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Table of Contents and Advertisements

Furman University

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Alyssa Richardson '12 speaks at the Oct. 5 event to unveil The Furman Advantage

OVERHEARD

Your letters, your comments, and Quotables. **pgs. 4-5**

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Elizabeth Davis on Furman's ambitious vision for the future. **pg. 6**

AROUND THE LAKE

Anna Sugg '12, director of television for the Republican National Committee, navigates the firestorm of a frenetic presidential election.

Paul Wallace '90 discusses his new book. Plus three images of Study Away in Scotland, Quotables on mentoring, and how a team of faculty and students is working to help revitalize a nearby neighborhood. **pgs. 7-19**

THEN, NOW, NEXT

Reflections on what was, is, and will be important at Furman. **pgs. 11-15**

Q&A

Meet George Shields, Furman's vice president for academic affairs and provost. **pg. 16**

Features

PURPOSEFUL, PERSONAL PATHWAYS

by Colleen Newquist

What is Furman's Advantage? The answer can be found in the educational and career journeys of Alyssa Richardson '12, Mark Pittman '07, Brandon Tensley '12, Kjersti Kleine '17, and Nathan Mathai '17. **pgs. 20-31**

HOW DO YOU MEASURE THE VALUE OF LIBERAL ARTS EDUCATION?

by Ron Wagner '93

It's a tough question. But Furman faculty are undaunted. **pg. 32**



COVER

Our tree. Our roots. Known simply as "Root Tree" or "Medusa Tree," this American beech began its life in the Furman Arboretum on the original Furman campus in downtown Greenville. It is estimated to be over 70 years old and now faithfully anchors Furman University Way at Falls Park. The Furman Arboretum was established in 1932 with a \$500 prize won by the Greenville Garden Club. It became the first arboretum in South Carolina and is thought to be one of the most photographed trees in the state.

THE COMEBACK

On teas, spices, herbs, olives, and funnel cakes. Some Greenville gems offer a delightful blend to satisfy sophisticated palates. **pg. 38**

SHELF LIFE

Works that inspire Tom Coker '87 and Barrie Benson '92. **pg. 42**

PERSPECTIVE

Professor Brent Nelsen opines on Brexit. **pg. 44**

CLASS NOTES

Scene and be Seen at the Bell Tower Ball. After the Aisle spotlights Jessica Carter '05 and Russell Sanford '05. How to get in the Furman Loop. **pgs. 46-57**

UP CLOSE

Jeff's invention is a REALLY big Deal. *Furman* magazine says farewell to a piece of our history and a part of our soul. **pg. 49**

STILL

Poetry by Connie Ralston '70; artwork by Janke Klompmaker, Furman's first True Inspiration Artist in Residence. **back cover**