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A SECOND SUNRISE
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Furman was the center of the Upstate solar system as 14,000
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UNCERTAIN TIMES
by Jessica Taylor ’07
The Riley Institute’s Safe and Free conference brought together
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FURMAN’S DYNAMIC DUO
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Inventors, engineers and scientists, George ’71 and Fran Liger ’73,
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Dr. Lori White Housworth ’91 and her husband, Bill, have dedicated
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SUDDENLY HIP
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A restaurant renaissance, street redesign and walking trail have made
Travelers Rest a popular destination. pg. 40
LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I just finished reading your spring edition of the alumni magazine. It was extremely well done! In particular, I enjoyed the articles about Paul Anderson and the piece about 16 members of the Furman Singers accompanying Kristen Chenoweth on Broadway. That is really impressive! I would not have known if your magazine had not reported it.

And I enjoyed the exposure you gave to new football coach Clay Hendrix and his staff of former Furman players who are proven winners. I do want to add a note to the résumé of new Furman Assistant Head Coach George Quarles. Furman has a really special guy in this man.

I know George personally having been on his booster board for four years at Maryville High School. In 2013, George (known to us as GQ) was recognized by MaxPreps and CBS Sports.com as the winningest coach in the nation. He won 14.4 games per season over a 10-year period. Think about that. Each year, the 15th game is the state championship.

George also achieved the distinction of reaching 200 wins faster than any other high school coach. He left the state of Tennessee with more state titles than any coach in state history. GQ is a winner across the board. He has a strong character and strong morals. Moreover, he is just a humble guy. We tried to name the stadium, the athletic complex, the field or anything in his honor. But the athletic director, who was GQ, would not allow it.

Thank you again for your excellent work.

John C. Mitchell
Parent of John David Mitchell '18
As you read this, we are one full year into The Furman Advantage, our promise to provide every student an individualized pathway integrating academic excellence with the support (advising and mentoring) and engaged learning experiences (internships, research, study away) that will launch them into lives of purpose and community impact. Because of what I know about Furman and the Furman family, I know we can deliver on this promise.

I have experienced Furman from many angles—as a president and as a parent of a junior. And I have experienced it through your inspiring and heartwarming stories. But nothing is quite the same as experiencing Furman, up close and in person. This past May, I did just that.

Between the spring semester and summer, students have the opportunity to go on a May Experience—or MayX—a shorter version of a semester-long study away program. One of our current MayX programs, “Slow Food, Italian Style,” is led by professors Sarah Worth and Lloyd Benson. The course introduces students to the study of contemporary food production and consumption, as well as the principles and practices of the Slow Food movement (think “opposite of fast food”). The students spent the first two weeks on a farm and then the last week in Rome, which is where Charles and I met them.

Lest you think this was merely an excuse for my husband and me to eat our way through Rome, or for our students to have a three-week vacation before starting an internship in June, let me set the record straight. As with any class, the MayX students on this trip read articles, made presentations and wrote papers. Charles presented on the Roman Forum. (I was asked to do it, but like a good president, I delegated.)

But it was the support and experiential learning that Sarah and Lloyd provided every step of the way that gave me an up close and personal view of The Furman Advantage in action.

From the Gallup-Purdue study, we know that graduates who report being engaged at work and thriving in all aspects of their lives have six types of experiences in college that can be grouped into “emotional support” and “deep and experiential learning.” Two of the three emotional support factors are “faculty who cared about me as a person” and “at least one professor who made me excited about learning.” I saw this level of support throughout our trip, whether it was caring for a student who broke her foot, Lloyd’s uncanny knowledge of every historical site we passed, or Sarah’s delight in posing with Raphael’s philosophers in the Vatican Museum followed by an impromptu discussion of the painting.

Study away trips provide the opportunity for “deep and experiential learning.” The key is linking those experiences to classroom learning. Sarah and Lloyd were deliberate about asking the students to reflect on the various sites we visited, connecting back to the farm experience or to the articles they read. The students, in choosing those articles, selected topics that connected to the MayX and their majors. For example, Meredith Wettach ’18, an accounting and Spanish major, taught the class about olive oil fraud in Italy. On one of our tours, the tour guide mentioned the fraud and Meredith stepped in to share her depth of knowledge on the subject. She and I spent time walking through the streets of Rome talking about fraud and what else she might encounter in a career in accounting—where I got my start.

What a trip. I saw our faculty in action—faculty who care about students, who are willing to challenge them to consider ideas outside their comfort zone, and who encourage them to be more reflective about what matters most in their lives. I saw our students—smart, curious, kind—accept those challenges and grow. This is The Furman Advantage.

Elizabeth Davis
Furman First Gentleman Charles Davis got a taste for the kitchen at an early age when his mother, Shirley, took a full-time job as an antique store office manager in tiny Farmville, North Carolina.

After Charles arrived home from school, Mrs. Davis would telephone to dictate the dinner for the evening and ask her son to make late-afternoon preparations. Oftentimes, the tasks were simple: remove something from the freezer or chop vegetables.

As Charles grew older, he began preparing simple dishes like pasta and chili. Eventually, he took on the role as the Davis family dessert-maker.

"Over time, I sort of developed an interest in it. I just grew to enjoy it and was good at it," says Davis. "So, here we are."

"Here" is the publication of Davis' cookbook, *In the Kitchen at White Oaks.*

While Davis can prepare a tasty beef bourguignon and cheesy potato casserole, he'll tell you that his culinary skills are more akin to Chef Boyardee than Chef Tell. The work also reflects his interest in White Oaks—the president's home—and the people who have lived there. It includes a heaping of the home's history and about the first ladies who came before.

White Oaks' original owners, construction magnate and industrialist Charles Daniel and his wife, Homozel, oversaw every detail of the home's construction in the late 1950s. Charles Daniel met with architects from Atlanta, imported Douglas Firs from California for the framing, approved intricate wood carvings and worked hand-in-glove with some of his top construction workers.

Once completed, the home was tastefully adorned with celebrated works of art, antiques, and other home décor selected by Homozel Daniel. Charles Daniel lived at White Oaks until his death in 1964. In 1992, the 9,750-square-foot home was included in a $214 million gift that was bequeathed to Furman by Homozel.

Since that time, five Furman presidents and their families have lived there. *In the Kitchen at White Oaks* includes contributed recipes from the families of John Plyler (1939-1964), Gordon Blackwell (1965-1976), John Johns (1976-1994), David Shi (1994-2010), Carl Kohrt (2013-14) and, of course, Elizabeth Davis.

*In the Kitchen at White Oaks* is part-recipe, part-history book that celebrates the 25th anniversary of the Daniel bequest while giving a respectful nod to the former Furman first ladies. While Charles Davis collected and authored the book's contents, the cookbook was edited and designed by Furman's University Communications office.

The notion for the book's creation was hatched about three years ago. As Davis settled into his role as Furman's first gentleman, he began preparing lunch and hosting the spouses and partners of university trustees at his home during the board's meetings three times a year.

"After the second luncheon, some attendees began asking for copies of my recipes, and then someone suggested that I compile a cookbook," says Davis. "At first, I didn't give the idea much thought. But when the requests continued, I thought maybe it warranted additional consideration."
Stepping up to College

A new College Advising Corps at Furman will help students chart a path to higher education

BY JOHN ROBERTS

For prospective first-generation college students, taking the next step to higher education can be a daunting prospect. There are online applications to complete. The requests for financial aid must be in order. There are countless items to check off the list.

With little help at home, many students from low-income or underserved families are forced to navigate these waters alone. The College Advising Corps, which is the Teach for America model for high school guidance counselors, addresses that need. The nonprofit works to increase the number of low-income, first-generation college students by partnering with colleges to place recent graduates in high schools as advisers.

CAC works with 25 colleges and universities in 15 states to serve 600 high schools. Thanks to $2.2 million in funding from public and private partners, the first South Carolina chapter of CAC launched at Furman in August. Anchor funding for the project was provided by The Duke Endowment of Charlotte, North Carolina, and the J. Marion Sims Foundation of Lancaster, South Carolina.

Four Furman graduates, Katie Foster '17, Meg Hare '17, Sarah Moore '17 and Caitlyn Singleton '17, and three other qualified applicants joined the CAC this summer. All are serving in one of seven high schools in Chester and Lancaster counties.

Foster, who graduated with a double major in history and communication studies, is not settled on a career path. She’ll use her time in the CAC to give back to the community and “take time to figure out what comes next.”

“My father was the first from his family to go to college,” says Foster. “He went...
“MY FATHER WAS THE FIRST FROM HIS FAMILY TO GO TO COLLEGE. HE WENT ON TO DENTAL SCHOOL, AND HIS EDUCATION CHANGED MY FAMILY’S LIFE IN JUST ONE GENERATION.”

—KATIE FOSTER ’17, CAC COUNSELOR

on to dental school, and his education changed my family’s life in just one generation. I hope that I can be an asset to my students and help instill a college-going culture at my school.”

As recent college graduates, the advisers can relate to the students they mentor. They live near the service area and are expected to be involved in the community.

“This initiative aligns perfectly with The Furman Advantage, our strategic vision and promise to prepare Furman students to graduate and lead successful lives, including connecting with and serving in communities around the state and beyond,” says Furman President Elizabeth Davis. “We are thankful to The Duke Endowment and J. Marion Sims Foundation for their support and partnership in the Furman College Advising Corps, and we look forward to making a difference in the lives of the students who might not otherwise consider college.”

Susan DeVenny, president and chief executive officer of the J. Marion Sims Foundation, says many students in rural counties want to attend college but may lack direction and motivation.

“We are bringing CAC to our region in direct response to a need expressed by our youth,” DeVenny says. “The college search, application, and financial aid processes can be overwhelming to students and families. CAC brings evidence-based support to our students at a time when they are making key decisions about their postsecondary futures.”

Back then, it was the first day of freshman week, August 1985. I was a student. After more than 30 years, he remembered. I can’t even remember what I had for breakfast yesterday. But that is the kind of place that Furman is: a personalized education, wrapped in warm Southern charm. I guess that is why you can’t walk across campus without saying hello to 12 people you have never met.

Our children have grown up in a very different world than ours. They have never lived in a world with a USSR, but have never known one without terrorism. They have never had a phone attached to the wall, but never been able to live unplugged. Theirs is marked by volatility. Ours was a simpler time. In a world of exponential change, it is nice to have some things that stay the same. Among them should be a safe, supportive home away from home, where you learn to love to learn and are challenged to use that education to make the world a better place … and where 30 years later, people still remember your name. Now they call it “The Furman Advantage.” Then, we just called it “Furman.”

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Grat Correll ’89 is a family medicine physician from Blountville, Tennessee, an associate professor at the Quillen College of Medicine and the proud father of Katy, who is part of Furman’s incoming class of 2021.
The first question English major and moderator Jarred Buchholz '18 asked the panel of fiction writers was, “What impact did your education at Furman have on your careers as writers?”

The four panelists were Mindy Friddle '86, Tommy Hays '77, George Singleton '80 and Ed Tarkington '95, all very successful fiction writers.

The occasion, organized by the English department to celebrate writing at Furman, drew about 100 students, faculty and community members to the McEachern lecture room. It was sponsored by the Crabtree-Stewart Lectureship in Literary Studies.

In answer to Buchholz’s question, the panelists named several professors who had been instrumental in their development. Each also stressed the importance of their course readings. Interspersed with their often wildly humorous stories from the past, they offered advice to aspiring writers. Later that evening, Friddle and Hays read from their works. The next day, Singleton and Tarkington read from theirs.

The entire two days were a celebration of their accomplishments, but also a celebration of Furman’s impact on their careers. The alumni-authors, students, faculty and members of the community mingled and shared ideas. The occasion was an illustration of President Elizabeth Davis’ vision for Furman—The Furman Advantage—with engagement on many levels.

The symposium, held March 23 to 24, was also a celebration of the English department’s offering of a new writing track in addition to the more traditional track English majors follow.

Students who choose this new option may take many of the same courses such as Shakespeare, American Novel and Victorian Literature. But in addition, they will be re-
I had never taken a serious art class before, so I was nervous on the first day of Art and Community Engagement this summer. I wanted everyone to be cool and have outgoing personalities. MayX should be super-fun, engaging and more laid-back than the traditional courses. And, to my relief, it was. Everyone worked together, put in equal amounts of work, and no one complained.

