (’20), Coleon Streitmatter (’20, MA ’22) and Anne Miller Welborn (’18).

**Payton E. Calvert (’20)** and Noah L. Williams (’20), 9/26/20 in Ranlo, NC. They live in Morehead City, NC. The wedding party included Emily Blumenfeld (’20), Scott Douglas (’20), Ben Gilbert (’20), Katherine Laws (’20), Alex Roege (’20), Coleon Streitmatter (’20, MA ’22) and Avery Thrush (’20).

**Coleman Greene (’20)** and Margaret “Maisy” Howland (’20), 7/25/20 in Wayne, IL. They live in St. Louis. The wedding party included Kat Boulton (’20), Grace Colan (’19), David Deering (’20), Noah Dill (’20), David Filston (’20), Ben Gilbert (’20), Will Hardy (’17), Ellie Howland (’24), Katherine Laws (’20), Emma Merlin (’20), Kylie Reed (’20), Alex Roegge (’20), Taylor Schumpert (’20), Coleman Greene (’20), Lena Hooker (’19), Katherine Laws (20), Taylor Schumpert (’20), Coleon Streitmatter (’20, MA ’22) and Avery Thrush (’20). The groom’s parents are Kevin Greene (’80) and Kim Pike Greene (’80). The bride’s parents are Robbie Howland and Heather Scull Howland (’90).

**2018**

**Ashley Barton Chandler (JD)** joined Fox Rothschild LLP in Greensboro, NC, as an associate in the law firm’s litigation department. She represents clients in various commercial disputes.

**Joey DeZart** joined the law firm Robinson+Cole in Charlotte. She was also named in November as the firm’s first Diversity Advisor to advance and sharpen its diversity and inclusion development. More at bit.ly/2xBdG80

**James F. Lathrop (JD)*** joined Robinson+Cole in Wilmington, DE, as an associate in the law firm’s Bankruptcy & Reorganizations group. He previously worked in the New York office of Kirkland & Ellis LLP.

**Morgan Penberthy** and her mother, Kim Plybon Penberthy (’88, MA ’91), have co-authored a personal development book, “Living Mindfully Across the Lifespan: An Intergenerational Guide” (Routledge/Taylor & Francis). The book provides user-friendly, empirically supported information and answers to frequently asked questions and dilemmas of human living, interactions and emotions. Morgan works at the American Psychological Association in Washington, DC.

**Marriages**

**Stephanie Pavlis (’03)** and Neal Timpe, 10/25/20 in Durham, NC, where they live. The wedding party included Jonathan Willingham (’03).

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**Payton E. Calvert (’20)** and Noah L. Williams (’20), 9/26/20 in Ranlo, NC. They live in Morehead City, NC. The wedding party included Emily Blumenfeld (’20), Scott Douglas (’20), Ben Gilbert (’20), Katherine Laws (’20), Alex Roege (’20), Coleon Streitmatter (’20, MA ’22) and Avery Thrush (’20).
Births

Dennis E. Healy ('01) and Kelly Healy, Hanover, MA: a daughter, Harper Mae. 11/18/19. She joins her sisters, Hannah (10) and Heather (3).

Noelle Shanahan Cutts ('02) and Kyle Thomas Cutts ('02), Shaker Heights, OH: a daughter, Bellamy Elizabeth. 7/3/20. She joins her brother, Titus Kyle (5), and twin siblings, Cecily Gwen and Ellis Roepke (2).

Eve Tannery Russo ('03) and Nolan Russo, Far Hills, NJ: a daughter, Elin Dorothy. 6/7/20. She joins her sister, Maeve Tanner (3).

Kate Farber Gold ('04) and Daniel Gold, Old Brookville, NY: a daughter, Molly Bloom. 5/5/20. She joins her sisters, Stella Bess (7), Tess Stokes (5) and Farrah Dawson (2).

Monique Moona ('05) and Nicholas Jebaily, North Myrtle Beach, SC: a son, Alexander “Brooks” Dev Jebaily. 2/24/20. He joins his brother, Nicholas (3).

Cristina Kazleman Reintjes ('05) and Chris M. Reintjes, Smithfield, VA: a son, Benjamin Anthony. 8/22/20. He joins his brothers, David (12), Henry (10), John (7), Christopher (4) and Timothy (2), and sister, Margaret (6).

Mary Wallace Teague Shaver ('05) and Jonathan Shaver, New Orleans: a daughter, Mary Jane. 10/29/20. She joins her brothers, David (5) and Sam (2).

Jill Bader Thompson ('05) and David Thompson, Nashville, TN: a son, William Robert. 10/17/20

Brenton Christopher Hartman ('06) and Stephanie Fridley Hartman, Gastonia, NC: a son, Samuel Eric Gold. 8/9/20

David Bennett Sade ('06) and Lynne Wilson Sade ('08), Charlottesville, VA: twin sons, Bennett “Briggs” Karig and Charles “Chip” Pickren. 10/1/20. They join their sister, Genevieve “Eve” Frances (6), and brother, Wilson Coskrey (4).

Alexandra Hoffman Duvall ('07) and Louis Steve Duvall, Tiger, GA: a daughter, Hollis Emily. 7/13/20. She joins her brother, Jeffrey Hobson (2).

Morgan Partin Edmunds ('08) and Matthew Edmunds, Hilton Head Island, SC: a son, Michael August. 8/15/20. He joins his sister, Morgan Riley (4).

Ashley Marie Jones Newcomb ('08, MSA '09) and Nick Scott Newcomb ('08), Charlotte: a daughter, Danielle Jones. 6/1/20. She joins her sister, Natalie Brooke (2).

