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Furman Alumni News

Furman University

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IT'S ALL ABOUT MAKING AND MAINTAINING CONNECTIONS

THE ALUMNI OFFICE spent much of the fall coordinating events all over the country to introduce President Rod Smolla to the Furman faithful.

He has been most generous with his time and genuinely excited to have the opportunity to travel and meet alumni,



parents and friends of the university. I have heard nothing but positive comments from the large crowds that have turned out to greet the new president.

And interestingly, I have seen many new faces at these events. Part of the reason, I believe, is that word of President Smolla's genuine warmth and ability to connect with others is getting around, and is encouraging folks to reconnect with Furman.

Many people have told me that President Smolla has been hitting home runs with his comments at these events, as he touches on such themes as civility, outreach and a commitment to recruiting and developing strong, well-rounded students. His attitude and energy have also invigorated the environment on campus.

Under his direction, Furman has launched a strategic planning process that will involve alumni, parents and friends. I feel certain you will be excited and pleased about the results that will emerge from this effort. Watch for news about it in the coming months. You may be asked to help.

WHY GIVE TO ALMA MATER?

Everyone knows that the Alumni Office is all about keeping alumni connected to Furman. But let me talk about another way to remain connected — and to make a difference.

Because the majority of this magazine's readers are Furman alumni, most of us were on campus during what were arguably the most formative years of our lives. We developed lifelong friends, and as time passes we tend to appreciate more and more the memories and experiences we created during our days at the Harvard of the South.

So how can we give back to an institution that did so much for us? One way is through making annual gifts to Furman. Annual gifts help bridge the gap between tuition and the actual cost to educate a student for a year. Currently, a full year's tuition and fees of \$38,088 (excluding room and board) cover only about 70 percent of the actual cost of a Furman education. For anyone who receives scholarship aid, the gap is considerably wider.

You can help make up the difference. Annual gifts go toward the operating needs of every department, program and activity at Furman.

You may designate your gift in a number of ways: to honor a favorite faculty or staff member, support a specific academic or extracurricular program, fund internships, research projects or service learning efforts, or provide scholarship aid. A gift to the Furman United program, for example, offers assistance to students whose ability to finance their educations has been adversely affected by the recent economic downturn.

With the value of a dollar being stretched more tightly than ever, it is becoming more difficult for some students to remain at Furman. This is where annual support really makes a difference. Today, thanks in large part to the generosity of annual donors, more than 75 percent of Furman students receive some sort of financial aid.

Gifts don't have to be designated for specific projects, either. Unrestricted donations allow Furman to use the contributions in areas of most urgent need.

Not that many years ago, Furman was recognized as a leader among liberal arts colleges in the percentage of alumni who made annual gifts to their alma mater. Those numbers have slipped slightly, and we would like to see the university move back among the national pacesetters.

By making your gift on-line, you can receive the Furman donor badge. Use it to show your dedication to Furman by posting it on your Facebook or Twitter page. Doing so could help encourage others to follow your lead.

Visit www.MyFurmanGift.com to make an on-line gift.

WEBSITE NOTES

We hope you visit the Alumni Association website (<http://alumni.furman.edu>) frequently, but in case you haven't stopped by recently, we've added a few items to the page.

You can still submit class news, search for classmates and create an e-mail forwarding address. But you can also order a set of Furman pearls or a Furman cycling jersey. You can even download the fight song as your ring tone.

So check out the ever improving, ever expanding Alumni Association website to see what's new.

— TOM TRIPLITT

The author, a 1976 graduate, is director of the Alumni Association.

CLASS NOTES, WINTER 2011

63

The sixth edition of **Jerry Thomas'** textbook *Research Methods in Physical Activity*, published by Human Kinetics, has been released. It has been translated into seven languages and is used by more than 70 percent of U.S. institutions, making it the most widely used book in the field of kinesiology and exercise science. Jerry is dean and professor in the College of Education at the University of North Texas in Denton.

66

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

David Roberts, who retired from teaching at Samford University in 2002 to move to Albany, Ga., where he served as a pastor for United Methodist churches and as a part-time hospital chaplain, has retired from those positions and now lives in the Athens, Ga., area.

68

George Johnson of Columbia, S.C., retired last June after 32 years as vice president and corporate officer with BlueCross BlueShield. Among other accomplishments, he created and headed the company's foundation, which awards grants to increase access to healthcare in South Carolina. He continues to work as an adjunct professor of journalism at the University of South Carolina.

70

In May, **David T. Norman** will become chair of The Institute for Management Consultants USA. David is founder and president of David Norman & Associates, a strategic consulting firm in Charlotte, N.C., that works with small and mid-sized companies, non-profits and government agencies. An adjunct professor at Pfeiffer University and at McColl School of Business at Queens University, David also works with Vistage International, the world's

leading CEO membership organization, as chair of a Vistage group in Charlotte. He is the author of three books and a number of articles on such topics as sales compensation, cost control, pricing, creative problem-solving, and increasing profitability.

71

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Jim Duckett is the new town administrator of Surfside Beach, S.C. He worked previously as a warden for the S.C. Department of Corrections. He was appointed a U.S. Probation Officer in 1975 and remained in that capacity until 2000, when he was hired as assistant administrator of the town of Lexington, S.C. He was later promoted to administrator before leaving the position last April. He served as interim administrator in Williston before going to Surfside Beach.