For the first time, I really got to know art and was able to meet those who have a passion for it. We participated in an art project in Travelers Rest and took part in Artisphere, an annual arts festival in downtown Greenville. The artists I’ve met seem to love what they do and value their craft.

While doing an interview for this course a woman told me, “Art makes life better and makes people happy. People need it. You see the kids enjoy it, but as you get older you give it up.” This really hit home for me. And it’s unfortunate. Art is so powerful because it is a reflection of the artist. Within the paintings, carvings and drawings, an artist attempts to convey a message.

Most football players would not have taken this class. I mean, who expects a football player to end up in a painting class? But I like to branch out and do more than just athletics. I hope my actions inspire more athletes to do the same.

Some people don’t appreciate athletes because they don’t understand the work that goes into being an athlete. We wake up before the sun rises, practice, lift weights year-round and gain or lose weight to compete.

I will always be grateful that I enrolled in this class. Before this course, I never thought much about art and artists. I met a diverse group of people and saw that some artists put just as much effort into art as I do athletics.

Now, I have a profound respect for their work.

It is amazing how liberal arts and sciences and The Furman Advantage can help people branch out and change their lives for the better.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Quandarius Weems ’19 is a communication studies major and is minoring in women, gender and sexuality studies. He is a member of the football and track teams.
Michael Jennings began serving as Furman’s chief diversity officer in July. Prior to this position, Jennings was associate dean of the Consortium for Social Transformation at the University of Texas at San Antonio. He was also a tenured professor in the department of educational leadership and policy studies. Jennings earned his Ph.D. and M.A. in political science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and he received his B.A. in political science from Hampton University.

We’re seeing more and more universities create leadership roles that help to address issues associated with diversity on college campuses. Why do you think there is such a need for this position at Furman and other universities?

MJ: Universities reflect society. Our society is becoming increasingly more diverse, and universities are doing the same. When populations change, tension rises and divisiveness happens. This creates the need for a leader who will address these issues, bring people together and offer solutions.

We’ve also seen that most college students have reported that they want to be a part of a college with a diverse student body. But that means more than simply wanting a certain number of a certain kind of ethnicity, religion, sexuality, etc. It’s about equity and equal opportunity. College students want equal opportunity to be their best selves at Furman.

“How do you go about achieving equal opportunity for all students?”

MJ: It’s a long process, but it starts with engaging a broad constituency of people. If I only speak with students of color, I only hear one thing. Certainly, their voices need to be heard, but I really need to speak with everyone—the faculty, the staff, a variety of students, as well as the community. I need to hear all viewpoints, understand where each is coming from and then try to bridge the gaps.

“Community” is a big word at Furman right now. Many efforts are underway to better engage the university with the community. Why such an effort, and how do you contribute to it?

MJ: A residential campus creates a different sort of situation. It’s nice because everyone is on campus all the time, but it’s also not nice that everyone is on campus all the time, because they can become disconnected from the local community.

With this position, I’m hoping to get involved in many local organizations, develop relationships and build trust. Only after that will we be able to work together to devise solutions. None of this work is transactional. It’s going to take a while. I may have to speak with someone for six months before they’re willing to trust me and trust the institution to follow through on our promises. I understand that, and I’m willing to put in the work.

So, you’re saying this isn’t an overnight fix?

MJ: Hardly. Furman has been around for more than 175 years. It’s formed its own traditions, own directions. So, increasing diversity, developing more programs to encourage a more inclusive student body—that will take time as well. As it should ... it all comes from cultivating relationships, understanding context, getting a sense for what has worked, what hasn’t.

Also, I want to note that I’m not trying to change the institution that is Furman. I have
“THE KEY, REALLY, IS LEARNING FROM EACH OTHER, UNDERSTANDING THAT EVERYONE NEEDS THEIR OWN SUPPORT SYSTEMS, AND EMBRACING DIFFERENCES.”

respect for its history, its culture, its heritage. I'm simply trying to help pivot the direction to be more forward-thinking.

How do you think your background as a professor and researcher will benefit you as you move into a role in administration?

MJ: At Furman, the faculty members are essential to the institution. Their teaching and their relationships with the students are top priorities. That's not the case at every university. I came from a place that's very research-oriented, where grants and publications are more important than teaching. There was a lot of red tape, a lot of processes, which has given me a certain skill-set that I think will translate well to serving in administration.

There's a reason I didn't try to take on a position like this earlier in my career. I saw value in becoming a full professor first. Only then would I be fully prepared to work with and lead faculty because I had been in their shoes.

Many at Furman are hoping you can offer suggestions for programs that would help increase diversity and provide more support for underrepresented constituents. However, others believe that creating programs for these students only further labels them as “different.” How do you reconcile these two viewpoints?

MJ: Well, let’s take African-American students, for example, as they’re one of the largest minority groups at Furman. I’ve spoken to some of these students, and they’ve voiced the wish to have a strong presence of the historic African-American Greek organizations on campus.

Some would say, “What’s the need for that? Why can’t all types of people be in the same fraternity or sorority?” And they can, of course, and many are at Furman. However, I believe that supporting the historically African-American Greek letter organizations that make up the National Pan-Hellenic Council is important because these organizations are steeped in a history that reflects their commitment to scholarship, community service and social justice in ways that have benefitted all communities for more than a century.

The key, really, is learning from each other, understanding that everyone needs their own support systems, and embracing differences. There's not a simple answer for anything related to the issue of diversity, and it's going to take many conversations, connections and discussions to figure out the best solutions for Furman. And I look forward to that.

NEXT

Reflection on Furman going forward

The transition of the Malone Career Center to the Malone Center for Career Engagement (MCCE) represents a major shift in professional preparation services for Furman students. In support of the goals of The Furman Advantage, we're emphasizing customization of services, creating pathways that integrate academics and co-curricular activities, and connecting students with alumni and others who can offer career advice, support and potential internships. To make this successful, the center is building alliances across campus and beyond.

The Office of Academic Affairs is a key connecting point. We talked with department heads, deans and faculty about what effective “academic-career” partnerships might look like on campus. As The Furman Advantage initiatives were being developed, key areas of collaboration formed for the center. One such example involves the MCCE staff working with Beth Pontari, associate provost for engaged learning, and Michelle Horhota, associate dean for mentoring and advising, to support initiatives that facilitate students' personal and professional preparation. These collaborations include working to increase students’ participation in engaged learning opportunities, internships, and undergraduate research, as well as expanding mentoring opportunities—key areas of overlap with the center’s new mission.

The MCCE has also worked with the Office of Alumni and Parent Engagement to get students involved in The Loop, an initiative spearheaded and launched by that office in May. The Loop connects students and alumni through career spotlights, videos of graduates discussing their careers and professional journey. It also hosts real-time, online networking events with alumni through a program called Furman Connect. Alumni interested in joining The Loop and its associated informational and networking programs can learn more by visiting the Office of Alumni and Parent Engagement website at alumni.furman.edu.

The MCCE will continue to support The Furman Advantage by providing students with a portfolio of unparalleled professional development experiences that strategically connect them to their individualized futures. Two new connecting initiatives being designed include Career Treks—taking students to visit employers in targeted industries and locations—and bringing experts to campus for professional-in-residence programs. The objective of these initiatives is to connect students with those who can help them explore, set goals, make plans and ultimately deliver on the promise of a successful, satisfying career.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

John Barker is assistant vice president for career and professional development.
Since his arrival on campus in the late 1950s, Putto has been the victim of countless crimes. Initials have been etched into his bronzed body and toilet paper strewn over his wings. Putto (no one knows exactly how he got his name) has even suffered the embarrassment of having undergarments draped across his curly locks.

And, of course, there have been The Citadel cadets. On more than one occasion, maintenance workers have scrubbed light blue and white paint from his chubby form. Comforted by his companion, a baby dolphin, Putto has endured these indignities and more.

But there have been good times, too. From his familiar perch in the romantic rose garden, the cherub has witnessed untold amorous advances. Maybe that’s why he’s smiling. And he’s been a guest of honor at hundreds of weddings.

Through the years, Putto has become a Furman icon. His impish grin has endeared several generations of students. In 2001, students and alumni became concerned when Putto vanished.

Had he been abducted? Perhaps he had grown weary of the misdeeds and had simply flown away.

To the relief of all, he soon returned a bit cleaner and polished. For many years, the Furman angel was the centerpiece of the rose garden. A decade ago, he was moved a few feet away and now keeps watch over the garden from underneath an arched brick stairway.

For the aged statue, this shady, protected area seems suitable. He is getting older now, and the new home offers protection from the sun and rain. Putto is still smiling. So, he must agree.
Trouvaille is a French word that means, “a chance encounter with something wonderful.” This is exactly how I would describe my time in Ghana. I got to meet many amazing people and experience a different culture. It offered me a chance to discover a new country and explore myself.

Guided by our communications studies professors Janet Kwami and Cynthia King (right), our class explored West African culture and media. One of my biggest takeaways from this trip was connecting with my love of storytelling.

The market in Kumasi, Ashanti Ghana, is the largest market in West Africa and was absolutely one of the busiest, crowded places I have ever been. Men and women were selling their goods that ranged from vegetables to shoes.

I talked to several people who live in the Kofru Village which is located outside Accra. Accra is the capital of Ghana and is the country’s most populous city with about 2.3 million urban residents.
Things were not looking good for the Furman basketball program after the 2012-13 season, and that appeared to be equally true for Bob Richey’s career. Richey had been an assistant coach for two seasons under Jeff Jackson, who had just resigned after posting his sixth losing season in seven years. So, as it had done for the better part of four decades, Furman once again was in search of a new head coach and a new beginning, which usually doesn’t bode well for the assistant coaches left behind.

But Richey didn’t see things the way many others did. While there was no arguing with the mounting losses, he was convinced the Furman program could easily move in a more positive direction. There was rising sophomore Stephen Croone, who Richey had recruited and who was the team’s second leading scorer and assist leader as a freshman. There were other solid players on the roster, too, as well as some promising high school recruits like Kris Acox, Devin Sibley and Daniel Fowler.

In other words, Richey didn’t see a team that had only won seven games the previous season. He saw a program that had a solid foundation and just needed a good push in the right direction.

That positive outlook must have affected the new head coach who was hired a few weeks later, because Niko Medved asked Richey to stay on the staff as his top assistant. And Richey’s vision of the future was realized over the next four years when the Paladins got better every season, winning...
nine, 11, 19 and then 23 games in 2016-17, as they became the Southern Conference Regular Season Champions for the first time in 26 years.

So, when Medved left Furman after last season to take on another rebuilding project at Drake University, who other than Bob Richey deserved the chance to keep the momentum going? Richey was named the Paladins' new head coach in April, which was what the players made clear they wanted.

The importance of continuity wasn't lost on Furman Athletics Director Mike Buddie. "What kind of message does it send if you don't promote from within, when the staff has done everything you could have possibly asked?" he says. "They're winning basketball games, they're winning in the community, and they're winning in the classroom."

Looking back at the period after Jackson resigned and Medved took over, Richey says two things led to Furman's current success: Croone didn't transfer out of the program, and Acox, a 6-foot-6 recruit from Reykjavik, Iceland, honored his letter of intent.

"That's a pretty rare thing to happen during a coaching change, to keep two players like that," Richey says. "And let's be honest. You take Stephen Croone and Kris Acox out of the equation, and you and I aren't sitting here right now."

Yes, it usually comes down to the players, and the Paladins have definitely increased their talent level over the last four years. Croone, a guard, was SoCon Player of the Year in 2015-16, and Sibley, a fellow guard, received the same honor last season as a junior. Acox was second team SoCon All-Conference, and guard Jordan Lyons was named to the All-Freshman team.

Four seniors—Sibley, Fowler, John Davis and Geoff Beans—return from last year's team along with several other players who saw significant playing time. Matt Rafferty, a 6-foot-8 junior who missed most of last season with a back injury after earning All-Freshman honors, is healthy again. All in all, seven of Furman's returning players have started games.

Richey says the Paladins have gotten deeper every season over the last four years, and this year's team will be the deepest yet. "For the first time since I've been here, we'll have 13 guys competing for minutes," he says. "There will be some tough decisions about who to play, but that's a good problem for a coach to have."

Most coaches—and especially new coaches—tend to downplay their team's chances in any given season, but Richey can't help but be positive when he looks at his first team.

"We have four starters back, and we didn't lose a perimeter player," Richey says. "We have a big spot to fill with Acox having graduated, but I feel like we'll be able to do it. This team is close, they get along with each other, and they put in the hard work you need to be successful. We want to set the bar high, and the team's ultimate goal is to go to Asheville and win."