Jeeun Lee Kim ('09) and Ethan Kim, Fairfax, VA: a son, Zander Taewon. 8/7/20. He joins his brother, Kairos “Kai” Tael (3).

Genevieve Meyers Beig ('10, MSA '11) and Shahid Beig, San Francisco: a daughter, Myra Noor. 1/30/20

Alexandra Dalgliesh Pardue ('10) and Joshua Carter Pardue ('10), Williamsburg, VA: a son, Carter Douglas. 2/8/20

Scott Seifert ('10) and Margo Warren Seifert ('11), Philadelphia: a daughter, Emily “Emmy” Estelle. 1/1/20

Katharine Yale Barnes (JD '16) and William Lee Barnes II, Charlotte: a son, Miles Alexander. 3/11/20

Deaths

James N. Martin Sr. ('41, JD '43), June 19, 2020, Virginia Beach, VA. He was a World War II veteran. Martin was a career officer with the Navy’s Judge Advocate General Corps and a North Carolina district court judge. Survivors include sons James N. Martin Jr. ('69) and Darrell S. Martin ('71) and grandchildren Brent H. Martin ('98, MBA '07) and Rachel Martin Butler ('01).
John “Jack” Jackson Hunt (’43), May 27, 2020, Shelby, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and was a dentist before founding a salvage business. He served in the North Carolina House of Representa- tives for more than 20 years and was Speaker Pro Tem for several terms.

David Lloyd Marshall (’43), Aug. 12, 2020, Val- halla, NY. He was in private practice in internal medicine for nearly 60 years until retiring in 2015 on his 92nd birthday. He was also medical direc- tor of a drug rehabilitation facility in White Plains, NY, and team physician for several high school football teams.

Lester “Zeolotea” Walsh (’43), June 6, 2020, Boomere, NC. He was a Marine during World War II aboard the USS Alaska. He was a farmer, postal worker and local historian. Survivors include granddaughters Sarah Guthrie Horvath (’05) and Hannah Guthrie Myers (’07).

George Perry Highsmith (MD ‘46), Aug. 7, 2020, Thomasville, NC. He was a captain in the U.S. Army and a physician in Davidson County (NC) for more than 40 years. He was preceded in death by brother Charles Perry Highsmith Jr. (‘38, MD ‘40).

Edgar “Eddie” Estes Folk III (‘47, MD ‘50), July 16, 2020, Elkin, MD. He was the fourth genera- tion of his family to attend Wake Forest, including his father, English and journalism professor E.E. Folk Jr. (‘21). He served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps and was chief of the cardiology division at Union Hospital in Elkin for 30 years. Survivors include sons Edgar “Gary” Folk IV (‘81) and Thomas Folk (‘85, MS ‘87, MD ‘91) and grand- daughter Adrienne Folk (‘19).


Marcus Glenn Singleton (‘47), July 5, 2020, Pacific Palisades, CA. He served in the U.S. Army in Europe during World War II. He worked in the aerospace and engineering industry, including at Rockwell International.

Hazel Twisdale White (‘47), Oct. 17, 2020, Vir- ginia Beach, VA. She was a teacher for 27 years and supervised many student-teachers.

Emile T. Fisher (‘48), June 22, 2020, Atlanta. He served in the U.S. Navy and retired in 1992 as a periodontist in Atlanta. He was a faculty member at Emory University, Northwestern University and the Dental College of Georgia. The Georgia Dental Education Foundation was renamed for him. He was a member of the Samuel Wait Legacy Society.

Lloyd Whitfield Bailey (’49), Aug. 12, 2020, Rocky Mount, NC. He was a flight surgeon in the U.S. Air Force and an ophthalmologist for 54 years. He was preceded in death by his parents, Clarence Bailey (1923) and Olive Bailey, and brother Jack “Chalmers” Bailey (’54, P ’77).

Daniel Kirksey Hall (’50), Aug. 27, 2020, Fayet- ettville, NC. He was a military chaplain and retired lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army. He was preceded in death by his wife, Vivian Snuggs Hall (’50).

Irina Harless Ogilvie (’50), July 27, 2020, States- ville, NC. She was a high school English and Spanish teacher.

Charlotte Duling Paden (’50), Aug. 10, 2020, Beaufort, NC. She was a clinical social worker in Greenville, NC. She was preceded in death by her first husband, Robert D. Phelps Sr. (‘49).

Helen Straw Purdy (’50), May 8, 2020, Char- lotte. She was a recreation therapist for Girl Scout camps in Mecklenburg County (NC) and the American Red Cross in Japan. She was also a fraternity house mother. She was preceded in death by brother Steve Strawn Jr. (‘57).

Alfred “Al” Robinson Wilson Jr. (’50), July 3, 2020, Durham, NC. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II on two aircraft carriers. He was an assistant principal, math teacher and golf coach in Biscoe, NC, and Durham and was part owner of WZOO radio station in Asheboro, NC. He was preceded in death by his parents, Alfred R. Wilson Sr. (‘35) and Flora Wilson.

Thomas “Worth” Coltrane Sr. (JD ’51), July 9, 2020, Palm Coast, FL. He served in the U.S. Navy in World War II. He practiced law in Asheboro, NC, and was county attorney for Randolph County (NC). He also chaired the Randolph County Republican Party and was a member of the Uni- versity of North Carolina board of governors.