Fans of "American Pickers," the History Channel TV series about two men who travel the country looking for antique treasures in junkyards, basements, small stores and other unlikely places, should watch for **Bill Shull** on a future episode. Bill, who runs a hardware business in Newberry, S.C., received a visit from the show's cast and crew in November. They left with more than \$1,000 in merchandise — and also talked with Bill about his father, who earned a Nobel Prize in physics in 1994. Bill has a replica of the Nobel medal in his store. The segment is scheduled to air this spring, but the date was not known as the magazine went to press. Visit www.history.com/shows/american-pickers.

72

Lynn McBride, a retired regional editor with *Better Homes & Gardens* magazine, lives in Burgundy, France, with her husband, Ron Norton. She is a freelance travel and food writer and has a weekly subscription blog called "Southern Fried French"

(www.southernfriedfrench.com), in which she describes her family life in a 14th-century château.

76

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Republican **Bruce Williamson**, a businessman in Monroe, Ga., was elected to the State House in November as the representative for the 111th district.

77

In September, financial services attorney **Scott Williams** joined Rudy Wood & Winstead in Nashville, Tenn., as a name partner. The firm specializes in estate planning, real estate and transactional work. Scott previously had been a partner at Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis.

78

Lorie Morris received the 2010 Maryland Psychological Association Award for outstanding contributions by an early career psychologist in service to the public. Earlier in the year she was recognized for 25 years of federal service with a Bronze Award for Excellence in Federal Career by the Federal Executive Board of Maryland. She is a staff psychologist in the Veterans Affairs Maryland Health Care System, where she manages a residential unit for veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder and substance-related problems. She is also the coordinator of the system's psychology externship program, is a guest lecturer at the University of Maryland School of Nursing, and provides outpatient mental health services for veterans.

79

Brian Hesselstine recently became general manager of High Cotton Restaurant in downtown Greenville.

Linda McRae Hunter Westphal of Charlotte, N.C., has been promoted to senior vice president at Bank of America Merrill Lynch, where she has completed 18 years of service and is a senior change consultant supporting the Global Banking and Markets Division.

80

Kim McCahan Batson earned her paralegal certificate from Meredith College in May 2010 and now works at Life Science Law in Chapel Hill, N.C. Holder of an MBA degree, she previously worked in retail management and spent 10 years as a church secretary and administrator in Wilmington and Chapel Hill.

Tony Waters of Charleston, S.C., was the illustrator for two children's books published in 2010: *The Big Bat*, a discovery book by Anne Jewell, executive director of the Louisville Slugger Bat Museum, and *Sleep, Little Child*, by musician and composer Marc Hoffman. *Sleep, Little Child* is adapted from a lullaby written by Hoffman and includes a CD featuring his readings and music, with additional artwork from Tony.

81

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Tim and **Irmgard Dixon** have relocated to Greenville where he works for Fluor Corporation in the Government Group as a senior manager for prime contracts and management. Tim retired as a colonel from the U.S. Army in July 2010. The last assignment of his almost 30-year career was as military deputy to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Procurement in the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

2010–11 ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Clare Folio Morris '83, president; J. Chris Brown '89, president-elect; Harriet Arnold Wilburn '74, past president; Rebecca Ann Armacost '89; Lynn Neely Bailey '78; N. Staten Bitting, Jr. '75; Frank W. Blackwell '90; Sidney R. Bland '59; Mary Lou Walch Cagle '69; Tricia Morgan Carswell '82; Paul D. Goebel '63; Michael L. Guynn '91; Shannon Scruby Henderson '75; Gail Laible Hughes '83; L. Yates Johnson, Jr. '59; Gwinn Earle Kneeland '89; C. Todd Malo '95; James N. Martin '79; Herman A. Matherson, Jr. '79; Andrew C. Medlyn '97; Matthew A. Miller '99; Joseph C. Moon, Jr. '76; William P. Morrow, Jr. '54; Emmett L. Patrick '56; Scott W. Raeber '92; Gordon D. Seay '61; Ellison L. Smith '89; Leslie L. Smith '91; Cynthia Black Sparks '80; Connie Gartrell Williams '74.

Ex-officio and other members: Rodney Smolla, president; Michael Gatchell '91, vice president for development; Tom Triplitt '76, director of Alumni Association; Tina Hayes Ballew '78, associate director of Alumni Association; Cal Hurst '04, president, Young Alumni Council; Kyle Volkmann '11, president, Student Alumni Council; Patrick Wallace '11, president, Association of Furman Students; Shannon Cantwell '11, president, Senior Class.

82

Mike Harley has joined Minerals Technologies Inc. as vice president for corporate development and treasury. He serves as an officer of the company and as a member of its Leadership Council. Minerals Technologies is a global resource and technology-based growth company that develops, produces and markets a broad range of specialty mineral, mineral-based and synthetic mineral products, and related systems and services. Mike previously worked with GrowthPhases, a consulting and interim management alliance firm that he founded.

Paul Robertson has become a managing director with Edge Capital Partners, an investment management firm in Atlanta. Paul is a member of the Furman board of trustees and was most recently president and chief operating officer for StableRiver Capital Management.

Skip Williams has been named executive director of product development for Aqua Pharmaceuticals, a West Chester, Pa.-based drug company that develops prescription skin care treatments. Skip previously worked at Watson Pharmaceuticals, where he was responsible for brand and biologics business development.

83

The South Carolina REALTORS® professional trade association named **David Burnett** of Spartanburg its 2010 Realtor of the Year. The award is given to a realtor who works to advance the profession, embodies the spirit of high principles and faithfulness to the Code of Ethics, and practices good real estate principles. David has won several previous local and state SCR awards and currently serves as a National Association of REALTORS® director.

David G. Guyton of Rock Hill, S.C., was sworn in as the new Family Court Judge for the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit last April after being elected to the position by the South Carolina Legislature. He also serves as the Military Judge for the S.C. National Guard.