That, of course, would mean the Paladins win the Southern Conference tournament and qualify for the NCAA tournament for the first time since 1980.

Richey says there is a difference between having a great team and having a great program. Great teams come and go, but great programs carry on every year no matter who's on the court.

"People thought we wouldn't be as good when Croone graduated, and we were actually better," he says. "And I'm sure they'll think the same thing when we lose four seniors next year. But great programs can replace key players because the culture and the daily work habits allow other players to step in and take over. When it's your time to play, you need to be ready. That's what we're working to accomplish here, to build a strong program."

THE TOP GUY

Bob Richey now leads a staff he has served on for seven years.
Notes from the Field

SPORTS BRIEFS

BY JOHN ROBERTS

TOP OF THE FIELD

Perhaps the Southern Conference's fabled Germann Cup, which is awarded annually to the university with the top women's sports program, needs a new name.

This April, Furman captured its second straight Germann Cup. It's also the third in the last four years. In 2016-17, Furman won SoCon championship titles in cross country, women's tennis and women's golf, while securing regular season SoCon titles in women's tennis and softball.

Since the Germann Cup was established 31 years ago, Furman has won it 15 times.

So, how does the Furman Cup sound?

And the men didn't fare too poorly, finishing second in the comparable Commissioner's Cup.

LOOKING GOOD IN PURPLE

The Furman men's basketball team just missed qualifying for the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Tournament.

But the university still had a presence at the big dance. Furman and the Southern Conference served as co-hosts for the tournament's first and second rounds, which were held March 17-18 in Greenville's Bon Secours Wellness Arena and broadcast by CBS.

And the Diamond F was proudly emblazoned on the hardcourt (please tell us you saw it).

Two of the regional participants—South Carolina and North Carolina—advanced to the Final Four with the Tar Heels winning it all.

NCAA officials, teams and fans must have enjoyed the experience. In April, the NCAA announced that the tournament would return in 2022.

Guess who gets to host again?

A PLACE ON THE DANCE FLOOR

Greenville's Bon Secours Wellness Arena, which welcomes more than 550,000 visitors a year, now has a purple front door.

In February, Furman announced that it would sponsor one of the main entrances to the 15,000-seat facility. University signage and flags now adorn a prominent arena entrance. And the concourse includes images of Furman's stunning campus.

The partnership offers Furman a number of other branding opportunities, including digital displays on the arena's scoreboard and circular ribbon board.

FURMAN | FALL 2017 17
BEST FACE FORWARD

FURMAN HOSTED THE NATIONALLY TELEVISED BMW CHARITY PRO-AM IN MAY

BY JOHN ROBERTS
Notes from the Field

On a soggy day in late May, German golfer Stephan Jaeger was declared the winner of the rain-shortened BMW Charity Pro-Am.

But another winner emerged: Furman University. For the first time, the Furman Golf Club joined the storied tournament as one of three Greenville host sites. The others were the Thornblade Club and the Preserve at Verdae.

Tens of thousands turned out for May 18-21 golf tournament. And roughly 3 million viewed the event on the Golf Channel, which broadcast the Pro-Am and aired commercials for The Furman Advantage during primetime.

It’s hard to put an advertising value on the coverage and associated social media, but the event certainly helped the university expand its national reputation. And by all accounts, the university and the Furman Golf Club made a great first impression.

“All of the players said they loved the Furman course,” said Becky Vuksta, Furman’s director of auxiliary services, who played a big role in organizing the tournament. “Everyone loved the way they were treated.”

In accepting the BMW Charity Pro-Am trophy, Jaeger also gave the course kudos.

Since 2001, nearly 150 celebrities have participated in the Pro-Am, including actors Kurt Russell, Kevin Costner and Dennis Quaid. This year’s headliners included Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers, comedian Larry the Cable Guy, and former major league baseball players Paul O’Neill, Russ Ortiz and Chipper Jones.

The tournament is managed by the nonprofit organization South Carolina Charities and raised $631,495 for 14 Upstate charities. Since its inception, the tournament has donated over $12 million to more than 200 charities. Furman is scheduled to host again next year.

BY ALL ACCOUNTS, THE UNIVERSITY AND THE FURMAN GOLF CLUB MADE A GREAT FIRST IMPRESSION.
A SECOND SUNRISE

THOUSANDS FLOCK TO FURMAN TO SHARE ECLIPSE EXPERIENCE

By John Roberts
For just a brief moment in time, it seemed, Furman was the center of the Upstate solar system as more than 14,000 people spilled onto the 750-acre campus August 21 to witness a celestial marvel, a total solar eclipse.

With small children and blankets in tow, they picnicked around the lake, strolled along the tree-lined walkways, shrugged off the swaddling humidity and soaked up the once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Most chose to congregate in Paladin Stadium where Furman President Elizabeth Davis introduced Physics Professor David Moffett who provided a lighthearted yet educational 40-minute commentary from the south end zone.

“This is the largest class I have ever taught!” he exclaimed shortly after being introduced.

With the skill of a seasoned showman, Moffett orchestrated an atmosphere of suspenseful anticipation while offering up entertaining snippets of astronomy.
"The eclipse is near St. Louis," he proclaimed at 2:18 p.m.

"It’s over Nashville!" he said at 2:28 p.m.

At 2:36 p.m., when just a sliver of a sun crescent was visible behind the moon, the Paladin Regiment delivered "2001: A Space Odyssey."

And then it happened.

For two minutes the sun, moon and earth aligned perfectly. And so did the collective consciousness of the crowd. Necks craned, all gazed to the heavens and briefly bathed in a glorious moon shadow.

With the twilight song of insects filtering from the nearby woods, the shadows seemed sharper. The horizon glittered with pink. Squeals of delight and gasps filled the cooling afternoon stadium air. In wondertainment, many clasped their hands. Others cried. Some embraced.

The eclipse was, by far, the most publicized event in Furman history. Traffic on the university’s social media platforms rocketed up more than 300 percent for the day. From coast to coast, more than 168 media outlets mentioned Furman.

"Through the years, we have had many events that have received a lot of local and regional attention," says Vince Moore, the university’s media relations director since 1982. "But the eclipse generated more national attention for Furman than any other since I have been here."

It was likely the second-most-attended non-athletic event in Furman history. The top spot may go forever unchallenged by an August 14, 1990, concert by New Kids On The Block. The university added 12,000 field seats in Paladin Stadium that day, and 28,000 attended the sold-out concert by the Boston-bred, boy band.
Although Furman’s eclipse event was free (the university did not even charge for parking), many in Greenville profited from the boom. More than 9,000 rooms in and around the city were slammed booked, and officials said the economic impact of the eclipse was just north of $12 million.

About 100,000 crammed into the city to view the eclipse. Some drove in from Charlotte and Atlanta, cities that were just outside the total eclipse 70-mile-wide band. But many more came from all over.

On a whim, Chris Davidson and his friend Andrew Wiemken left Philadelphia at 5 p.m. on Sunday, the day before the eclipse. Greenville was the shortest distance, they said. And Furman offered a buffet of ancillary activities that focused on public health, fitness and climate science.
“I heard about this on a podcast, and I had to come,” said Davidson, a financial services marketer. “It’s a once-in-a-lifetime event.” Both left hours after the event and reported to work the next day.

Rob Lamb, a banker from Austin, Texas, and his girlfriend, Delia Correa, drove 17 hours to view the eclipse. With nary a room available in Greenville, the couple booked a room in Asheville. Furman was recommended as a viewing sight by a fellow lodger.

“Furman has done a really great job with this,” said Lamb as Timbuk 3’s “The Future’s So Bright, I Gotta Wear Shades” blared from a nearby speaker. “This is my first time here. It is absolutely beautiful.”  

More than a decade in the making

Astronomer and author returns to campus to reunite with friends and family

By John Roberts

Perhaps no one looked forward to the solar eclipse with greater anticipation than Guy Ottewell.

And few travelled farther to see it. A freelance writer and world-famous astronomer, Ottewell traveled from Greenwich, England, to see the event. As a Furman guest of honor, he had one of the best seats in the house—the Bell Tower peninsula.

The trip was a homecoming, and Ottewell has had the date circled for 16 years. From 1973 to 2001, he kept an office in Plyler Hall and was a bit of a campus oddity as he was not a faculty member or university employee.

He used the space to produce the Astronomical Calendar, an annual publication that was crammed with charts, sketches and essays on celestial events. The work, published 1974–2016, brought Ottewell international acclaim among the astronomy community. Oftentimes, visitors from disparate parts of the world would stop by Furman to meet him.

After 43 editions, Ottewell, now 81 and living in a house on the shore of the Thames River, retired the calendar last year. Its circulation was about 24,000.

A Renaissance man, Ottewell’s interests extend beyond the stars. He is an artist (see pg. 65), poet, a student of languages (among them Greek, Latin, Arabic, Persian and Hebrew), and was educated in the classics at King’s College School in Wimbledon, studied Middle Eastern languages and history, then archaeology and anthropology, at Pembroke College in Cambridge, taught in a school in Arab Jerusalem, and catalogued books in Middle Eastern languages for the libraries of Manchester University and UCLA.

Even more remarkable, his knowledge of the stars is entirely self-taught. It was sparked in the late 1960s while he was working at a school on a Navajo Reservation. The Arizona sky was ideal for star-gazing, and Ottewell began researching Navajo star-lore.

A world traveler, Ottewell has observed 15 solar eclipses. He has traveled to Canada, Mongolia, Indonesia, India, the Caribbean Islands and Kenya to witness and marvel.

An avid cyclist and quiet conversationist with a crisp English accent and wispy gray hair, Ottewell strikes a distinctive figure. He made many close faculty friends during his time on campus. Some of them, including Bill Brantley, Gil Allen, Maurice Cherry and Sofia Kearns were there to see him Aug. 21.

But the event was special in another way, too.

Ottewell’s son, Roland ’88, was there with his wife, Karen, and they brought their daughter.

“This is my granddaughter Madeline,” said Guy Ottewell beaming and nodding to the blonde-haired little girl. “And I have just met her. And today is her one-year birthday!”
That’s how Retired Army Lt. Gen. John Mulholland ’78, the former associate director for military affairs at the CIA and commander of the Special Operations Command Central, described the current state of U.S. national security at the Riley Institute’s Safe and Free Conference at Furman in April.

Those aren’t exactly reassuring words coming from someone with as much knowledge and experience as Mulholland. Those sentiments were largely echoed by other panelists including Retired Navy Vice Admiral and former Director of National Intelligence Mike McConnell ’66.

No one who attended Safe and Free, which featured 10 Furman alumni whose career paths span different sectors of national security and news media, left reassured that there was nothing to fear. Instead, they were convinced that our nation faces threats that are dangerous, real and imminent.

The conference did give the greater Furman community a look at how vast the national security sphere is, spanning the military, the intelligence agencies, bio-threats, congressional agencies, the State Department and diplomacy, the tech sector and, yes, even my field of the media.

While our national security complex is impressive, it is far from impregnable, as we have witnessed in recent months as Russian cyberattacks have tested our faith in democratic elections.

While it used to take mighty manpower and intense tactical planning to mount a military operation against another country, McConnell underscored that hostile actors from halfway across the world could launch a cyberattack intended to cripple U.S. information systems.

The extent to which Russia tried to influence the recent U.S. elections remains a hotly debated political topic. President Donald Trump has challenged hacking claims while U.S. intelligence has concluded that Russians hacked emails from the Democratic National Committee and used them to help Trump. Intelligence reports also show that the Russians tried to infiltrate our voting systems and sought other ways to influence the elections.

McConnell said there was “absolutely no question in my mind” that Russia was behind the hacks. “They did it deliberately. They’ll do it again.” He said the attacks were intended to fracture the U.S. and undermine international alliances.

Mike Roosevelt ’81, a recently retired CIA analyst who spent much of his career focusing on Russia, emphasized that as the former Soviet Union has seen their military influence wane, they’ve turned to the cybersphere to try and sow discord and distrust of institutions in other countries.

“It’s abundantly clear that they view information warfare on par with traditional hardware—tanks, planes, guns, things like that.”
Roosevelt said. “It is an integral part of their war mindset. It’s a legitimate battlefield, and it’s a cheap one too.”