Edward Hudson Daniel (‘51), Oct. 5, 2020, Con- cord, NC. He was a Baptist minister in churches across the Carolinas, retiring in 1991 from First Baptist Church in China Grove, NC. He was pre- ceeded in death by his wife, Betty Jean Riddle Daniel (‘52). Survivors include grandson William T. Daniel (‘08).

George R. Laughton Jr. (‘51), Sept. 24, 2020, Beaufort, NC. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He retired as general manager after 42 years at Huntley’s Building Supply in Beaufort. Survivors include brother Milton G. Laughton (‘51).

Johnny Robert Parker (‘51), June 2, 2020, Ashe- boro, NC. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He was a teacher, principal, director of elementary education and, for 20 years, assis- tant superintendent of Asheboro City Schools before retiring in 1986.

George G. Suggs Jr. (‘51), July 31, 2020, Cape Girardeau, MO. He served in the U.S. Air Force and was professor emeritus of history at South- east Missouri State University.

Sebastian Cabot “Cabe” Carlton (’52), July 13, 2020, Myrtle Beach, SC. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps and worked for Sinclair Oil Cor- poration for 46 years, retiring in 1996 as regional sales manager in the Kansas City area.

Bernard “Bernie” Allen Harrell (’52, JD ’54), June 19, 2020, Raleigh. He served in the U.S. Army’s Judge Advocate General’s Corps. He practiced law more than 50 years in the Raleigh area and was a North Carolina assistant attorney general. Survivors include sons Brandon Harrell (’82) and Hugh “Lee” Harrell II (’90, MS ’93) and granddaughter Katie Abernethy (’10).

James Floyd Kemp (’52), Aug. 1, 2020, Mount Airy, NC. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and was an educator. He was a mem- ber of the Samuel Wait Legacy Society and the Wake Forest College Birthplace Society.

John Raymond Nelson Jr. (’52, MD ’55), Aug. 27, 2020, Knoxville, TN. He served in the U.S. Navy as a flight surgeon and was in private prac- tice in internal medicine for 35 years. He was also a clinical associate professor of medicine at the University of Tennessee and chief of staff at St. Mary’s Hospital. Survivors include son John R. Nelson III (‘81, MD ’85).

Ellis “Skeet” Ross Jr. (’52), Aug. 4, 2020, Bel- haven, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and was the owner/operator of Ross Vending Co.

Jacqueline “Jackie” Durden Tobey (’52), July 8, 2020, Hendersonville, NC. She was a social worker. She was preceded in death by her hus- band, Thomas Tobey (’51).

Elliott Sylvester White Jr. (’52), Oct. 8, 2020, Gainesville, GA. He served in the U.S. Army and retired from AT&T after 38 years.

William Carey Bunch Jr. (’53), Aug. 14, 2020, Virginia Beach, VA. He served three years in the U.S. Army. He was an assistant county attorney for Norfolk and Virginia Beach and a district court judge in Virginia Beach.

Thomas Bradley Curry Jr. (’54), June 17, 2020, Merritt Island, FL. An aerospace engineer, he was among the first workers hired by NASA in 1958. During his 25-year tenure he worked on numerous spaceflight programs, including Mer- cury-Redstone, Gemini, Apollo and the Space Shuttle program. He was preceded in death by his wife, Louise Clark Curry (’57).

Lowe Ammie Norman Jr. (’54), June 15, 2020, Virginia Beach, VA. He served in the U.S. Army in World War II. He retired in 1995 after four decades as a pastor in northeastern North Car- olina and southeastern Virginia.

Louis Parker Stevens (’54), July 29, 2020, Gar- ner, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and was a civic leader in his native Wake County (NC).

Judson Truett Anderson (’55, MD ’59), June 30, 2020, Phoenix. He served in the U.S. Air Force as a flight surgeon and was a psychiatrist.

William Donald “Don” Garrison (’55), Aug. 8, 2020, Orange City, FL. He served in the U.S. Army Reserves. He was in marketing and sales for The Coca-Cola Company. He was a member of the Samuel Wait Legacy Society.
Edward Allen Lassiter ('55, JD '57), Aug. 13, 2020, Arden, NC. He served in the U.S. Army’s Judge Advocate General’s Corps for 30 years and earned numerous distinctions, including the Legion of Merit and Bronze Star Medal. Survivors include daughter Kathleen E. Wells ('83).

Charles Lindsay McDowell ('55), Oct. 29, 2020, Richmond, VA. He was a specialist in orthopedic, hand and upper extremity surgery. He helped start hand surgery departments at several hospitals and was a pioneer in complex surgical treatments for children with birth defects.

Richard “Dick” B. Patterson (MD ’55), Sept. 18, 2020, Winston-Salem. A pediatric oncologist, he practiced at the U.S. Naval Hospital before starting the Children’s Cancer Program at Bowman Gray School of Medicine, which he oversaw for 31 years. Survivors include daughter Linda P. Morris ('79).

Wayne Ellison Weber ('55), Aug. 18, 2020, Clemmons, NC. He served in the U.S. Army and worked for construction-materials supply companies. He was preceded in death by his wife, Glenda Hartness Weber ('61, MD '65).

John William “Bill” Kennard (MD ’56), March 14, 2020, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. Army Reserve Medical Corps as a hospital commander and was a radiologist for more than 32 years in Wheeling, WV. Survivors include granddaughter Elizabeth Ann Kennard ('16, MAEd '21).

Earl D. Crumpler ('57), July 27, 2020, Greenville, SC. He pastored churches in the Carolinas, led mission trips around the globe and was director of evangelism for the South Carolina Baptist Convention. Survivors include brother Frank Hunter Crumpler ('57).