Chris Peabody joined Allied Telecom in February 2010 as chief operating officer. Allied is a broadband, Internet and VoIP services firm in Washington, D.C.

84

Allen Barbee has been appointed minister of music at Faith United Methodist Church in Smyrna, Ga. He is also on the faculty of St. Martin's Episcopal School in Atlanta as the instrumental music director.

85

The U.S. Agency for International Development has appointed **Jim Barnhart** mission director for Lebanon. He oversees USAID's programs to help the Lebanese strengthen their democratic institutions, promote economic growth, improve education and health services, and support water and environment programs. Jim joined USAID in 2000.

87

BIRTH: **Alan E. Thomas** and Allyn Hernandez, a daughter, Natalia Sofia, August 17. Alan practices pediatric and adolescent medicine at Summit Medical Group in Berkeley Heights, N.J., and Allyn is a women's imaging radiologist with St. Barnabas Medical System.

89

George Quarles coached Maryville (Tenn.) High School to the 2010 Division 6-A state football championship. His squad defeated Smyrna 23-21 December 4 to finish with a 14-1 record. In just over a decade Quarles' Maryville teams have won eight state titles and 164 games.

90

Richard Boggs has been named chair of the board of directors of the Jess Parrish Medical Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Parrish Medical Center in Titusville, Fla. The foundation raises funds to support healthcare in North Brevard County. Richard is vice president of Boggs Gases, a medical gas company.

Lisa Stevens Gilford, an attorney with Alston & Bird LLP in Los Angeles, was included on the 2010 list of "Top Women Litigators" by the Los Angeles and San Francisco *Daily Journal*. She serves as lead defense counsel for the Toyota Unintended Acceleration class action litigation and represents Toyota in more than 300 class actions pending throughout the United States.

Joanie Ekins Martin and her family have returned to Greenville after two years in France, where she worked at Michelin's worldwide headquarters. She is now the financial director for Michelin Americas Small Tires.

91

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

James F. Downs of Charlotte recently joined the board of the North Carolina Blumenthal Performing Arts Center. He is also a member of the board of the Levine Museum of the New South.

Craig J. Hoffman has joined the Beige Group in New York as a managing director in charge of the firm's merchant banking efforts in consumer and retail space.

Tim Vorel of Rincon, Ga., has opened Vorel Financial Group, offering investment, insurance and financial planning services.

92

Veteran journalist **Andy Peters** has rejoined the staff of the *Atlanta Business Chronicle*, for which he worked more than a decade ago. He was most recently a reporter for the *Fulton County Daily Report*.

Paige Snider lives and works in Beijing, China, where she has completed an evaluation of the William J. Clinton Foundation's HIV/AIDS programs.

94

Sensus Healthcare of Boca Raton, Fla., has named **Stephen Arnold** its chief financial officer. The company specializes in making non-melanoma skin cancer solutions more accessible to patients. Stephen was most recently CFO of a medical device company based in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Jason Ensley, an attorney in Johnson City, Tenn., has been named to "40 Under Forty" by the *Business Journal of the Tri-Cities* (Tennessee/Virginia), which recognizes emerging young business leaders based upon their professional success and community involvement.

G'Joe Joseph serves as director of Campus Outreach Greenville, a college ministry.

U.S. Army Maj. **Joseph D. Roller** has been appointed professor of military science at Clarkson University in Potsdam, N.Y.

MARRIAGE: Sarah Wilk and Ed Mangahas, May 8. They live in Platte City, Mo.

95

John Ramey has become a partner at National Allergy, Asthma & Urticaria Centers in Charleston, S.C. His wife, **Mikki Streight '96 Ramey**, is owner of Healthy Realty in Charleston and has been recognized as a realtor of distinction and East Cooper Top Producer.

Kavis Reed has been named head coach of the Edmonton Eskimos of the Canadian Football League. Kavis, who played defensive back for the Eskimos from 1995–99, has coached for five CFL teams since 2001 and spent the 2010 season as defensive coordinator of the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

BIRTHS: Nathan '98 and Mary Beth Marchant Galbreath, a son, Crockett, July 30. They live in Greenville where Nathan is an attorney at Nelson Galbreath, LLC, and Mary Beth manages rental properties.

Peter and **Jennifer Harris Partee**, a son, Edward Gibson, March 18, 2010. They live in Laurens, S.C.

96

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Stacy Roper, a physical education teacher at J.H. House Elementary School in Conyers, Ga., was one of three finalists for the 2010-11 Rockdale County Public Schools Teacher of the Year Award.

BIRTH: Michael and Karen Cram Hoar, a daughter, Riley Joy, May 3. They live in Carmel, N.Y.

97

MARRIAGE: Allie Deckrosh and John Wilson, May 29. They live in St. Louis, Mo., where Allie is a licensed professional counselor at Hope Crossing Christian Counseling.

BIRTH: Michael and Tanya Foster Wilson, a son, Micah Connor, October 23, 2009. They live in Lawrenceville, Ga.

98

Jeff Noblin has been named chief executive officer of Crockett Hospital, an acute-care facility in Lawrenceburg, Tenn.

MARRIAGE: Carrie Ackerman and Jeffrey Domico, November 13. They live in Mount Pleasant, S.C. Carrie is director of wellness product management for Alere Health, and Jeffrey is a sales consultant for Synthes Spine.

BIRTHS: Dan and Heather Booth Howard, a daughter, Sydney Danielle, May 20. Dan is an engineer officer in the U.S. Marine Corps, stationed at Camp Lejeune, N.C.