Major Gen. Chris Ballard ’84, the commanding general of the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command, said the U.S. needs to remain mindful of civil liberties during the war on terror. The debate over how to balance privacy and national security is what makes America unique and the envy of other countries.

“In a world of increasing competition over resources and a narrative of what we can offer the world, I think we’re still in a better place because that’s a part of our character, part of our nation, of what we can bring, and ultimately it will be an advantage instead of a disadvantage,” Ballard said.

When I was asked last fall to join this conference, I must admit I was a bit perplexed. Since I graduated from Furman a decade ago, I have covered campaigns and elections, just concluding my third presidential cycle. My focus is mainly on electoral politics and the persuasion of voters.

How do we balance privacy, civil liberties and adequately address the security threats posed by ISIS, Russia, North Korea and other foreign actors? It was a concern I heard from voters last fall. These issues and alleged connections between the Trump campaign and the Russians have come to dominate my reporting since returning home from the conference.

I truly believe a free and fair press is critical to keeping the public informed about national security threats and subsequent decisions made by our government.

Belittling concerns and conclusions you simply disagree with as “fake news” undermines the foundation of a free press that’s so critical to our country. Ultimately, such dismissive slogans achieve exactly what outside actors like Russia want to happen—they sow distrust in our institutions and fuel more sniping and division that undermines the very core of our democracy.

Being back on campus with other Furman alumni I had never met before who had chosen such divergent career paths after graduation was enlightening. We all tried to reiterate to students and attendees that our liberal arts and sciences education helped us to think critically and thrive in our diverse, yet complementary, jobs.

We need more people like the alumni panelists gathered for this conference to ensure we have a safe homeland, and we’ll need even more well-qualified people, with critical-thinking, liberal arts and sciences backgrounds in the future. Furman’s engaged learning experience and symposiums like this one expose students to a variety of career paths. Hopefully, too, they encourage more to pursue paths of public service and national security.

Editor’s note: The author is the lead digital political reporter for National Public Radio. She works in Washington, D.C., and was a contributing panelist for the Riley Institute’s Safe and Free Conference. Her reflections as a journalist are included in this work.
Furman’s Dynamic Duo

INVENTORS, ENGINEERS AND SCIENTISTS, GEORGE AND FRAN LIGLER HAVE CONSTRUCTED HALL-OF-FAME CAREERS

By Ron Wagner ’93

George Ligler ’71? Meeting his match? The idea was pretty far out in 1970. Forty-seven years later, though, the real glitch in the matrix may be that Fran Smith Ligler ’73 ever met hers.

Yet, through some fortuitous kismet, two of the finest minds to ever walk the halls at Furman—or any other university for that matter—happened to find themselves in C. Ray Wylie’s hyperbolic geometry class one late summer day in 1969. George was the hotshot math whiz upperclassman from Atlanta, while Fran was ... enjoying college as an 18-year-old who found herself with juniors and seniors because she’d tested out of calculus.
"I had dated most of the freshman football team my first semester, and I was bored stiff," Fran says, eyes twinkling. "He was that smart guy two people in front of me who I was afraid to talk to, and I needed some help so I asked one of his friends. And he butted in to help me. I went out with him twice, and I still wasn’t bored so I kept doing it."

The first date was Jan. 9, 1970, and George quickly discovered the precocious teenager from Louisville, Kentucky, wasn’t like the other girls. Which was good, because the soon-to-be Rhodes Scholar, at the time the university’s fourth, wasn’t like the other boys. By 1972, they were married, and Fran graduated with degrees in chemistry and biology a year early so she could join him at Oxford University in London.

There’s no truth to the rumors that the flight over was powered by their combined mental horsepower, though over the next four decades they would go on to impact the world in ways that are nearly as unbelievable while supporting Furman as few alumni have.

Though Fran says she “tried so hard to break up his grades,” George nonetheless had a perfect GPA when he earned his Bachelor of Science in mathematics from Furman. By 1975, he’d been awarded both a Master of Science and a Doctor of Philosophy in computer science. Not long after, Fran had a Doctor of Philosophy of her own in biochemistry, and they returned to the U.S. where they launched lives so remarkable it’s nearly impossible to overstate their impact.

George embarked on a long career building complex computer systems, highlighted by being a part of a pro bono expert panel that advised Congress on re-engineering census-taking and developing a revolutionary aviation safety system called Automatic Dependent Surveillance-Broadcast. ADS-B allowed pilots to see—and potentially avoid—other planes in flight for the first time. His work on those projects resulted in his 2017 election into the National Academy of Engineering, a prestigious professional distinction accorded to just 2,540 people. It also cemented his place as one of the finest engineers in the family.

That’s because Fran had been a member since 2005, when she became the third Furman graduate in the
FRAN LIGLER was inducted into the 2017 National Inventors Hall of Fame earlier this year. As part of the induction, she participated in an illumination ceremony and added her name to a backlit wall of inventors who joined the hall before her.
NAE. She started in academia, working at a medical school before landing a position with the Naval Research Lab, and after the couple moved to the Washington, D.C., area when George became a division vice president with Computer Sciences Corporation. Over the next 27 years there, Fran cemented herself as one of the finest world-changers in the family with pioneering work in biosensors. She developed a new chemistry for attaching biomolecules on sensor services that allows them to better detect and identify biological warfare agents, environmental pollutants, infectious diseases, drugs and explosives.

“We realized that biological warfare agent defense was a major issue. We knew the technology that existed was not sufficient,” she remembers. “I was working with another person in my group, and he said we can make a better device. I said we can make better chemistry. So, the two of us got together, and he solved one problem and I solved the other.”

Her group was instrumental in producing tactical sensors for botulinum toxin and anthrax during Operation Desert Storm. By the time she left the Naval Research Lab she was one of the most renowned scientists and engineers in the world, achieving near-mythical status for her ability to solve problems that were supposed to be unsolvable and invent things that were supposedly impossible to invent.

“I’ve been told something was impossible three times, and every time I figured out a way to do it,” Fran says.

She has more than 400 full-length publications and patents to her name, a staggering number, including being part of a team that proved cranberry juice can actually prevent urinary tract infections. Her patents have led to 11 commercial biosensor products, and she’s been honored by two presidents: George W. Bush in 2003, when she was awarded the Presidential Rank of Distinguished Senior Professional, and Barack Obama in 2012, when Fran received the Presidential Rank Award of Meritorious Senior Professional.

Remarkably, though, nothing she’s achieved thus far tops joining the likes of Charles Townes ’35, Thomas Edison and the Wright brothers as one of 547 members, and only 22 women, in the National Inventors Hall of Fame. Furman Associate Vice President for Development Shon Herrick and Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost and Professor of Chemistry George Shields attended her May induction ceremony at the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C., a black-tie affair that Shields compared to the Golden Globes.

“T’d say it’s harder to get into the Inventors Hall of Fame than it is to get into the National Academy of Sciences,” Shields says. “It’s rare air.”

“I just pretended that dress was walking across the stage, and I just happened to be in it,” Fran says. Earlier this month, George Ligler had his turn in the spotlight at the NAE national meeting, and the Liglers admit that even for them, 2017 has been a special year. But despite the rapidly diminishing list of possible professional accolades, it’s clear the two have no plans to slow down.

George continues to run GTL Associates, the consulting firm he established in 1988. Since 2013, Fran has had access to world-class resources and students as the Lampe Distinguished Professor of Biomedical Engineering at the University of North Carolina/North Carolina State Joint Department of Biomedical Engineering, a unique collaboration between the N.C. State College of Engineering and the University of North Carolina School of Medicine. They live in Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina, a fast-growing suburb that is filled with young professionals. They have enough room for Fran’s two horses, and family live nearby.
In the spare time that it seems neither could possibly have, George serves as the pit crew as Fran competes in physically demanding endurance horse races. They also make time to dote on seven grandchildren.

Their daughter, Amy, attended Wake Forest and Duke Law School and is a biotech intellectual property attorney in Bethesda, Maryland, while son Adam '05 followed in his parents' Paladin footsteps before becoming a physician in Charlotte, North Carolina.

They express mock disappointment that Amy didn't also go to Furman, because if every Ligler ended up in purple that would suit them just fine. George and Fran have been tireless champions and supporters of the university for decades, with Fran on the Furman Board of Trustees for six years and George chairing the Furman Standard fundraising initiative for faculty development, among many other things.

"(Our professors) had a tremendous impact on us, a very positive impact," George says. "(Wylie) would put a proof on the board and say, 'Isn't that beautiful? Every piece absolutely essential and in the right place!' And he meant it. He was very inspirational. We want to make sure that future generations of Furman students have the type of faculty that we had, because we know of the intrinsic value."

Since 1988, Fran has annually sponsored a summer intern from Furman, and when she was at the Naval Research Lab she facilitated research sabbaticals for Furman biology professors Laura Thompson and Lew Stratton. Next month, she will host a group of Furman students at her labs in Raleigh and Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

"She was always really, really open to helping Furman, not just as a trustee but as a place where students could go and work and get experience, and that was extremely important," says Thompson, who got to know Fran well through horse riding. "She has been so consistent over the 30 years that I have been here."

Fran sometimes threatens to retire but claims George won't have it. One look at her face lighting up in wonderment when asked what she's currently working on, however, reveals the true reason.

"I have a cool new invention I'm pretty excited about!" Fran says before launching into a description of programmable, inexpensive pumps for printers and other electronic devices made, somehow, out of laminated paper. George is certain it will be yet another creation to go commercial, and, in the meantime, they have trips planned to Prague, Switzerland, and a little place on a Caribbean beach in January to celebrate, as they do every year, their first date.

"I like the way we work together as a team. And not just work. We play together as a team," George says when asked what he likes most about Fran after all this time. Her answer? "He's still not boring."
Bill and Lori White Housworth ’91 worked at Angkor Hospital for Children from 2008 to 2016.
A Calling to Cambodia

BY KELLEY BRUSS

The Housworths have dedicated their careers to improving medical care in the impoverished country
The word “saints” will flit across your mind as you hear the facts.

Two Harvard-trained physicians, a husband and wife, leave prosperous medical careers in the metropolitan U.S. to take jobs, one paid and one volunteer, at a small Cambodian hospital.

They take their young children with them, to grow up in one of the poorest countries in the world. And when they have seen the progress they hoped for in the first hospital, they uproot again to build a pediatric facility in a more remote region, where one in 12 children die before the age of 5.

But Dr. Lori White Housworth ’91 doesn’t want anything to do with that word. “We are really not saints,” she says.

“It’s what we’ve been given to do, and we’re just happy to do it.”

She and her husband, Dr. Bill Housworth, relocated from Kentucky to Cambodia in 2008 to work at Angkor Hospital for Children in Siem Reap, a small city in the northwestern sector of the nation. They focused there on training staff and developing and improving programs. In fall 2016, with Angkor under stable Cambodian leadership, they moved to the eastern province of Kratie, where they led the opening of Chenla Children’s Healthcare in June 2017.

It’s a place where their medical training, fueled by faith and compassion, is
“We are really not saints. It’s what we’ve been given to do, and we’re just happy to do it.” – Lori Housworth

saving lives. It’s also a place where things Americans take for granted work sporadically. Lori had to adjust plans for a video chat about their work when the power went out.

“It seems like every day we lose power for a chunk of the day,” she laughs, speaking by phone in a dark room. “Life in Cambodia!”

During her childhood in Kentucky, Lori’s measure of adventure peaked with an occasional trip to Florida. When it was time to choose a college, one of her priorities was going away somewhere.

“My dad took me to Furman, and I fell in love with it,” she says.

Her years at the university left two significant marks. The first was an emphasis on finding a way to serve the broader community, a principle that Furman taught and she “caught,” she says. Second, at the suggestion of History Professor Jim Leavell, she looked at the list of study away options, and her concept of leaving home grew by thousands of miles.

“I thought, ‘I’m going to go to the furthest place,’” she says. That was Japan. She spent the fall of her senior year there. And the experience put Asia in her mind.

When she thinks about college for her own children—who are 15, 15, 12 and 7—she wants them to “go to a place that will build those good things into them.”

Seeds take root

Lori went to medical school at the University of Louisville. Her residency in internal medicine and pediatrics included a unique element—third- and fourth-year residents were encouraged to work overseas for a few months each year.

She took advantage of that opportunity and worked for Samaritan’s Purse, a Christian humanitarian aid organization, in places such as Cameroon and Zambia. She met Bill, a second-year combined internal medicine and pediatrics resident, when she interned under him as a first-year resident.