Joe Badgett Currin Jr. ('57, MD '61), Aug. 11, 2020, Fuquay-Varina, NC. He was a physician and team doctor for the Fuquay-Varina High School football team. Survivors include son John Andrew Currin ('02).

Eckener Bryant Pearce ('57), Oct. 26, 2020, Raleigh. He was a Korean War veteran and a special agent and director of ballistics and toolmark for the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation.

Jean Faulkner Day ('58), July 3, 2020, Raleigh. Survivors include her husband, Richard Day ('56), and children Richard Day Jr., Caroline Day Plummer ('87) and LeAnne Day Broyhill ('86).

Jack Burton Robinson ('58), Sept. 13, 2020, Spartanburg, SC. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He owned and operated several businesses, including Sunbelt Container Inc. and Precision Bearing & Machine.

William Porter Sing ('58), July 14, 2020, Ocean Isle Beach, NC. He was a national sales manager for Gorton’s Seafood and owner of a food brokerage company in Raleigh.

John Robert Cella ('59), Oct. 30, 2020, Raleigh, NC. He served in the U.S. Army Medical Service Corps. He was a radiologist and a Wake County (NC) medical examiner.

Doris Anne Cash Goble ('59), Aug. 19, 2020, Winston-Salem. She was a piano teacher and a radiological transcriptionist at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center.

Edwin Garth Jenkins ('59), July 20, 2020, DeLand, FL. He was a captain in the U.S. Army and Army Reserves. He spent 40 years in administration at Auburn University, Stetson University and the University of Central Florida.

Thurman “Murray” Pittman Sr. ('59), July 10, 2020, Jacksonville, NC. He was CEO and principal of Williams, Roberts, Young Inc., a provider of human resource and life-cycle management services. Previously, he was vice president of operations at Sara Lee Intimate Apparel.

Jerry L. Surra ('59), Aug. 16, 2020, Monroe, NC. He was a professor of history and religion and dean of Arts & Sciences at Wingate University. After retiring in 2001, he returned to Wingate in 2004 as head coach of the men’s and women’s golf teams and won multiple conference titles before retiring again in 2015.

Jack Alton Carter ('60), Aug. 14, 2020, New London, NC. He served in the U.S. Air Force. He was a textile-company salesman and a corrections officer at the Albemarle Correctional Institution in his native Stanly County (NC). Survivors include sons Rodney Carter ('82), Joe Carter ('85) and Kevin Carter ('99).

James Carr Eagle Jr. ('60), May 26, 2020, Salisbury, NC. He served in the U.S. Army. He had a dental practice before becoming a clinical professor and director of comprehensive care at UNC Adams School of Dentistry in Chapel Hill, NC.

Carolyn Yow Futch ('60), Sept. 28, 2020, Winston-Salem. She was an English teacher in the Guilford County (NC) Public Schools for 40 years. Survivors include her husband, Arthur “Winston” Futch ('62).

Judith “Judy” Hughey James ('60), July 29, 2020, St. Augustine, FL. She was a social worker for the state of Florida and past president of the Chamber of Commerce in Fort Pierce, FL. Survivors include her husband, Gerald “Jerry” James ('60).

Gloria Flake Lockerman ('60), Aug. 14, 2020, Salemburg, NC. She was a certified public accountant and business professor at Campbell University. Survivors include daughter Robin Allcock ('83) and son Allan Lockerman ('88).

Dewey Blake Yokley ('60, JD '63), Oct. 5, 2020, Winston-Salem. He was an attorney in private practice and with the Forsyth County District Attorney’s Office.
Duke Byron Weeks ('61, MD '65), Aug. 12, 2020, Winston-Salem. He served in the U.S. Army for 11 years, including a tour of duty in Korea. He was an anesthesiologist at North Carolina Baptist Hospital for 30 years and authored hundreds of medical journal articles.

Faye Mangum Broughton ('62), Oct. 17, 2020, Salisbury, NC. She taught high school French and English in Davidson and Rowan counties (NC). She was preceded in death by brother Marshall Thomas "Tommy" Mangum Jr. ('61).

Andrew “Andy” Arthur George Canoutas (JD ’62), Aug. 3, 2020, Wilmington, NC. He was town attorney for Kure Beach, NC, for 57 years. He was a member of the Samuel Wait Legacy Society.

Clyde Kelly Hinsdale ('62), Aug. 5, 2020, Winston-Salem. He retired from Winn-Dixie after 35 years as a meat market manager and butcher. Survivors include brother Ewell Hinsdale ('64).

Herbert Eugene Williams ('62), Aug. 25, 2020, Clemmons, NC. He was retired from Reynolds American Inc.

Raymond S. Corwin (MD '63), July 19, 2020, Portland, OR. He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. He was an OB-GYN in Portland.

Curtis William Wood Jr. ('63), June 11, 2020, Myrtle Beach, SC. He was an emeritus professor and former chair of the history department at Western Carolina University. After his retirement in 2005, the school established the Curtis W. Wood Award for Excellence in Graduate Student Mentoring. A prolific author, his last publication, “Haywood County: Portrait of a Mountain Community,” won the President’s Award from the North Carolina Society of Historians for the most outstanding entry of 2009. Survivors include sister Lynn W. Kirk ('71).

Loy Wilson Devine ('64), Oct. 21, 2020, Statesville, NC. He was a social worker in Iredell County (NC).

Fred “Gene” Falls ('64), July 19, 2020, Shelby, NC. He was a trust and wealth advisor at South Carolina Trust and was a member of the Samuel Wait Legacy Society.