LIFE AT GWC — JUST FOR FUN

THE DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES in the James B. Duke Library recently received a candid photographic collection of life at Greenville Woman's College during the early 20th century. This photograph, titled "Just for Fun," is representative of the impromptu occasions documented in the Edith and Marie Coleman Collection.

The Coleman family story is only one of many found on the shelves in Special Collections and Archives, but without the generous donation of the family's descendants and others like them, these stories, told through materials such as scrapbooks, photographs and letters, would remain largely unknown to future generations of the Furman community.

Special Collections and Archives is actively seeking Greenville Woman's College memorabilia from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. And the department is always looking for Furman memorabilia from any decade. If you have Furman or Greenville Woman's College memorabilia which you would like to donate, please call Caroline Vereen at (864) 294-2194 or e-mail specialcollections@furman.edu.

Matthew and **Linda Murphy Kall**, a daughter, Georgia Eoghan, September 16. They live in Franklin Square, N.Y. Linda is an associate buyer for Ralphlauren.com. Ellison and **Kerrie Seltenheim Patten**, a daughter, Lillian Paige, January 31, 2010. They live in Medfield, Mass.

Kevin and Krista **Stewart**, a daughter, Ansley Kate, September 13. They live in Dahlonoga, Ga., where Kevin is an adapted physical education teacher for the Lumpkin County School System and coaches football and golf. He recently completed his Ed.D. degree in educational administration through Georgia Southern University.

99

BIRTHS: Keith and **Amy Strickland Gunter**, a son, Noah Keith, November 25, 2009, Kennesaw, Ga.

Mike and **Lauren Smith Hillesheim**, a son, Quinton Michael, April 21, Denver, Colo.

Peter and **Emily Newton Murphy**, a daughter, Ann Elizabeth, October 21, Greenville. Emily is director of development services at Furman.

John and **Katherine Fitch Pennylegion**, a son, Cole Atticus, October 27, St. Louis, Mo.

00

Ethan Friddle is director of the United Ministries Learning Center's General Education Diploma program in Greenville. He is studying for a master's degree at Clemson University that will enable him to be a licensed professional counselor.

MARRIAGES: **Jeff Hayes** and **Krista Green** '02, October 16. They live in Greenville.

Alicia Dawn Williams and William Nicholas Eatmon, September 18. They live in Morehead City, N.C. Nick is director of golf operations and assistant manager at Morehead City Golf Course, and Alicia is a kindergarten teacher at White Oak Elementary School.

BIRTHS: Jeff and **Brittany Williams Burnett**, a son, Hiatt Stone, October 1.

They live in Atlanta. Jeff is a criminal investigator with the U.S. Army, and Brittany is the campaign director at United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta.

Chris and **Megan Pinniger** '10 **Colvin**, a daughter, Lanie Clare, July 7. Chris is an associate director of athletics at Furman.

Jason and **Kristin Blackwell Foster**, a son, Braddock Macrae, August 20. They live in Ooltewah, Tenn.

Brian and **Sadie Aycock** '02 **Krawczyk**, a son, Benaiah Douglas, February 19, 2010. Brian is the campus pastor for Grace Fellowship Church in Snellville, Ga. Sadie recently completed her MBA with a concentration in accounting from Brenau University.

01

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Jael Gadsden's CD "Coming Full Circle" is available at www.cdbaby.com/cd/jael and on iTunes. Learn more at her website, www.jaelgadsden.com.

Republican **Josh McKoon**, an attorney in Columbus, Ga., was elected to the State Senate in November. He represents District 29 and becomes the senate's youngest member.

Rachel May Snell and her husband, Christopher, live in Colorado Springs, Colo. Rachel is a doctor of physical therapy with the U.S. Army.

BIRTHS: **Michael** '98 and **Ginger Turpen Carnahan**, a son, Brennan Charles, January 19, 2010, Durham, N.C. Luke and **Whitney Brown Cawley**, a son, Jackson, March 4, 2010. They live in Stoke-on-Trent, England.

Stephen and **Kristen Evensen Harter**, a son, Samuel Dean, June 21. They live in Acworth, Ga.

Eric and **Meredith Cumbee Hipp**, a son, James Noah, September 16. Meredith is an intensive care nurse in Columbia, S.C., and

a graduate student in the acute care nurse practitioner program at Vanderbilt University School of Nursing.

Drew and **Annie Wood Parker**, a son, James Robert, September 29, 2009, Greenville.

02

Jolly Welch Johnson has become development director for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Carolinas Chapter in Charlotte, N.C.

MARRIAGES: **Blake Bommelje** and John Keegan, November 14, 2009. They live in Alexandria, Va.

Clair Travis and Kenneth Sauer, September 25. They live in Chattanooga, Tenn., where they are United Methodist ministers.

BIRTHS: **Brad** '04 and **Elizabeth Coker Hamlett**, a daughter, Anne Louise, October 18. They live in Greenville.

Alan and **Pamela Rowe Jenkins**, a son, Grant Rowe Jenkins, January 11, 2010, Charlotte, N.C.

Jeff and **Carla Larkin**, a son, Owen Alexander, September 16, Knoxville, Tenn.

Joseph '03 and **Elizabeth Wright Osborn**, a son, Everett Joseph, October 11. They live in Greer, S.C.

Matthew and **Lauren White Steele**, a son, Colin Robert, January 21, 2010. They live in Bellevue, Wash.

Jonathan and **Rebecca Neal Tompkins**, a son, Edward Douglas, May 12, Myrtle Beach, S.C. Rebecca has become director of communications for SPM Resorts, Inc., a timeshare management company.