“When we got married, we both had a passion for this kind of work, and I think we kind of fed on each other,” Lori says.

As they settled into practice in Louisville, Kentucky, they also got involved at Springdale Community Church, which was exploring ways to make an impact internationally. The Housworths traveled to Cambodia to pursue potential partnerships for the church.

They connected with Resource Development International, an agency that operated clean water and sanitation projects and shared their commitment to service and quality. Energized, the Housworths went back to Kentucky and began to lead short-term trips with Resource Development. Even then, “If you would have told me I would be living in rural Cambodia today, I would not have believed you,” Lori says.

But the seeds of their life today were beginning to take root. “You start to see these chronic needs,” she says. “If you could stay, you could do better work, and you could engage here and there and here. It’s hard to jump in and jump out.”

They also realized they could do better work with more specialized training.

In 2005, they moved to Boston so both could pursue master’s degrees from Harvard’s T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Bill’s degree focused on disaster relief and Lori’s on international health. Their personalities and skills were already complementary.

Lori says her husband is the visionary, the one whose gut you can trust in a big decision, while she’s more detail-oriented.

“Two of him or two of me would not function well,” she says.

They had no defined plan for after Harvard, but Lori remembers a conversation when she asked her husband what he might like to do if they decided to go to another country.

“He said, ‘I would run a pediatric hospital in Cambodia.’”

Six months later, a friend from medical school who knew how they’d been spending their time, texted to tell them about a hospital that needed a director.

A pediatric hospital.

In Cambodia.

They moved within three months.
From one challenge to the next

When the Housworths arrived, the 9-year-old Angkor Hospital for Children was small but full of human potential, Bill says. Staff members were hungry to learn and improve their skills. And he and Lori were committed to serving and lifting up the Cambodian leadership.

While Bill took the official administrative role, Lori volunteered throughout the hospital.

“I had a million random jobs,” she says.

During their years there, Angkor added an intensive care unit and built its surgical capacity, including the ability to do open-heart surgery. Lori established programs for social work and created a sexual abuse clinic, introducing the Cambodian staff to rape kits and teaching how to use them and how to interview victims.

When they arrived in 2008, the hospital had one female doctor. When they left in 2015, there were more than 20 on staff. The plan was always to leave the hospital in Cambodian hands, but there wasn’t a specific time frame.

“I see so many ways it helped prepare us for what was next,” Lori says. “We’ve had time to learn the language and culture. And that makes it easier to come to a place and tell them that we plan to stay.”

As they turned Angkor’s administration over to a Cambodian-led executive team, the minister of health proposed a move to Kratie, a village of about 40,000 at the intersection of roads and rivers from all over eastern Cambodia.

A year ago, they left the relative comfort of Siem Reap—a city that draws tourists and has the hotels and restaurants—
and moved east with a hope of developing another a private system that would partner with the local government. The director of the government hospital in the region gave them use of a three-story building, which they immediately began to renovate.

Through the first half of 2017, they worked with contractors, saw patients in the government hospital and began training Cambodian nurses and doctors for more specialized pediatric care.

In June, they moved into the renovated space and were immediately full. An outpatient clinic and emergency room occupy the first floor. The upper floors house a 24-bed hospital, with a neonatal unit and pediatric ward.

Chenla Children’s Healthcare is funded through donations, the Cambodian Ministry of Health, and user fees, in cases where the families can afford them.

Most workers in the region make less than $2 a day. While the staff are paid, the Housworths take only a small stipend. Bill travels back to Kentucky a few times a year to work in the emergency room to bridge the financial gap for his family.

In the eastern region of Cambodia, one in 12 children will die before turning 5. On the other side of the country, that statistic is one in 60. It’s nearly one in 180 in the U.S. The most critical medical issues include respiratory illnesses, diarrhea and malnutrition—diagnoses that can kill without proper treatment. But these children also face the same diseases that strike fear in parents’ hearts in the developed world.

Last spring, Lori was caring for a child with leukemia.

“‘There’s nowhere in this country that she can be treated,” she says.

Another with a loud heart murmur probably has a defect that could be treated with surgery, but there’s nowhere on the eastern side of Cambodia where such a surgery can be done.

Meanwhile, education, nutrition and infectious disease treatment are the “low-hanging fruit” that can make a huge impact.

With their children older and the language and culture already in hand, Bill says Lori is positioned to contribute even more professionally this second time around.

The Housworths, Bill (left), Will, Caroline, Lori, Rachel and Sarah Beth (the youngest) are pictured after completing a jungle trek in the Mondulkiri region of Cambodia.

“I don’t ever want anybody to think that we’re martyrs . . . We’re thankful, and we love it. It’s fun work.” –Lori Housworth

“She’s really hitting her stride with her voice and her opportunities,” he says.

The Housworths are the only foreign family in town, and their children are schooled through an online program designed specifically for expats.

“There are no escapes, culturally,” Lori says. “We’re pretty deep in.”

The family comes back to live in her parents’ basement for several weeks each summer, giving the children some time with cousins and other friends. But they all consider Cambodia home.

“I don’t ever want anybody to think that we’re trying to be martyrs,” she says. “We’re thankful, and we love it. It’s fun work.”
Suddenly Hip

By M. Linda Lee
A RESTAURANT RENAISSANCE, STREET REDESIGN AND WALKING TRAIL HAVE MADE TRAVELERS REST A POPULAR DESTINATION

Huddled in the shadow of the Blue Ridge Mountains, the city of Travelers Rest is teeming with cyclists, outdoors enthusiasts, foodies and Furman students.

A decade ago, there was little to merit more than a quick stop in this once-sleepy burg just four miles north of Furman University.

As its name suggests, Travelers Rest was a place where 19th-century settlers in Conestoga wagons would stop before heading west over the Blue Ridge Mountains. Drovers from Kentucky and Tennessee, likewise, rambled through the town on their way to markets in South Carolina with their herds of cattle, sheep and hogs.

“TR,” (population 5,053) as it’s known to locals, now boasts a landscaped Main Street (US-276) that’s chock-a-block with independently owned restaurants, shops, a brewery and even a wine-tasting room. The town has been heralded as one of America’s coolest small towns and was recently ranked fourth on USA Today’s list of “Readers’ Choice 10 Best Southern Small Towns.”

The transformation took flight in 2006, when the city council finalized a $4.5 million conceptual master plan to beautify Main Street. Three years later, the city began installing new lighting, green spaces, on-street parking and landscaping. City fathers also approved the narrowing of US-276—now Main Street—where it passes through the town’s center. “The idea,” says Travelers Rest City Administrator Dianna Gracely, “was to stimulate private investment by improving the public spaces. Today, TR is like a park that just happens to have a Main Street running through it.”

While the city was spiffing up its streetscape, the Greenville Health System Swamp Rabbit Trail was being completed, creating a perfect storm of revitalization. The project, which converted an abandoned rail bed to a walkway connecting Greenville and Travelers Rest, sees more than half-a-
The Comeback

million users each year, according to a four-year economic impact study led by Julian Reed, an associate professor of health sciences at Furman.

The dolled-up Main Street was ripe for restaurant development, and Gracely credits Joyce McCarrell ’74 and her sister, Nancy, as pioneers in kicking off TR’s dining renaissance. What began as an idea for a snack bar catering to riders on the Swamp Rabbit Trail blossomed into a full-service restaurant and gift shop.

“The speed with which the restaurant took off surprised us,” says McCarrell. Perhaps it shouldn’t have. Their Café at Williams Hardware opened in 2008 as the city was improving Main Street and the first mile of the Swamp Rabbit Trail was being paved in TR. The café drew people to the town, where they saw the possibilities for other businesses. “People just kept adding the pieces,” McCarrell says.

“It’s the people who make this town great,” says Mayor Wayne McCall, referring, in part, to the many locally owned businesses that now call downtown TR home, like Upcountry Provisions, a bakery and restaurant just off Main Street on State Park.

DOWNTOWN PIONEER Joyce McCarrell ’74 and her sister, Nancy, opened Café at Williams Hardware in 2008. The effort helped to kick start a restaurant renaissance that flourishes today.

“IT’S THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE THIS TOWN GREAT.”

—MAYOR WAYNE MCCALL

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Road. Cheryl Kraus '09 put her business administration degree to good use when she and her husband, Steve, fermented the idea for a bakery. Realizing TR’s potential, the couple launched Upcountry Provisions in 2012.

“When I was at Furman, TR was nothing more than a place to pass through on your way to somewhere else,” Cheryl says. “I see the city with new eyes now. As a business owner and a mother of two, TR offers me a lifestyle.”

Ivan Mathena ’08 also made a mark on the nascent restaurant scene. In 2013, he opened the bar Shortfield’s and went on to help launch Whistle Stop at the American Café as general manager. During that time, he saw what made the city tick. "In two to three years, Travelers Rest became a town I wouldn’t have recognized when I was at Furman,” says Mathena. “There’s a real organic feel to TR today.”

The completion of Trailblazer Park in 2014 contributed another piece to the city’s revival and created an ideal site for the Travelers Rest Farmers Market. Bob Chance, a professor of art at Furman, sells his pottery at the market every other Saturday, alongside as many as 80 vendors. “It’s fun to be in the middle of all that magic on Saturday morning,” Chance says. “People come to the market and end up becoming engaged in the town.”

When Evan Rutter ’06 established The Tasting Room on Main Street in 2015—recently relocated to a larger space behind Farmhouse Tacos—he took a chance on TR. Walking through town on the Swamp Rabbit Trail, he saw the success of the Swamp Rabbit Brewery as an indication that people were seeking craft spirits.

“I saw the town growing and wanted to get in on the ground floor,” explains the certified sommelier whose love for wine was sparked in his senior year during his time in New Zealand as part
Evan Rutter ’06 parlayed his interest in wine into a successful business venture. He is the owner of the Tasting Room, a boutique wine shop, bar and venue that specializes in artisan wines and craft beers.
The Comeback

of Furman’s Australearn program. “I hope we’re adding a note of sophistication and culture to TR.”

From eateries like Leopard Forest Coffeehouse, Sidewall Pizza and Farmhouse Tacos to the Swamp Rabbit Trail and free concerts and movies in Trailblazer Park, TR resonates with students these days. As Dianna Gracely puts it, “We want TR to be the students’ hometown while they’re on campus.”

This spring, Furman students decorated the city with a vibrant mural outside Farmhouse Tacos. Designed by Greenville artist Emily Clanton and painted by Furman students as part of a May Experience class titled Art and Community Engagement, the mural depicts a TR scene populated with bicycles and farm-fresh vegetables against the backdrop of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

For all its hip appeal, the city remains a jumping-off point for outdoor recreation, lying as it does at the foot of the mountains just over the North Carolina line. “Travelers Rest today is what it always was,” says Gracely, “only more cool.”
A GOOD READ

A love story, apocalypse, baby frog and philosopher

BY JOHN ROBERTS

HERE’S MY HEART
Leigh W. Callan ‘68

As a member of the 2nd Platoon, Battery D, 639th Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion, Lieutenant Doyle K. Whittenburg had a front-row seat to some of the greatest moments of World War II. He helped defend towns in Belgium from the Luftwaffe, took part in the Battle of the Bulge and was among the soldiers who pushed through Germany.

Along the way, he penned frequent letters to Juby, his newlywed wife. From 1942 to 1945, Doyle wrote more than 400 letters—he called them word pictures—to Juby, who meticulously preserved them. The letters, and a few photos Doyle took, became a treasured family archive.

Here’s My Heart is a loving compilation of those letters and is authored by Doyle and Juby Whittenburg’s daughter, Leigh Whittenburg Callan ’68. The 416-page work documents her father’s daily life as he prepares for war, is tested in battle and learns to lead, all while longing for his new bride.

Callan describes her work in the book’s foreword: “A story of love and survival both, it is a guide for coping with separation under extreme circumstances. The backdrop is WWII, but this story—so very intimate and personal—is about the soldier and his lady, not the war.”

She concludes the section by writing, “One thing I know. On the fifth day of transcribing his words 80 some-odd years after they were written, I fell in love with this young man who became my father. And I understood why my parents’ marriage lasted 62 years.”

Callan is a retired biology professor from Georgia Highlands College. In 2010, she and her brother retraced their father’s footsteps while touring Europe.