Irene M. Boysen Mossburg ('64), March 26, 2020, Silver City, NM. She was an anesthesiologist at North Carolina Baptist Medical Center.

Richard Neil Norwood ('64), June 23, 2020, Windermere, FL. He served in the U.S. Army and worked for a defense contractor for more than 35 years. He was preceded in death by his parents, Ballard Norwood Jr. ('35) and Gwendoy Norwood, and brother Beverly "Bev" Watkins Norwood ('69). Survivors include brother Ballard G. Norwood ('61).

Don Carroll Smith Sr. ('64), July 9, 2020, Virginia Beach, VA. He served in Vietnam as a captain in the U.S. Army and later served in the Army Reserves. He was the owner of a real estate company and a minister.

K. Wayne Smith ('60)
Life Trustee

K. Wayne Smith worked at the highest levels of government, industry and business but always found time to return to Wake Forest to teach and help lead the University.

"Wake Forest was a university that took a chance on me when I was a very young man," Smith once said. "It allowed me to have a few more windows on the world than I would have had and gave me a system of values that have stood me in good stead."

A longtime trustee and former chair of the Board of Trustees, Smith died Oct. 13, 2020. He was 82. He is survived by his wife, Audrey, and their son, Stuart.

Smith received the Distinguished Alumni Award in 1973 and the Medallion of Merit, the University’s highest award for service, in 2011. He joined the Board of Trustees in 1991 and was named a Life Trustee in 2010. He chaired the board from 2007 to 2009 and led the search committee that selected Nathan O. Hatch as the University’s 13th president in 2005. He also served on the boards of Wake Forest University Health Sciences and Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center.

Smith grew up on his family’s farm in Newton, North Carolina, and received a Hankins Scholarship to attend Wake Forest. In 1992, he established his own scholarship at Wake Forest.

"Thanks to the generosity of George Foster Hankins, I was the first person in my family to go to college," Smith said in 1992. "This is a gift of love from me to my alma mater. It is restitution; it is paying interest on a huge debt that I will never be able to repay."

After receiving his master’s degree and Ph.D. in political science from Princeton University, Smith taught for several years at the U.S. Military Academy. He soon landed at the Pentagon and later at the White House, where he reported directly to then-National Security Director Henry Kissinger.

He left Washington in the early 1970s to begin a long business career. He was managing partner of Coopers & Lybrand (now Price-waterhouseCoopers), CEO of World Book Inc. and president and CEO of OCLC (Online Computer Library Center). He retired in 1998 to the family farm in Newton.

Gary William Gilroy ('65), July 21, 2020, Baileys Harbor, WI. He served in the U.S. Navy and was national sales manager at A.M. Castle Metals & Co.

Carol Miller Krause ('65), Sept. 7, 2020, Winston-Salem. A lifelong journalist, she began her career as a reporter at the Winston-Salem Journal and worked at the Times-Herald and Daily Press in Newport News, VA.
Ronald H. Patterson ('65), Sept. 28, 2020, Midlothian, VA. He was an associate professor emeritus at the Medical College of Virginia, where he specialized in general orthopedics. He also practiced at Hunter Holmes McGuire VA Medical Center, retiring in 2017. He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph H. Patterson ('30) and Gaynelle Patterson. Survivors include son Joseph R. Patterson ('07).

Bert Allen Price ('65), Aug. 3, 2020, Stoneville, NC. He was a retired deputy sheriff with the Rockingham County (NC) Sheriff’s Department and a court security officer with the U.S. Marshals Service. Survivors include brother Ronald Martin Price (JD '70).

Charles “Brad” Bradford Cooper Sr. ('66), June 5, 2020, Montgomery, AL. A former Wake Forest football player and Vietnam veteran, he served 21 years in the U.S. Army. He worked at Teledyne Brown Engineering in Huntsville, AL, for 20 years. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Leonore “Lee” Cooper ('66).

James “Jim” Boshart III ('67), July 6, 2020, Hilton Head, SC. He served on the University’s Board of Trustees from 1997 to 2001. Boshart was in investment banking for more than 30 years and was executive vice president of Bank One Corporation. He was a founding member on Wake Forest’s basketball team in the mid-1960s. Survivors include daughter Courtney Boshart Westermann ('00).

William “Bill” Maddox Cobb Jr. ('67, JD '72), July 3, 2020, Bethania, NC. He was a consultant and financial planer in Winston-Salem before opening his own law and consulting practice.

Carlos “Buddy” William Murray Jr. (JD '67), July 24, 2020,Williamston, NC. He was a criminal defense attorney in Raleigh and a former district court judge. After retiring, he taught business law at East Carolina University. He was a member of the Samuel Wait Legacy Society.

Richard “Dick” Bissell Ames ('68), Aug. 3, 2020, Gibsonia, PA. A former member of the Wake Forest golf team, he was a military police officer in the U.S. National Guard before becoming a business broker.

Percy George Bloxam ('68), Sept. 11, 2020, Morehead City, NC. He worked in sales for Genuine Parts Company and was named its 2004 National Sales Manager of the Year.


Hobart McKinley “Mac” Simpson Jr. (MA ‘68), Sept. 25, 2020, Siloam, NC. He was an English instructor at High Point University, Western Carolina University and several community colleges. He retired as public information officer for the city of Winston-Salem.

Byron Calder Wyche ('68), June 21, 2020, Norwood, MA. He started in the plastic factory at Si-Cal Technologies, a manufacturing company in Worcester County, MA, and worked his way up to company president. Survivors include daughter Carole Wyche ('07).