03

Emily Ball of Mars Hill, N.C., is pursuing a master's degree in public affairs at Western Carolina University. During the fall she was an intern with the U.S. Inter-agency Council on Homelessness, which develops and implements the Obama administration's efforts to combat

homelessness. Emily previously worked as an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer in Asheville, N.C.

Sarah Brown completed the National Teaching Fellowship with Citizen Schools and now works as a recruiter for the organization in New York City.

Angela Christian was recently promoted to customer service supervisor at Verizon Wireless and has relocated to the Greenville area. She expects to complete her MBA in management this academic year.

Abigail Simon Lyle of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., is currently a law clerk to United States District Judge **William P. Dimitrouleas** '73 in the Southern District of Florida.

MARRIAGES: **Melissa Hobbs** and Joel Hibbard, June 26. They live in Charlottesville, Va., where Melissa teaches English as a Second Language to high school students.

Jessica Livingston Trammell (M.A.) and Scott Charles Zannini, June 26. She is a teacher, and he is a senior technical recruiter at Principle Solutions Group. They live in Atlanta.

BIRTH: **Bradley** and **Neely Tesseneer Benton**, a son, Thomas Athen, August 8, Los Angeles.

04

Susanna Eiland has joined the Ellen and James S. Marcus Institute for Vocal Arts at the Juilliard School in New York as the vocal arts curriculum and projects administrator.

BIRTHS: John and **Kay Parham Alexander**, a son, James Parham Alexander, August 27. They live in Atlanta. Jason and **Erica Sutton Culbertson**, a daughter, Lila Katherine, August 9. Erica is a district lead English for Speakers of Other Languages teacher in Laurens County, S.C., and Jason is a senior vice president for the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching.

FIELD'S VISION INSPIRES ANNUAL ARTS FESTIVAL

SANDRA TRUITT FIELD'S career has taken her from high school choral teacher to music education professor, professional singer, and even first runner-up to Miss America. But her latest job — a "volunteer" post that came after she "retired" in 2007 — keeps her busier than ever, and allows her to share her love of the arts in a uniquely fulfilling way.

Field, a 1978 Furman graduate, is president of the board of trustees for Juilliard in Aiken, a one-of-a-kind, weeklong arts festival which this year is slated for March 5–11. The event brings students, faculty and alumni from New York's Juilliard School, which many consider to be America's premier performing arts institution, to Aiken, S.C., for public performances, master classes, in-school workshops and other events.

"Juilliard does not do this with any other community," Field says. "They travel and perform in other parts of the nation and world, but there is no organized festival anywhere else, so we feel tremendously fortunate to have this kind of partnership with them."

The unlikely partnership began when Steven Naifeh and Gregory White Smith, Harvard-trained lawyers and authors whose biography of Jackson Pollock won the Pulitzer Prize, decided to donate their home in Aiken to the Juilliard School. They wanted the historic 60-room mansion, Joye Cottage, to serve as a retreat for Juilliard students, faculty and alumni.

"They are passionate about the arts and felt that by giving to the world's premier conservatory, they were in fact supporting the arts and our community in a very significant way," Field says.

In a Juilliard news release, Naifeh and Smith said there "is nothing compared to Juilliard's gift to the world. And we are fortunate, indeed, to live in a community that shares our support for arts education and our belief, which is Juilliard's belief, that the pursuit of excellence — in the arts, as in everything — can truly improve lives."



That's the philosophy Field wanted to build on when she proposed the festival idea to Naifeh and Smith. The goal was to strengthen the community's relationship with Juilliard and to boost arts education and quality of life for area residents. Last year, more than 2,500 children participated in Juilliard in Aiken outreach programs.

This year's festival will feature 39 artists — 21 musicians, eight actors and 10 dancers. "It's the first year we'll have artists from all divisions of the school," Field says. Performers will include faculty chair and organist Paul Jacobs, plus a jazz quintet, vocal quartet, string quintet and two pre-college artists, among others.

Field, who grew up in Hickory, N.C., began as a music education major at Furman. She planned to become a choral conductor and educator, but during her senior year music professor Bruce Schoonmaker directed her in the opera *The Old Man and The Thief* and encouraged her to pursue performance. She went on to Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., where she earned a master's degree in voice performance, began working as a soloist for opera companies and choral organizations, and spent a year teaching in a high school.

She also became Miss Illinois 1981, and her performance of an aria from *Carmen* propelled her to the high finish in that year's Miss America pageant. After spending a year doing appearances, she moved to New York and worked as a singer and actress. She eventually returned to teaching and earned her doctorate in music education at Columbia University Teachers College.

In 1999 Field was hired to develop a music education degree at the University of South Carolina-Aiken. She taught and directed three choral ensembles before retiring from her tenured position in 2007.

At the time she anticipated living a more leisurely life, but soon her friendship with Naifeh and Smith, and her idea for Juilliard in Aiken, had her working harder than ever. "I never realized the extent of the responsibilities," she says of her new role. "But I knew it would be a wonderful opportunity for the community, and it would also be personally fulfilling."

The inaugural festival was held in 2009, and despite the struggling economy, the community embraced the program and helped ensure its success. Now, Field's dream is to build Juilliard in Aiken into a regional event that brings visitors from surrounding areas to see the high-caliber artists — and to enjoy Aiken's picturesque scenery and historic, small-town charm.

Most importantly, she hopes the festival will inspire people of all ages and encourage more support for the arts. "School budgets are being cut every year, and the arts often get cut the most," she says. "If we can help our schools by enriching the arts curriculum, then we've improved education. And we know the arts have a positive effect on quality of life, so our goal is to provide cultural offerings that are enriching to all."