THE WORLD IS ON FIRE
Joni Tevis

Joni Tevis’ The World is on Fire: Scrap, Treasure, and Songs of Apocalypse is a nonfiction book about living in a haunted world. Its essays draw on material gathered from her trips to San Jose, California, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska, the Cave of the
Apocalypse in Patmos, Greece, and elsewhere.

In crafting the work, Tevis researched sources ranging from oral histories of atomic testing. Life articles from the late 1950s, compendium of beliefs such as John Frazer’s The Golden Bough, declassified films of atomic tests conducted in the Nevada desert, and clips of Buddy Holly performances to help her come to terms with the atomic history of the United States.

A Furman English professor since 2008, Tevis has worked as a park ranger, factory worker and cemetery plot salesperson. The World is on Fire is her second book of nonfiction with Milkweed Editions, a nonprofit publisher based in Minneapolis that is dedicated to publishing literary work with an emphasis on place.

**FOGO THE FROG**
*Shawn Reid ‘88*

Fogo is a young, friendly boy frog who lives near a river and enjoys playing in the water with his friends the beaver, pelican, turtle and fish. Each morning before Fogo goes out to play his mother tells him, “Be careful playing near the river and do not talk to strangers.”

But one day while Fogo was preparing to board his raft for a trip, a sickly looking snake appears. He wants Fogo to give him a ride across the river to see a doctor. Against his better judgment, Fogo agrees.

Shortly after leaving the shore, though, the snake removes his bandages and looks strong. Fogo remembers his mother’s words. And he is afraid. What happens next?

You’ll have to read *Fogo The Frog, Stranger Danger* to find out. The work is the third book by Shawn Reid ’88 and is dedicated to the late Francis Bonner and the Furman University English Department. Bonner chaired the English department and served as dean.

**THE SOUTHERN PHILOSOPHER,**
Collected Essays of John William Corrington
*Allen Mendenhall ’05 (editor)*

John William Corrington is probably best known for his fiction and screenplays. Corrington, who was also an attorney, wrote scripts for *The Battle for the Planet of the Apes, Boxcar Bertha, Omega Man* and other films. His most provocative work, though, can be found in the many essays he penned.

Corrington’s intense intellect and distinctly southern flair are present in them. He wrote about the humanities, the South, law, religion, jurisprudence and many other subjects in a writing career that spanned more than three decades. In *The Southern Philosopher, Collected Essays of John William Corrington,* editor Allen Mendenhall ’05 presents many of Corrington’s previously unpublished critical essays in this 342-page book.

Mendenhall is associate dean of Thomas Goode Jones School of Law and executive director of the Blackstone & Burke Center for Law & Liberty. He has authored hundreds of publications in law reviews, magazines, newspapers and literary periodicals. 

*FURMAN | FALL 2017 47*
A partner is one who shares. For decades, alumni, parents and friends of Furman have been partners with our great institution. Our partners have helped provide access to a world-class education and opportunities for thousands of graduates.

Twenty years ago, the Partners Program at Furman was born. Many dedicated donors made scholarship gifts and were paired with students. During this time, almost 700 students have had a partner who has supported their dream of earning a Furman degree. In many cases, these special relationships have turned into lifelong friendships. Donors have helped students network and have provided invaluable guidance. Recipients have invited their partner to special life events like commencement and weddings. This program is truly inspirational.

The Furman Advantage promises to provide an individualized pathway for every student. To do this it is important to continue building deeper relationships among all of our constituents. All students will have an opportunity to participate in meaningful engaged learning including research, study away and internships. Some of these opportunities will be for an entire semester or summer, and some will be through a May Experience. Other life-changing experiences include involvement in organizations or athletics. Each experience will be meaningful and will prepare our graduates to be successful in so many ways.

So why am I sharing this with you? Because we have an opportunity to build upon the Partners Program like never before and show the power of Furman and the connections we share. We are expanding the opportunities for alumni, parents and friends to invest in the success of our students by supporting their personalized pathways. Donors can now partner to help provide each student with these individualized experiences.

You can become a partner and support scholarships, internships, research and study away through annual investments or by creating an endowment that will support students in perpetuity. And, now, through the generosity of The Duke Endowment, you can double your impact. The Duke Endowment will match your investment in students turning our partnership into opportunities for each Furman student. As a partner, you will have an opportunity to meet your student through on- and off-campus events. Together, we can ensure that students have unique relationships that strengthen what it means to be a Paladin.

Let’s continue to increase the power of the Furman community by not only creating more opportunities, but also by building individual, long-lasting relationships that show our commitment to Furman and each other.

If you would like to learn more about the match from The Duke Endowment and how you can become a partner, please do not hesitate to contact me at 864.294.3436 or at shon.herrick@furman.edu.

Shon R. Herrick
Associate Vice President for Development
The Partners Program gives Chambers the advantage.

The Partners Program supports The Furman Advantage by funding student scholarships and experiences. Investments through the Partners Program enable our students to engage, push and power transformation.

Help ensure that every experience they have produces an advantage. Contact us about supporting a Furman student by calling 864.294.3436 or Furman.edu/Partners.

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PARTNERS DONORS MAKE MY COLLEGE CAREER POSSIBLE—IT HUMBLES ME AND SPEAKS TO THE CORE OF WHAT I BELIEVE FURMAN STANDS FOR: A TIGHT-KNIT COMMUNITY THAT LEARNS TOGETHER AND SUPPORTS EACH OTHER THROUGH GENERATIONS AND BEYOND BOUNDARIES. —Chambers English, class of 2019
Our alumni and friends across the country helped us to celebrate Dins Day April 25. The 24-hour celebration generated 1,932 individual gifts totaling more than $1.3 million. Altogether, the three Dins Day events raised more than $3.3 million in support of the university. Many others attended commencement, reunions and other awards ceremonies that are part of the rhythm of the school year.

1. Britt Riedl Young '96 and family, Kahala on Island of Oahu, Hawaii.
2. Members of the Furman Alumni Council gather in the rose garden after a recent on-campus meeting.
3. Chad Daniel '13, celebrating Dins Day from Hollywood, California.
4. Members of the class of 1967 celebrate their 50th reunion and later lead the class of 2017 into Paladin Stadium for the commencement ceremony.
Furman Senior Order alumni join with undergraduate members to welcome the newest inductees, including President Elizabeth Davis. Sarah King '16, Anna Flynn '18 and Sarah McIntosh enjoy the view during a recent alumni and parent event at the Charlotte Knights baseball game. Sarah Byrd '18 and Anna Caroline Soldan '19 show their Paladin Pride from the White House. Larry '10 and Kat Hall Heddien '11, Wilson and Leslie Follman Landers '10, and Thomas '09 and Margaret Shepard Slaughter '11 show their Paladin Pride at the Cooper River Bridge Run in Charleston, South Carolina. President Davis joins Rachel Goding '19 for a selfie. Both were participating in the MoyX program “Slow Food Italian Style.” See letter from the President on page 3.
1964
John P. Cardillo, a founder and partner of the Cardillo, Keith & Bonacquist, P.A., law firm in Naples, Florida, since 1972, has been appointed by the Florida Supreme Court to a three-year term on the board of The Florida Bar Foundation. A Florida Bar Foundation Fellow, John began his second term July 1. Among honors John has received are the Florida Bar’s G. Kirk Haas Humanitarian Award, the Collier County Judiciary’s Lion of the Law Award for professionalism, the Collier County Bar’s Lifetime Achievement Award, the Naples Daily News 2005 Outstanding Citizen Award, and the Jefferson Award for Public Service. He has served on The Florida Bar Board of Governors, and has served as a commissioner on the Florida Judicial Qualifications Commission.

1967
Kathy Poerschke Stillerman published her second historical novel in March 2017. *In the Fullness of Time* is set in Pickens County, South Carolina, in the era of the Woman Suffrage Movement of 1913–1919. It is a sequel to her 2015 *Hattie’s Place.*

1970
Kenneth M. Holland was named president of The American University of Kabul, Afghanistan, in spring 2017.

1977
Nancy Rice Powers, a longtime Greenville development pediatrician, was awarded the Furman University Baptist Heritage Alumni Award. Nancy played a leading role in helping to create the South Carolina Medical Legal Partnership in Greenville, a non-profit organization that helps low-income residents improve health outcomes through select legal intervention. Nancy was recognized with the award at the university’s convocation.

1979
Bruce Lancaster recently accepted a senior director position with NThrive headquartered in Alpharetta, Georgia. NThrive is helping to improve health care in the United States through its comprehensive patient-to-patient portfolio of solutions.

In March 2017, Jeff Beggs was inducted into the Georgia Athletic Directors Association Hall of Fame, joining 21 other athletic administrators with this distinction. Jeff, who played football on Furman’s first Southern Conference championship team in 1978, has had a 37-year professional career in education in Georgia, 25 as a school and school system athletics administrator.

1986
Susan Mangels of St. Louis, Missouri, has started a new role as SVP Consultant Services at A.C. Fitzgerald & Associates, a firm that specializes in nonprofit solutions and works in the free market and education space. In addition to St. Louis, she will have an office out of Alexandria, Virginia.

1990
Andy Murphy is principal and senior investment advisor for GENCapital, a new wealth-management firm that has opened with an office in Atlanta, Georgia. GENCapital, founded in the fall of 2016, offers investment management, financial planning and banking advisory services for individuals, families, businesses and institutions.

1991
Noel Painter has been named executive vice president and provost at Stetson University in DeLand, Florida. Noel joined the faculty of Stetson University School of Music in 1999 and has served as associate dean and as interim provost. Prior to his arrival at Stetson, Noel taught graduate and undergraduate courses at Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester.

1992
Carl Sullivan is a senior content publishing manager with Microsoft in New Delhi, India. He manages the overnight team that programs MSN.com for the United States audience.

John Wilsey is William E. Simon Visiting Fellow in Religion and Public Life for the James Madison Program at Princeton University for 2017–18. He is also taking a new post this fall as an associate professor of church history at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

*Continued on page 55*
Message on a Notecard

Mark Allen ’90 and Susan Crowell ’91 stay grounded in their written words.

By Lindsay Niedringhaus ’07

Mark Allen ’90 first spotted Susan Crowell ’91 during her freshman year at Furman, and after learning that Crowell worked part time at the university bookstore, he spent a lot of time perusing the shelves. But Allen never bought a book, and he never got the nerve to introduce himself to Crowell.

Instead, he took to pen and paper, writing Crowell secret admirer notes and leaving them in her school mailbox. “I thought they were a joke,” recollects Crowell. “I thought some girls on my hall wrote them, so I just tossed them in the trash and didn’t think twice about them.”

“I kept waiting for her to realize they were from me and instantly fall in love with me,” laughs Allen. “That didn’t happen.”

Eventually, a friend set up the couple for Homecoming. And they finally had a conversation.

“It was so easy,” says Crowell. “We just talked and talked late into the night.”

The relationship grew, Allen graduated, and he began to pursue a career in business. Crowell, on the other hand, found her path pointing toward the church, a decision influenced by her work with Collegiate Educational Service Corps—now Heller Service Corps—as well as an internship with a hospice program.

“And,” Allen says, “that’s when we hit our first real-world snag. I didn’t go to church at all growing up; I had no idea what life in the church was like.”

“And,” Crowell remembers, “I thought to myself, ‘If I can’t convert my husband, then there’s no way I can ever convert anyone!’ It was a definite time of pause in our relationship.”

But instead of sending mail-order Bibles to Allen, who at the time was in business school at the University of South Carolina, Crowell gave him space.

“To me, it was simple. If he couldn’t love God, then I couldn’t love him,” explains Crowell.

For Allen, it was simple, too. He didn’t want to lose Crowell. So, if that meant serving as a pastor’s husband, he’d jump right in. They were married July 30, 1994. Soon after, Crowell accepted a position as the associate pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in downtown Greenville.

“I was pleasantly surprised, actually, at how much I ended up enjoying serving as a pastor’s husband,” says Allen. “I’d never experienced that sort of church community.”

Allen did, however, like to remind Crowell of what a dedicated new church member he was. So, he returned to pen and paper, beginning what is now a Christmas gift tradition: He writes out an index card listing the number of times Allen attended worship,
Furman gate gets a AAA name

Three generations of Atkinsons have passed through the iconic gates of Furman University. Dr. J. Thomas “Tom” Atkinson, a member of the class of 1958, was followed by his son, Dr. Tom Atkinson Jr. ’84, grandson, Trey Atkinson ’09, and granddaughter, Katie Atkinson ’12. Atkinson, a retired dentist from Greenville, and his wife Sherry Atkinson honored Furman and their family’s legacy by recently naming the front gate. Atkinson Gate is now named for the longtime benefactors of the university. The Atkinsons are also longstanding members of the Richard Furman Society and Paladin Club, enthusiastic fans of athletics, and benefactors to the Herring Center for Continuing Education. Atkinson also participates in OLLI classes.