Jerome “Jerry” Irvin Davis ('69, MD '73), Oct. 6, 2020, Greensboro, NC. He was a family medicine specialist in private practice and a volunteer at Fellowship Hall, a nonprofit drug treatment center in Greensboro.

Kenneth E. Hoogs (MD '69), Oct. 11, 2020, Tully, NY. He practiced urology in Syracuse, NY, for more than 40 years, retiring in 2012.

Lawrence “Nick” Gordon Jr. (JD '70), May 27, 2020, Winston-Salem. He had a private law practice for more than 45 years and served two years as Forsyth County’s Clerk of Superior Court. He was also an adjunct professor at Wake Forest School of Law. He received a lifetime achievement award from the Forsyth County Bar Association.

Wayne B. Tudor ('71), July 20, 2020, Ewing, NJ. He was an optometrist in private practice.

William “Bill” Thomas Grimes Jr. (MD '72), June 11, 2020, Bellevue, WA. He was the first African American MD graduate of the School of Medicine. He served in the U.S. Army and was an intern medicine specialist in the Seattle area for nearly three decades.


Steven David Silverman (MD '74), Sept. 10, 2020, West Palm Beach, FL. He was an OB-GYN for 43 years, delivering thousands of babies in the south Florida area.

Christopher Clark ('75), Aug. 15, 2020, Newark, OH. He worked in the family automobile business for more than 40 years. Survivors include his wife, Judy Lane Clark ('75).

Vessie “Jean” Burkins Cureton (JD '75), July 13, 2020, Columbia, SC. She practiced governmental law in Wake County (NC) and Columbia.

Rebecca “Becky” J. Ferguson (JD '75), June 23, 2020, West Alexandria, OH. She was an attorney for the Preble County (OH) prosecutor’s office for nearly 30 years and was the first woman elected county prosecutor. She received the Distinguished Service Award from the Ohio State Bar Association in 1998.

Frederick D. Sanders (MD '75), June 17, 2020, Memphis, TN. He served in the U.S. Army and was an OB-GYN in Memphis for 30 years.

Mark Stephen Sexton ('75, MA ‘80), July 30, 2020, Winston-Salem. He was a teacher and author. Survivors include son Jeremy W. Sexton ('17).

Gary D. James ('76), Oct. 15, 2020, Windsor, NY. He was a Distinguished Professor at Binghamton University who was best known for his pioneering research into the study of stress responses in humans.

Charles Elford McKay III ('74, MD '77), Aug. 29, 2020, Nashville, TN. He was an oncologist-hematologist in Nashville for 25 years and a founding partner and CEO of Tennessee Oncology.

Mary Dauch Davis (MAEd '78), July 26, 2020, Lexington, NC. She was director of the Davidson County (NC) battered women's shelter and a counselor for Hospice of Davidson County. She helped start the Habitat for Humanity chapter in Lexington. She was preceded in death by her husband, Elmer “Gray” Davis Jr. ('56).

Mett “Chip” Bagley Ausley Jr. ('79), Aug. 4, 2020, Lake Waccamaw, NC. He was a pathologist at Cypress Pathology and Columbus Regional Healthcare System in Whiteville, NC. He was a member of the Samuel Wait Legacy Society.

Glenn Thomas Batten Sr. (MBA '79), Oct. 4, 2020, Summerville, SC. He worked in city planning for 46 years and was a real estate agent, retiring in 2012. Survivors include son Andrew Williams Batten (MBA ‘00).

Mark Alexander Holland (MA ‘79), Oct. 29, 2020, Salisbury, MD. He taught genetics, molecular biology and plant sciences at Salisbury University. Survivors include his wife, Catherine Goodloe Holland (MA '79).

Robert Edwards Moore (MBA ‘80), July 28, 2020, Winston-Salem. He worked for Hanes/Sara Lee Corporation and was CFO of Hanes Hosiery.

Elizabeth “Betsy” Ross Bare (JD ‘81), Sept. 6, 2020, Concord, NC. She was a public school teacher and attorney. Survivors include stepbrother Thomas L. Ross III (MBA '76) and half-sister Laura Ross Loehr (MD ’95, MS ’02).

Louise Staley Hiatt ('81), Aug. 16, 2020, High Point, NC.

Richard “Rick” Louis Klein (PhD ’81), June 2, 2020, Charleston, SC. He was a biochemist, researcher and assistant professor at the Medical University of South Carolina.

John Matthew Whitley (MS ’82, PhD ’83, MD ’90), Aug. 29, 2020, Kannapolis, NC. He was a neurosurgeon.

Marian “Page” Pegram Olive (MAEd ‘86), July 21, 2020, Winston-Salem. She was a counselor and director of the Governor’s One-On-One Mentoring Program for youth in Chowan County (NC).

John Cormia ('87), April 6, 2020, Seymour, TN. A fourth-degree black belt, he ran his own Tae Kwon Do studio in Lynchburg, VA. He retired in 2014 after 16 years in customer service for General Electric and Genworth Financial.

Michelle “Janet” Gordon ('88), July 4, 2020, Winston-Salem. She worked in her family’s rental property business. Survivors include her husband, Gilmer “Glenn” Green III ('86).
Beverly Susan Kirch (JD ’90), Sept. 1, 2020, Hilton Head Island, SC. She was an attorney at Legal Aid of North Carolina and Legal Aid of the Bluegrass in Kentucky.

Nicholas Anthony Mantia (’91), July 20, 2020, Atlanta, GA. He was an award-winning training and development executive and director of training at Supreme Lending Southeast.