— LEIGH GAUTHIER SAVAGE

Visit <http://juilliardinaiken.com> to learn more.

Photo by Phil Jones.

05

Kristen Fischer Anthony has joined the Department of Admission at Furman as coordinator of the Furman Admission Network (FAN).

George Henry Booth of Greenville has earned a master's degree in teaching from Winthrop University.

Emily Geer received her master's degree in architecture from Savannah (Ga.) College of Art and Design and is working in Dallas, Texas, as a project architect for Gensler.

MARRIAGES: George Anthony Campbell, Jr., and Marquin Barrett McMath, August 7. They live in Greenville, where George is an assistant solicitor for the 13th Judicial Circuit and Marquin is a freelance fashion designer and artist. **Melanie Jones** and Jade Totman, October 9. They live in Arlington, Va.

06

THIS YEAR IS REUNION!

Ross Alexander Mullinax earned a medical degree from the University of South Alabama College of Medicine last May, graduating with honors as a member of Alpha Omega Alpha honor medical society. He took the Military Oath of Office for Public Service and started a general surgery residency at the Naval Medical Center in San Diego, Calif. He was recently featured in the national *KA Journal* in an article on medical men in the military.

Katie Norris of Charleston, S.C., has been named director of public programming at Middleton Place Foundation, which owns and operates Middleton Place, a national historic landmark.

Benjamin W. Wallace has joined the Macon, Ga., law firm of Stone & Baxter LLP, practicing in the areas of commercial litigation, bankruptcy and business, and corporate law.

MARRIAGES: Ryan Schoemer Clark and **Carly Louise Sobray** '07, April 10. She is a human resources specialist at Fluor

Corporation, and he is a commercial real estate broker with the Furman Company in Greenville.

Darsey Culpepper and **Brian Landoe** '07, July 10. They live in Portland, Ore. She is a graphic designer, writer and photographer at Portland Rescue Mission, and he is an administrative assistant at InTown Presbyterian Church and is pursuing a master's degree in public administration at Portland State University.

Katherine Keller Davis and John Campbell Lake, August 14. Katherine is an attorney and recently had a clerkship with the Dorchester County (S.C.) Probate Court. John is a graduate of the College of Dental Medicine at the Medical University of South Carolina. They live in Columbia.

Kristina Fletcher and **Matthew Summey**, September 4. They live in Columbia, S.C.

Amanda Diane Kirkpatrick (M.A.) and Bradley Elliott Young, July 17. They live in Greenville.

Katie Webb and Lee Dillon Denton, August 15, 2009. They live in Conshohocken, Pa.

07

Kathleen Anderson graduated in February 2010 from the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York City with a master's degree in forensic mental health counseling.

Kenneth Christopher Evans of Columbia, S.C., has earned a master's degree in teaching from Winthrop University.

Lindsay Timmerman Niedringhaus has joined the Department of Admission at Furman as marketing manager.

MARRIAGES: Molly Bockman and Stephen John Fastenau, October 2. They live in Bluffton, S.C.

Jennifer Chapman and David Fuller, December 12, 2009. They live in Tulsa, Okla.

Ashley Elizabeth Eith and Robert Manning Christopher, Jr., October 16. They live in Charleston, S.C. She is scheduled to graduate from the Medical University of South Carolina School of Dental Medicine in May. He is a hospitalist at Trident Regional Medical Center.

Caroline McMullen and **Traver Toole**, July 10. They live in Laredo, Texas. Caroline is a social work counselor at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, and Traver is a federal agent (U.S. Border Patrol) with the Department of Homeland Security.

BIRTH: Scott and **Melissa Wood** '08 **Greenwood**, a son, John Malcolm, September 29, Nashville, Tenn.

08

Jon Leathers and **Shea Salinas** were both selected by the Vancouver Whitecaps in the Major League Soccer expansion draft December 1. Shea, the Whitecaps' fourth pick, played last season for the Philadelphia Union. Jon, the ninth pick, played for Sporting Kansas City (Missouri).

Whitney Smith earned a doctor of physical therapy degree in December from the University of Texas Southwestern Center in Dallas.

MARRIAGES: Jonathan Borders and **Amy Murdock**, September 18. They live in Dallas, Texas, and work in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex.

Allison Leigh Buckner and David Wesley Parker, May 8. They live in Chapel Hill, N.C., where she is completing law school at the University of North Carolina.

09

Casey Crisp has been named assistant director of the Bridges to a Brighter Future program at Furman. Casey is a Bridges graduate and was a counselor in the program for three summers. She previously served as a social studies teacher, softball coach and debate team coach at Mauldin (S.C.) High School.

Sarah E. Martin is pursuing a master's degree in vocal performance at Indiana University in Bloomington. She received the Indiana University Artistic Excellence Award, a fellowship that covers tuition and fees and provides a monthly stipend. She recently made her debut in a principal role with the university's Opera Theatre in Puccini's *Suor Angelica*. Visit her website, www.sarahemartin.info.

Emily Robinson was awarded a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship for the 2010–11 academic year to study in El Salvador under a program designed to foster international understanding. She previously worked with AmeriCorps in Alamosa, Colo., assisting the homeless in their move to transitional housing.

Joinné Ruff is working with the Furman Department of Admission as a counselor in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Her position is funded by a grant from the Amon G. Carter Foundation.

MARRIAGE: Megan Leigh Mullinax and **David Lyle Solomon, Jr.**, August 7. They live in Nashville, Tenn., where David works with Ernst and Young, LLC. Megan is completing her MBA in public health care and works with Nashville's Baptist Hospital.