1993
Pat Patrick of Nashville, Tennessee, is a co-founder of The Humanity Project, an organization with one simple goal: to spread, teach and model empathy in today’s stark society. Employing the arts as a catalyst, the project’s focus is set on creating conversations about empathy in Nashville and across the country. Seeing so many acts of hate-fueled violence, the project founders hope to make a positive impact, both locally and nationally, in the wake of such monstrous actions.

1996
Kate Little Morgan has written her first book. Thirty Thousand Days was published this winter by Christian Focus Publications. She writes that the average human lifespan is about 30,000 days and asks how can we spend those days well in a broken world?

1997
John Gray of Canadian Lakes, Michigan, a philosophy professor at Ferris State University, has been selected to receive the school’s 2017 Distinguished Teacher Award. John has been on the faculty of Ferris College of Arts and Sciences since 2006.

1999
Megan Fischer Weis has joined the board of Eat Smart Move More South Carolina (ESMMSC). With the three-year term, she will contribute to ESMMSC’s mission of advancing community-led change to reduce obesity by making the healthy choice the easy way choice for South Carolina.

2001
Anne-Leigh Gaylord Moe has been appointed by Florida Governor Rick Scott to the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Court in Tampa. At the time of her appointment, she was an equity shareholder at Bush Ross, P.A., in Tampa, where her practice focused on commercial litigation. She previously clerked for the Honorable Virginia M. Hernandez Covington, United States District Judge, Middle District of Florida.

2002
Allison C. Aiken, a research scientist at Los Alamos National Laboratory, was recently promoted to manage the operations of three aerosol observing systems for the U.S. Department of Energy’s Atmospheric Radiation Measurement Climate Research Facility. Read more at https://i.am.gov/content/2017/profile-allison-aiken.

2005
After completing a master's degree in international development and
Moving the Needle
McClarty leads recruiting efforts in Baltimore area.

As President and CEO of Maryland’s Howard County Chamber of Commerce, Leonardo McClarty ’96 gets to fulfill an ambition for shaping and improving communities through public and private partnerships, an interest he developed as a political science major at Furman.

He also gets to do something else: live below the Mason-Dixon Line again.

After a brief stint in York, Pennsylvania, as the city’s director of economic and community development, it was a bonus for the Georgia native when he took the job nearly three years ago—even if the outskirts of Baltimore barely count.

“I guess technically I’m in the South, although it doesn’t really feel like it,” he says with a laugh.

Leaving a family that has lived in the Atlanta area for generations was difficult, but the opportunity is what McClarty had been working for since he was an undergraduate. A pair of courses taught by Furman Political Science Professor Glen Halva-Neubauer exposed him to urban studies, and from that point “it was always a goal to be a director of economic development or to run a chamber,” McClarty says.

McClarty went on to earn a master’s degree in city planning from Clemson University, where he realized he was “fascinated about why certain communities prosper and others don’t.”

Barely a year after landing his first job as a project manager for DeKalb County in Georgia, McClarty was named the president of the DeKalb County Chamber of Commerce at 31.

“One of the things that I enjoy about my job is I feel like I’m making a difference,” he says. “In the end, it’s that feeling that I’m moving the needle.”

Difficult to find on his impressive professional bio is that McClarty was an outstanding college football player and hosted a weekly two-hour radio show on WPLS, the campus radio station.

— by Ron Wagner ’93

humanitarian assistance, Jessie Cochran is a logistics officer with the World Food Programme (a United Nations agency) in South Sudan.

Allen Mendenhall’s newest book, Of Bees and Boys: Lines from a Southern Lawyer (Red Dirt Press), was released in June. Allen is the associate dean and executive director of the Blackstone & Burke Center for Law and Liberty at Faulkner University and is the author of Literature and Liberty: Essays in Libertarian Literary Criticism (2014). He has been featured in publications such as Forbes, U.S. News & World Report, and Newsweek, and has appeared on the BBC World News, Al Jazeera, and Alabama Public Television. He has a monthly show on Fox News Affiliate WFPA 1400 AM and is editor of the Southern Literary Review.

2006
Patrick Arnett recently purchased a dental practice located in Greenville, South Carolina. He maintains a teaching position with the Veteran’s Affairs hospital in Augusta, Georgia, where he mentors residents in implant dentistry.

2008
Grant Roberts, CFP®, a financial consultant in Hilliard Lyons’ Roberts & Kohler Group in downtown Louisville, Kentucky, has been authorized by the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards to use the Certified Financial Planner™ and CFP® certification marks.
The extra training to earn the use of these certification marks equips Grant to provide an even higher level of client service as he helps clients to build, manage, protect and transition their assets. Grant has worked at Hilliard Lyons since 2013.

William Rosenblatt completed his medical residency and chief residency in internal medicine at the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in June 2017. He and his wife, Myra Dennis Rosenblatt ’09, an optometrist, are both in practice in Columbus, Mississippi.

2011
Konrad Muggleston received his Ph.D. in government and politics from the University of Maryland in May 2017 and is now working as a senior policy analyst for Education Reform Now, the Washington think tank.

BIRTHS AND ADOPTIONS

Christopher and Jennifer Barone Gunn ’94 adopted a son, six-year-old John Julian Mattias Gunn, from Columbia, South America, February 2017


Jeremy and Megan Fischer Weis ’99, a son, Logan James Weis, Feb. 20, 2017

Glenn “Buddy” Jr. and Sarah Ann Turpen Davis ’04, a son, William Turpen Davis, Sep. 29, 2016

Olin and Dorothy Powers Gorman ’04, a son, Conor Joseph Gorman, Nov. 23, 2016

Becky Lane ’04 and Caitlin Ritchie-Lane, a daughter, Maggie Hazel, Dec. 4, 2016

Carson and Ashley Smith Alexander ’05, a son, Thomas Carson Alexander Jr. May 4, 2017

Adam and Diana Estes Ligler ’05, a son, Luke Adrian Ligler, March 11, 2017

Nathan and Elizabeth Alexander Brown ’06, a son, William Henry Brown, April 14, 2017

Ryan and Dixie Clayton McClure ’06, a daughter, Hadley McClure, May 2015

Niko and Erica Nesselroad Medved ’06, a daughter, Alexa Ann Medved, March 1, 2017

William ’08 and Myra Dennis Rosenblatt ’09, a son, Lyle Henry Rosenblatt, April 17, 2016

Jacob and Jade Lawson Fountain ’09, a son, Jack David Fountain, March 11, 2017

Curry receives major honor from the Manhattan Institute

Ravenel B. Curry III ’68, president and co-founder of Eagle Capital Management in New York City, was honored with the Manhattan Institute’s Alexander Hamilton Award during the Institute’s 40th anniversary celebration in May.

Former New York City Police Commissioner William J. Bratton also received the Hamilton award during the ceremony, which included a highlight reel of interviews with Manhattan Institute scholars over the past 40 years. Past Hamilton award winners include Jeb Bush, Henry Kissinger, Tom Wolfe, Mortimer B. Zuckerman and Edward Koch.

According to Manhattan Institute President Larry Mone, the award “was created to honor individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the nation’s civic and intellectual life. This year’s honorees are paragons of the Hamiltonian virtues the award sets out to recognize: civic leadership, entrepreneurial spirit and intellectual dynamism.”

Curry, president and co-founder of Eagle Capital Management, sits on the Manhattan Institute’s Board of Trustees. He has been a major philanthropic figure in New York City, supporting the New-York Historical Society, where he also sits on the Board of Trustees. He is a trustee of the American Enterprise Institute, The Duke Endowment, the New York Hall of Science and The New York Historical Society. Curry is a former member of the Furman Board of Trustees.

Continued on next page
Zachary and Charlotte Bissell Garner '11, a daughter, Mary Claxton Garner, Jan. 27, 2017

Charles and Shannon Cantwell Nadd '11, a daughter, Mary Margaret Agnes Nadd, Dec. 6, 2016

OBITUARIES

Isabel Ruth Allgood Hunt '39, March 10, 2017, Powder Springs, GA

Alberta Dickson Odom '41, April 14, 2017, Greenville, SC

Virginia Garrison Lindler '42, Feb. 10, 2017, Greenville, SC

Marion Floyd Leach '43, Feb. 21, 2017, Beaufort, SC

Frances Bailey Conway '44, March 9, 2017, Greenville, SC

Katherine Heidt Dobson '44, June 14, 2017, Greer, SC

Martha Cockfield Richardson '44, March 14, 2017, Florence, SC

John Champ Scott '45, Feb. 27, 2017, Greenville, SC

Theron Otis Walker Jr. '45, Feb. 12, 2017, Greer, SC

Dorothy Mae Hunter Teal '46, Feb. 5, 2017, Cheraw, SC

Basil Manly IV '47, Feb. 21, 2017, Greenville, SC

Whitfield Brooks Wharton '48, April 17, Greenville, SC

Beverly Bull Evans '48, March 16, 2017, Vance, SC

Hazel Martin Owings '48, March 15, 2017, Owings, SC

James W. Pendergrass Jr. '48, Jan. 30, 2017, Fork Union, VA

Whitfield Brooks Wharton '48, April 17, Greenville, SC

R. Cooper White '48, April 22, 2017, Greenville, SC

Fred Charles Brooks '49, Feb. 6, 2017, Greenville, SC

William Garrison McCuen '49, March 10, 2017, Greenville, SC

Mary Helen Hilton Moen '49, June 4, 2016, Dousman, WI

Walter James Moorhead '49, April 5, 2017, Crossville, TN

Ethan Ogilvie Todd Jr. '49, March 7, 2017, Jacksonville, FL

Don Baldwin '51, March 18, 2017, Taylors, SC

Othello Davis Ballenger '51, March 30, 2017, Wellford, SC

Mary Elizabeth Cochell '51, Feb. 7, 2017, Scottsdales, AZ

Furman Ray Gray '51, March 13, 2017, Greenville, SC

Mary Louise Howell Willis '51, April 17, 2017, Honea Path, SC

Patten Jackson Jones '52, April 12, 2017, Mount Pleasant, SC

Betty Jo Parkins '52, Feb. 2, 2017, Greenville, SC

Wanda Bost Lee '53, April 13, 2017, Kernersville, NC

William Welborn Brailsford III '54, March 12, 2017, Manning, SC

Myrtle Seigler Spell '54, April 15, 2017, Round O, SC

Richard William Arcilesi Sr. '55, April 15, 2017, Charlotte, NC

Sammy Holman Brant '55, Feb. 21, 2017, Goose Creek, SC

Betty Sparks Thomason '55, Jan. 22, 2017, Spindale, NC

Norma Louise Richardson Kloeckener '56, April 11, 2017, Greenville, SC

Robert Talmadge Roper Jr. '56, Feb. 6, 2017, Fountain Inn, SC

Douglas Wayne Cooper '57, March 15, 2017, Greenville, SC

Graves Lewis Boylston '58, Feb. 26, 2017, Huntsville, AL

Angela Sutherland Brown Burger '58, March 24, 2017, Wausau, WI

Fredda Dean Wood Boroff '59, May 20, 2016, Fountain Inn, SC

Rodney Eugene Davis Sr. '59, March 16, 2017, Raleigh, NC

James William Boroff '60, Nov. 7, 2016, Fountain Inn, SC

Maxwell Terry Watson '60, April 8, 2017, Greenville, SC


Amelia Findley Meadors '63, Feb. 10, 2017, Winston-Salem, NC

Stuart B. Skadden '63, Feb. 20, 2017, Santa Clara, NM
UP CLOSE

Letting plays (and life) surprise you

Each day, Randall David Cook ’91 carves out time to sit at his desktop computer in his Upper West Side apartment and write.

On special days, he takes dance classes—hip-hop, jazz, ballroom, even Bollywood.

As a professional playwright working in Manhattan for the past 18 years, Cook works to keep the creative juices flowing and maintain a consistent ingredient in his writing—the element of surprise.

“You have to give people the unexpected. You can’t be boring,” says Cook, who presented his latest work in Alaska this summer at the Last Frontier Playwrights Conference, co-founded by renowned playwright Edward Albee. “At the same time, you have to be honest to your material. If you try to force something, it won’t work.”