Charles “Charlie” Thomas Harrison III (’96), July 14, 2020, Temple Hills, MD. He was a starting guard on Wake Forest’s basketball team who helped lead them to the Sweet 16 in the 1993 NCAA Tournament. After playing basketball overseas, he became a human resource specialist with the Architect of the Capitol in Washington, DC.

Scott Edwards Noststein (’98), June 29, 2020, Cary, NC. He spent his career in the legal and business fields. He volunteered helping those less fortunate and was an advocate for animals.

Jason Dallas Riffle (’98), Aug. 25, 2020, Elon, NC. He worked in financial services, most recently at PNC Financial Services.

Catherine Elizabeth Staplefoote (PA ’07), July 14, 2020, Winston-Salem. She was a physician assistant in Charlotte and Winston-Salem. She was preceded in death by her parents, Robert E. Staplefoote Sr. (’74) and Elizabeth Staplefoote.

Patrick Christian Snavely (MBA ’09), June 18, 2020, Truckee, CA. He was a commercial banker and a small-business broker in Laguna Beach, CA.

**Friends, Faculty, Staff, Students**

Martha “Marie” Reavis Bagby, Oct. 9, 2020, Winston-Salem. She was the administrative assistant in the theatre department for 38 years. Survivors include children Martha Bagby Garris (’74), Elizabeth Bagby Robinette (’77) and David R. Bagby (’83).

Dewey Allen Bullin, July 14, 2020, Boonville, NC. He retired as a paint supervisor after many years in Facilities & Campus Services at Wake Forest. He was a U.S. Army veteran.

Brian Melvin Colson, Sept. 16, 2020, Winston-Salem. He was a shuttle driver in the Transportation and Parking Services office.

Willis Jackson “Jack” Grant III, July 2, 2020, Winston-Salem. He was a flight surgeon in the U.S. Navy. He was a clinical associate professor of psychiatry at the Bowman Gray School of Medicine and chief of psychiatric education at Forsyth Medical Center. Survivors include son Willis Jackson Grant IV (MBA ’81).
The school established the Melanie G. Nutt Law Scholarship when she retired.

David F. Shores, Aug. 9, 2020, Winston-Salem. He was a professor, adviser and mentor in the Wake Forest School of Law for 37 years until retiring in 2009. A native of Iowa, he served in the U.S. Army in Korea. He earned his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Iowa and an LLM in taxation from Georgetown. He was an attorney with the Federal Trade Commission and in private practice in Columbus, OH, before joining the law school faculty in 1972. Survivors include sons Christopher Shores (’90) and Craig Shores (’89). He was a member of the Samuel Wait Legacy Society.

Madison Slusher, Sept. 12, 2020, Flat Rock, NC. He was professor emeritus of ophthalmology at the School of Medicine and a pioneer in the field. During his 38 years on the faculty, he chaired the ophthalmology department for 19 years and helped establish the Wake Forest Baptist Health Eye Center. He received the medical school’s Distinguished Faculty Award in 2005. Survivors include daughter Lesley Slusher Schaeffer (’87).

Rena Jones Willis, Sept. 9, 2020, Winston-Salem. She worked at Wake Forest for 19 years, in the indoor tennis center and as an administrative assistant in Information Systems.

George D. Newton Jr., Sept. 19, 2020, Winston-Salem. He was an adjunct professor who taught complex civil litigation in the School of Law for 13 years. Previously he was an attorney in Chicago and deputy general counsel at R.J. Reynolds Tobacco.

Melanie Gurdin Nutt, Nov. 21, 2020, Winston-Salem. She worked at the School of Law for more than 40 years, including three decades as director of admissions and financial aid before retiring in 2011. For many students in the 1980s, 1990s and 2000s, Nutt was the face of the law school and a friend and mentor. She was passionate about a friend and mentor. She was passionate about the 2000s, Nutt was the face of the law school and a friend and mentor. She was passionate about possible for many students to afford to attend.

By Kerry M. King (‘85)

Tales from India

With 2020 travel curtailed, alumni recall a program abroad that changed lives and a campus.

Mike Davis ('71) still remembers the sights, smells and noises that overwhelmed his senses when he and 20 classmates arrived in Bombay (now Mumbai) on a hot August night in 1970 to begin a semester studying in India.

“I was scared to death,” recalled Davis, a 21-year-old senior at the time who had never been out of the country. At a time when few Wake Forest students studied abroad, the chance to study in India was too good to pass up.

“It was an opportunity to see a part of the world that I would probably never have the opportunity to see in my lifetime,” he said. “It opened my mind to other civilizations and other ways of living.”

Davis and his classmates were among the first Wake Forest students to study abroad for a semester. They spent the fall semester in Poona (now Pune), a city of historical and cultural significance about 100 miles southeast of Mumbai.

The program was led by Professor Balkrishna G. “B.G.” Gokhalé (P ’67, ’72), a native of India who joined the faculty in 1960 and established the Asian Studies program. At a time when most history courses focused on Europe, Gokhale expanded class offerings to include South Asia. Gokhalé’s wife, Beena, and their daughters, Jaya (’67) and Maya (’72), who were born in India, also spent the semester in India.

“Compared to today, so few people traveled in 1970,” said Charles Crissman (’72). “It was a proposition that many never considered. Dr. Gokhalé was intrepid in believing he could take a group of students to India. It couldn’t have been more fundamental to our lives.” Crissman and his future wife, Linda McArthur (’72), met on the trip.

Although the India program was held just that one time, Ed Wilson (’43, P ’91, ’93), who was provost at the time, wrote about its significance after Gokhalé’s death in 2005.