10

Brian Highsmith spent the fall as a White House intern assigned to work with the National Economic Council.

Bryant Lambert joined DNA Creative Communications in Greenville as an intern.

Liz Lineback is a junior account executive with the Hughes Agency, a marketing, advertising and public relations firm in Greenville.

MARRIAGE: Heather Henson and Joshua Lother, July 24. They live in Piedmont, S.C.

PRESTIGIOUS EXHIBIT SPOTLIGHTS PRESSLEY'S WORK

WHEN NIKKI PRESSLEY '04 got word that her work would be included in the 2010 California Biennial — the Orange County Museum of Art's signature program spotlighting young and emerging artists from across the Golden State — one of the first people she contacted was Terri Bright, associate professor of art at Furman. Bright noted that many of the 45 artists chosen for the exhibition had major gallery representation — to which Pressley replied, "I don't know why I'm here."

Pressley was among the last artists that curator Sarah Bancroft saw in putting together the California Biennial. "Nikki came recommended from a couple of different people — a curatorial colleague and an artist," Bancroft says. After visiting Pressley's Los Angeles studio, Bancroft was eager to introduce the Furman alum's work to a larger audience (more than 4,200 patrons in the first three weeks of the exhibit, which opened in October and runs through March 13).

"Nikki is fresh out of graduate school," Bancroft says. "I don't think she even realizes how strong her practice is."

To be certain, contemporary art is a long way from biology, Pressley's intended major when she enrolled at Furman. "I wanted to do orthopedic surgery, and that was mostly borne of the fact that I had torn my ACL twice," says Pressley, a Greenville native who sustained the injuries while playing basketball at Mauldin High School.

She had also demonstrated an aptitude for art at an early age, and her mother encouraged her talent by sending her to classes at Greenville Tech. During her sophomore year at Furman, Pressley took her first art class, and by the end of the year she had changed her major with an eye toward a career in graphic design.

Pressley cites professors Ross McClain (design) and Bright (photography) as being "instrumental in their encouragement with the more conceptual ideas that I was trying to develop at the time." But prior to her senior year, she says, "I didn't know anything about contemporary art or the art world."

For the senior art show at Furman, Pressley exhibited three pieces — one each in sculpture, design and photography. All three addressed the concept of cultural identity, a subject that continues to inform her work. "I felt like it was the first time that I had

successfully created something that manifested these ideas," she says.

Bright recalls, "I got the impression that Nikki never stopped thinking about these things. Her mind was constantly on trying to figure out where she fit into black culture as a black female. I remember her work being incredibly layered and complex."

Since graduate school, Bright adds, "Nikki's process and her skill level have caught up to her ideas. I had her come back and speak to my senior seminar this year, and she was very honest" about the challenges of an art career.

After graduating from Furman, Pressley moved to Chicago, where she spent eight months working for a non-profit organization, the American Friends Service Committee, on a traveling exhibition designed to educate college students about debt. While there, she also began studying Capoeira, a centuries-old, Brazilian-born mix of music, martial arts and dance. It informs her art to this day. Once she finished her work on the exhibit, she returned to Greenville and took a job with an advertising firm, all the while living at home, building her portfolio and saving for graduate school.

In the fall of 2006 Pressley enrolled at the California Institute of the Arts in Valencia, where she pursued a Master of Fine Arts degree in sculpture and installation. "CalArts opened me up to a lot of different things," she says. "There's no real curriculum or grades — you chart your own course. I know plenty of students who went through the whole two years and didn't make an object. Their art was conceptual, so they constantly talked about their work."

During her final year at CalArts, Pressley took part in a couple of group shows. In 2009 she had her first solo exhibit, "Actions and Contemplations," at Las Cienega Projects in Culver City. "That was a big deal for me because I had never filled an entire space



MARC CAMPOS

with just my work," she says. Not long thereafter, she got the call from Bancroft and the OCMA.

The three pieces by Pressley in the Biennial explore issues of race, identity and religion. Her largest work, "Word," juxtaposes a Gullah translation of John 1:1-3 ("In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God . . .") with the West African folk tale of Anansi, the spider. A second, untitled piece combines gold leaf, ash and dirt in a commentary on the malleability of her belief systems. The last and most personal piece, titled "Requiem," depicts Pressley digging through a "weird floating mound" of earth, at the bottom of which is a mirror image of her — or what she calls "the ambiguous face of identity."

Pressley, who works as a graphic designer for a real estate company, is pouring herself into research for her next project, "which is the way that I tend to work," she says. "I'd like to stay active in the contemporary art dialogue and keep working out my ideas through future exhibits."

— DICK ANDERSON

Visit www.nikkipressley.com to learn more. The author is a freelance writer in Los Angeles and publications editor for Occidental College.

FOUR ALUMS NAMED LIBERTY FELLOWS

THE LIBERTY FELLOWS PROGRAM is designed to develop young leaders for South Carolina.

The program features a series of five-day seminars, held over two years, for 20 state residents ages 30 to 45. They are selected from a diverse pool of nominees and represent all professions, from business and government to education and non-profits. They also share a common goal — strengthening South Carolina.

Four Furman graduates are part of the newest class of Liberty Fellows, chosen from a nominating pool of 400. All are deeply involved in civic and community activities in their respective cities.

John Castile '89 became city manager of Greenville last July after previously serving as assistant and deputy city manager. He is active with 100 Black Men of Greenville and the school district's Shining Star Teacher Recruitment Initiative. A political science major at Furman, he is a graduate of the university's Riley Institute Diversity Leaders Initiative (DLI).