Cook discovered his love of theater as a business major at Furman when, on a whim, he decided to put down his tuba and audition for the Department of Theatre Arts’ production of All’s Well That Ends Well.

After writing a host of successful plays produced off-Broadway and around the world, Cook found his way back to Furman in 2013 and 2017 as a Duke Endowment Fine Arts Initiative Artist-in-Residence. During these semester-long stints he taught courses and directed the on-campus premier of two of his works: the comedy Pomp and Circumstance (2013) and the thriller Kappa Kappa Scream (2017). One play is set on a southern college campus. The other takes place during a sorority retreat.

“I wanted to write shows for and about college students, and those plays allowed almost everyone involved to stretch artistic muscles heretofore unexplored,” says Cook.

Those experiences also stretched Cook’s boundaries as a mentor, and he developed a newfound passion for teaching.

My experience at Furman has been a game-changer for me, a real discovery. I love being a playwright and a professor, so I think my future is going to include both of those titles and responsibilities.”

How and when might that happen, Cook doesn’t exactly know yet. He’s found that it’s best when life surprises you.”

— by Erikah Haavie
Mary Peace Sterling, 92, June 23, 2017. A lifelong resident of Greenville, Mary was a Furman trustee emerita, a former member of the Furman Advisory Council and provided the naming gift for the Charlie Peace wing of the James B. Duke Library. The addition is named in honor of her father who was a longtime executive with The Greenville News-Piedmont Co. Mary graduated from Randolph-Macon College and was very active in civic and church affairs. She served on the board of directors of the Historic Greenville Foundation, the Peace Center for the Performing Arts, Christ Church Episcopal School and the YMCA Endowment Corporation. Mary often visited Furman and enjoyed seeing her father’s library bust adorned with student-selected seasonal items including scarves, hats and sunglasses. The university awarded her an honorary doctor of humanities degree in 2002.

Basil Manly IV ’47, February 21, 2017. A Greenville native and physician, Basil attended Furman for two years before entering the U.S. Army. He served until March 1946 and received a Combat Infantry Badge and two Bronze Star Awards. After returning from the war, he graduated from Furman and attended the Medical University of South Carolina, the University of Pennsylvania Medical School and Wills Eye Hospital. He practiced ophthalmology in Greenville for 33 years and served as a staff member of the Greenville Health System, Saint Francis Hospital and Shriners Hospital. Basil is survived by his wife, Genevieve Leake Sakas Manly, his children, Sherri M. Cornish ’69, Basil Manly V ’76, Jean M. McDowell and husband, Michael, and Mary M. Mounce. Basil’s first wife, Sarah Gillespie Manly ’47, died in 2007. Basil Manly’s great-grandfather, Basil Manly Sr., helped found Furman Academy and Theological Institute, which later became Furman University, in 1826. Basil Manly’s great uncle, Charles Manly, served as Furman’s second president from 1881 to 1897. Basil’s father, brother, aunt and multiple other relations were Furman grads, and he was a proud lifelong supporter.
A Long Life Gives the Treasure of Reflection

BY PANSY RIDGEWAY ’53

A life of experience is exactly that. I am a Furman graduate who has had the wonderful honor of a long life and the treasure of reflection.

What did I learn? Well, I must say that the guidance and actions of my humble and remarkable parents were my insurance to becoming a person who is ever-present yet responsive to choices in life’s paths. My father was a farmer. As he and I leaned on our fence and looked out toward his fields, he told me how proud he was that I was graduating from high school.

“See that cow over there?” he asked. “She is how I am going to get your class ring.”

This will ground you like no other remark. I had eight siblings who chose military or business courses, and I was the one who chose to go to college. This was not a right—it was an honor. I guess I soaked in so very much at an early age. Dad had me drive him to local political meetings at the age of 14. I sat in the back of the room, as his chauffeur, and listened to all the adults assess the large and the small. I could not have known as a teen that this would be the true foundation for my life’s work.

Furman was still in my state, but the old campus in downtown Greenville seemed like a country unto itself to me. The women were on one campus, and the men were on the other end of downtown. The war years were over, and we were headed into the 1950s. We wore “proper clothes” and perhaps gloves. We women were bonding and finding out what matters while Furman studies filled in all the blanks on our canvas of knowledge. Today, as then, I firmly believe that Furman’s contributions made my life and career what it became, and I see it most clearly today.

I hold my four years at Furman quite tightly in my hands. It has been more than six decades, and I am indeed startled by that number. You are reading this as a current student or a graduate, a parent or grandparent, and we can all say that there are regrets intertwined with our accomplishments. Yet, Furman has adapted to each decade.

Students do not wear dresses or gloves on the “new” campus today. T-shirts may now become passé, but the constant will be what we are given through respectful knowledge mixed with the opportunity for deep reflection. That is what has and will provide growth and flexibility to a seasoned life. Today’s national politics can test our core values as no other time.

My decades have created a person with a moral center, and this makes me fearless and calm against the shifting winds and bellicose rhetoric.

I left Furman with no finite plan, but my love of country steered me into local politics. I do recognize that Furman made me understand that it is my duty as a person and citizen to make a difference. I am confident I have done so, and I see those contributions within my community even now. Local efforts do provide that important interaction and learning curve about what needs will reflect the community as a whole. This is critical even if you enter a wider arena.

As citizens, we have the duty to provide support and action. The act of volunteering could be just that. I have a firm belief in the rights of each person in the United States and the strength created by our diversity. We are unique in the world because we welcome all who come to our shores, and we are tolerant to different skins and religions. The entire world looks to see if we have succeeded in our quest, and they hold our country to be their beacon of joy and also peace. If each small community follows this creed—then nothing will break us. Our enemies wish us to flounder and turn on ourselves. They wish us to cull the herd and separate anyone who is different, but our education and compass will never let this happen.

Thank you, Furman.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Pansy Ridgeway ’53 was the first female mayor of Manning, South Carolina, and held this office for 26 years after serving eight years as its first councilwoman. She was the first female president of the South Carolina Municipal Association, chair of the Santee-Lynches Council, and received the state’s Governor’s Order of the Palmetto. She is a recipient of the Farlow Award of the Municipal Association and received Furman’s MM Sullivan Award.
At the close of the 2016–17 academic year, Furman said farewell to three faculty members who have worked at Furman for a combined 82 years. As a tribute to the retirees, we asked their former students and colleagues to comment on their careers and contributions.

BILL PRINCE
Dazzling Teacher, Thoughtful Advisor

I came to know Bill Prince in many capacities over my time at Furman, first as my advisor, then as my modern languages professor, mentor and co-author, but most importantly as a friend. I would like to address his exceptional skills in each of these areas.

As a teacher, Dr. Prince was not only passionate and exceptionally thorough, but also light-hearted. I remember taking Advanced Spanish Oral and Written Expression with him, a course that became one of my favorites and set me on the path to a doctorate in Spanish linguistics and a career as an applied linguist and professor. At the time, I had already begun to drop by Dr. Prince’s office on a regular basis with a variety of questions related to the structure of Spanish. In those meetings, I gained a sense of Dr. Prince’s depth of knowledge on the subject as well as his sense of humor.

I suspect nearly all of Dr. Prince’s students would characterize him as a dazzling teacher. But in my view, what set him apart from other exceptional educators was his unique ability to guide me in my interest in language and linguistics through thousands of small acts of academic wisdom and kindness, including selecting materials for additional study, seeking out accessible academic articles for us to read and discuss and serving as a mentor as I researched and applied to graduate programs in Spanish.

As a junior, I had the opportunity to translate a book from Spanish to English, facilitated by Dr. Erik Ching, professor of history, and with the help of Dr. Prince.

As in all our interactions, Dr. Prince’s approach was characterized by thoughtful guidance as he let me take the lead on the project. I provided initial drafts of the chapters, and we would subsequently meet to work through them together, at times spending an entire afternoon on a paragraph or even a single sentence.

I often think back to the skill with which Dr. Prince was able to deliver precisely the right guidance, in the right amount and at the right time. I think back to the jokes and the plays on words that revealed both his incredible wit and mastery of the Spanish language. These are the qualities that distinguished Bill Prince over his 37-year tenure at Furman University and the qualities I strive to emulate in my own work as an educator.

This short tribute is far less than Bill Prince deserves, but I hope he realizes the tremendous impact he has had on me and countless other students over the years.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Charles Nagle ’09 received his Ph.D. in Spanish linguistics from Georgetown University. He is an assistant professor of Spanish at Iowa State University.

Kirk Karwan came to Furman in 2005 after spending 19 years at the University of South Carolina. He was excited to be at a smaller university that focused on providing students with a broad education in liberal arts and sciences.

In addition to leading the newly formed Department of Business and Accounting as its chair, he quickly became involved in Furman’s sustainability initiatives and study abroad. His belief that our students needed a world view from both an environmental and cultural perspective, led to the creation of a course in sustainable corporations and in study away opportunities that exposed students to organizations and cultures across the globe.

From May Experiences in New York City, China, Singapore and Malaysia, to the internship program in Brussels, Kirk treasured the time he spent with students outside of the traditional classroom. He never seemed to tire of thinking about the next opportunity for enriching the education of our students.
Two of Kirk’s greatest legacies at Furman may be his leadership in the development of what is known as The Block, which meshed accounting, finance, marketing and operations into a single semester-long course, and his tireless efforts in making the analytics lab a reality.

His vision of making Furman’s business and accounting programs excellent and enviable included the transformation of the business curriculum and the building of relationships with stakeholders who, through their generosity, made the Business Analytics Lab a reality.

Kirk envisioned a program of study for the business major that would be recognized as unique, rigorous and grounded in the liberal arts and sciences. He always informed students on the first day of the block that “we are taking you out of college for a semester” as fair warning of the rigor facing them for 20 hours each week.

Now, the program is highly regarded by employers and graduate schools seeking Furman students. And its success is the result of the creative disruption and innovation that Kirk brought to the department over a decade ago. Kirk was a wonderful colleague, mentor and teacher. Although we will miss his sense of humor, his creative energy and his dedication to Furman students, we wish him well in retirement.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Suzy Summers is chair and a professor of Furman’s Department of Business and Accounting.
We loved it from the minute we walked in, now my son is starting in the fall! Couldn't be happier and grateful! -@karinal98 on Instagram (Karina L. Shapiro)

@3amjosh shares a 360 degree view of campus while attending the Scottish Games.

It was a rainy day when my son and I visited Furman for the first time and he said, "This is my college!"
-@serafnamacdonald (Sue)

@adventurewithmeclif shares a photo from his MayX trip to Italy, flying the Furman flag with pride.

It's a gorgeous college campus. Not many other campuses come close to the gardens and beautiful water features...it's a fabulous place from which to graduate! My son loved it! -Virginia Shelley

Furman is awesome any day and every day 365 days a year!! So glad our son is furmanbound.  
-Jules Richie Soapes

AARON RODGERS MENTIONS FURMAN:  
(@AaronRodgers12) Big thanks to all the great fans out there who walked with me most of the day! Especially Griffin and his Dad! #BMWCharityProAm #Furman

OUR TOP TWEET:  
We are so proud of these graduates. Congratulations class of 2017! #FurmanGrad

I spent a couple of weeks on campus in the summer of 1972. I still remember the beauty. The bell tower. The swans. AND the Falcons in training! Most of all though, I remember sitting in the rose garden one afternoon, reading and praying. There was a gardener tending the roses, deadheading. He clipped one perfect Peace rose, my favorite rose of all time, and brought it over to give to me. I'll never, ever forget that special, superb moment of my life. 
Thank you, Furman University.
-Donna Trotter Brumby
MAP LIGHT

The Kosta Boda glass votive glows orange-red, a half-orb of ruddy, weighted brilliance thickly translucent with overlapping swirls like wildly skewed orbits of subatomic particles: a radiant cradle gleaming as from a distant star.

Memory navigates by its refracted incandescence.

Unmoored, I troll to a northern childhood port, where a winner-takes-all game of marbles—those seductively curved cat’s-eyes the winking dwarf planets of youthful dare—marked the shining outer limits of intentional risk.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR
The poetry of Connie Ralston ’70 has been anthologized and published in various magazines and journals. For many years, she facilitated the poetry group of the Writers’ Group of the Triad in Greensboro, North Carolina.

"Eclipse Over Lake and Tower” by Guy Ottewell
universalatworkshop.com