“This venture overseas came before the Wake Forest house (Casa Artom) in Venice opened and before Worrell House in London was even thought of — and decades, of course, before going to some other place in the world became part of the education of so many of our students of today.”

John Davis (’73), Mike Davis’ cousin, still remembers the trip fondly. “The big eye-opener for me was the abject poverty that we saw in many places and seeing how some folks in the world lived. It helped us to understand how fortunate we were,” he said. “It gave me a perspective that a lot of young folks in those days didn’t get.”

Jaya Gokhalé said her father wanted students “to experience the best part of education, that is, expanding one’s horizons, from the vantage point of a very different, ancient culture.” Taking students “from a small Southern school affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention to study in South Asia was quite an achievement at that time.” More at bit.ly/3kebDAW
A young grad learns about isolation and reaching out in a pandemic

By Sophie Hollis ('19)

I’m a planner. I make one- and five-year career goals. I eat M&Ms in a particular order (brown, red, orange, yellow, green, blue). I take comfort in having a set path because it feels a lot like having direction. So, I think that many of my friends were surprised when I announced that the totality of my post-grad plans was — move to New York City.

I’m aware that “move to New York City” is a cliché post-grad plan, so let me explain. I grew up in Winston-Salem. My Wake Forest bubble included my dad — a professor of biochemistry — and my younger brother. I was one of a half-dozen people from my high school graduating class who went to Wake (my brother was one of 17). For me, going to college was not an experience of leaving home but one of welcoming new people into my life. So, upon graduation, inspired by the fantasy of hanging out with the great literary minds of tomorrow and the ethos of the Chicks’ (née Dixie Chicks) “Wide Open Spaces,” I picked the anti-Winston-Salem of cities. And, OK, that does make it more cliché.

I spent a month unemployed and stressed, living out of my mom’s Nissan Altima and various Airbnbs. I’d expected my journey to be chaotic, so I was mostly prepared. Even though the plan was to survive on 99-cent pizza, it was still a plan. What I wasn’t prepared for was the isolation, the way physical separation from the people I loved made me feel like a delicate kite at the end of a 560-mile-long string.

Eventually, I found an apartment and a job as an editor at a trade magazine, though I also realized that I had romanticized some of the charms of the city. The anonymity of being one of 8 million was isolating rather than freeing. While I found joy in small, uniquely New York moments — running down the streets of Brooklyn to ballet class to “Modern Love” (like Frances Ha), listening to David Sedaris’ “Santaland Diaries” in Herald Square Macy’s — it was difficult for me to find a space of belonging.

When I thought back to my time at Wake, I remembered how I had made friends through volunteering, so I signed up to be an SAT tutor for underserved high schoolers with New York Cares. Because of the students’ schedule, I had to run to Penn Station right after work and take a train to Washington Heights, inhaling a protein bar on the way as my dinner. Still, it was the best part of my week.

Soon after, a compassionate Wake Forest alumna encouraged me to try volunteering at the Queens Public Library after I told her what a solace the library had been to me during my first month in the city. It was another success. Not only did I find a lively group of book shakers and construction paper artists, but I also discovered a deep love for library science. Serving my community is ultimately what led me to the New York I imagined: a place where I could follow my passions alongside new friends.

In March, when the coronavirus pandemic shut down New York, I was reminded of the isolation I felt during my first few months in the city. Once again, the relationships that made my life meaningful were relegated to emails, texts and video calls — as if they had become long-distance. This time, though, I knew the secret.

Even though in-person service is limited right now, the qualities of volunteerism are not. I have found that acting with kindness and extending support to those who need it has been the way to endure this period of forced solitude. Compassion isn’t limited by distance — whether it’s 6 feet or 560 miles.

Sophie Hollis ('19) is the managing editorial director of Mann Publications and the editor of the Fashion Manuscript, a trade magazine based in New York’s Garment District. At Wake Forest, she received the H. Broadus Jones Senior Award for Excellence in English. She lives in New York City.
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Wake Forest’s 17th Rhodes Scholar

In November, senior Savarni Sanka of Raleigh was among 32 Americans chosen as Rhodes Scholars representing the United States. She plans to pursue a Master of Public Policy and a Master of Science in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies at the University of Oxford in England in fall 2021.

In Wake Forest history, Sanka is the 17th student to be named a Rhodes Scholar. The scholarship, which provides all expenses for two or three years of international study, is touted as the most famous academic award available to American college graduates.

“I owe my success to every mentor and teacher I’ve had from kindergarten to now,” Sanka said. “Every single professor at Wake Forest has influenced me in some way.”

Sanka’s majors are Spanish and politics and international affairs. Sanka has studied or done volunteer work in Spain, Morocco and Nicaragua and has been a leader in the Student Association for the Advancement of Refugees.

“My parents immigrated to the States from India in the 1990s,” Sanka said, “and seeing the marginalization and silencing that migrant communities often face, I wanted to be a part of building more equitable and just societies where everyone has access to opportunity and where everyone’s voice can be heard.”

Read our 2019 story about past Wake Forest Rhodes Scholars at bit.ly/3664myS

Deacons’ Fifth Bowl in a Row

The Deacons football team, with few fans in person because of the pandemic, made a program-record, fifth-straight bowl appearance on Dec. 30, facing Wisconsin in the Duke’s Mayo Bowl in Charlotte. The team fell 42-28, but junior wide receiver Jaquarii Roberson had three touchdown catches, tying a record for the annual bowl game at Bank of America Stadium.