R. Michael (Mikee) Johnson '94, an Orangeburg resident, earned his Furman degree in English and political science. He is CEO and president of Cox Industries, a manufacturer and global distributor of pressure-treated wood. He chairs the Orangeburg Chamber of Commerce and was named one of the Midlands' 2010 "Top 20 Under 40" young professionals by *The State* newspaper.

Amy Love '96 of Columbia is deputy executive director of New Carolina — South Carolina's Council on Competitiveness. An English major at Furman and a DLI graduate, she has also worked in Europe for the telecommunications company Deutsche Telekom.

Guo Suárez '00 of Greenville is an associate attorney with Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C. After earning his Furman degree in political science and history, he attended law school at the University of South Carolina. He, too, is a DLI graduate.

in the European Theater during World War II. Upon his return to Greenville he took over management of the family dairy farm. He went on to be selected South Carolina Dairyman of the Year and was appointed to the state Dairy Commission. He later became a property developer and served 10 years in the South Carolina House of Representatives. He was appointed to the state Department of Social Services board, whose members elected him to serve as chaplain, and also was a Rotarian and a Paul Harris Fellow.

Marian Smith Williams '42, November 23, Greenville.

Jean Hendricks Farry '43, October 1, Easley, S.C. She taught at Pickens High School, and after retiring she was active with the Retired Teachers Association, the Round Table Group and the Cannon Memorial Hospital Volunteers.

Grace Barnett Gambrell '43, October 1, McCormick, S.C. She was a teacher.

Margaret Guyton Gartelmann '43, August 9, Savannah, Ga.

Owen Lee Koontz '43, May 20, Port Angeles, Wash. After leaving Furman to enter flight school, he earned his wings and was commissioned to fly missions in North Africa during World War II. He was shot down three times and eventually spent 14 months in a POW camp in Germany. After the war, he went to Communications Officer School and spent 10 years working for the Air Force, developing and installing navigational systems. In 1949 he graduated with honors from the Air Force Institute of Technology. He went on to earn a master's degree in electrical engineering from Stanford University and to work in the aeronautical research lab at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio. After 22 years in the Air Force he retired with the rank of lieutenant colonel and moved to San Jose, Calif., where he worked on the Gemini and Apollo space projects at NASA's Ames Research Center until retiring in 1981.

Joyce Kellett Cook '44, November 10, Fountain Inn, S.C. She taught voice and served as a church choir director for many years. She was a life member of the Fountain Inn Music Club.

Luna Edwards Hilliard '44, October 31, Greer, S.C.

William Vernon Powers '44, October 30, Hendersonville, N.C. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, serving in Alaska and Okinawa. After the war he returned to Hendersonville and became chief of police in Henderson County, serving for 22 years. He was the first chief of police to be inducted into the North Carolina Law Enforcement Hall of Honor. "Chief," as he was affectionately known, directed the first department in Western North Carolina to use dogs to help solve crimes, and he was instrumental in training the North Carolina National Guard in riot control and crime-solving techniques. He was associated with many civic organizations and served as president of the North Carolina Apple Festival and grand marshal of the King Apple Parade. He was a founding member of the Henderson County Rescue Squad and was inducted into the Hendersonville High School Hall of Fame.

David Montgomery Jenness '45, September 22, Greenville. He taught in Furman's Department of Modern Languages and for 40 years was the accountant for Pepsi Hartness International.

Catherine Fewell McNamara '46, September 25, Greenville. She was active in community affairs, including the American Diabetes Association and other charitable organizations. She worked in sales at The Open Book.

Patricia Lupo '47, October 25, Greensboro, N.C. She was a Spanish teacher and department chair at Walter Hines Page High School. She was a member of the Alpha Delta Kappa honor sorority and the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese.

DEATHS

Sallie Mae King Harbin '29, November 8, Westminster, S.C. She taught in several elementary schools during her 34-year career. She was a member of Daughters of the American Revolution and Colonial Dames XVII Century.

Dorothy DuPree Grimball '39, October 21, Greenville. She was active in community affairs and was a sustaining member of the Junior League.

Charles Dorsey Horton '41, October 3, Statesboro, Ga. After working as a teacher and principal, he earned a doctoral degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and went on to serve as pastor of churches in Kentucky and Georgia.

John Kern Earle '42, December 9, Greenville. He worked briefly in Washington, D.C., for the U.S. Geological Survey before joining the Army Air Corps and serving as a photo intelligence officer

Roy Onias Barker '48, September 10, Greer, S.C. After service with the U.S. Navy during World War II he embarked on an engineering career, most of which was spent in Rochester, N.Y. He was retired from Eastman Kodak.

Mildred Adela Smith Lepingwell '48, June 11, Atlanta.

Betty Rose Newton Summersett '48, August 29, Columbia, S.C. With her husband, Ben, she owned and operated Laurel Hill Inn and Rib Room. She also managed the Summersett Building and served as hostess for Columbia Country Club.

Marjorie Gould Buck '49, November 28, Greenville. She taught for more than 35 years at Christ Church Episcopal School and Sara Collins Elementary School. She was a past president of the Crescent Music Club, a former member of the American Association of University Women, and a tutor for the Greenville Literacy Association.

John William Eckley '49, September 13, Gaffney, S.C. A veteran of World War II, he was retired from Milliken Company.

James Landrum Hill, Sr. '49, June 8, 2009, Belton, S.C. A World War II veteran, he was a longtime teacher, coach and administrator in Greenville County Schools and led the Carolina High baseball team to the state title in 1958. Between 1962 and 1972 he was athletic director, baseball coach and basketball coach at Anderson (S.C.) College, where he also taught accounting and was instrumental in developing the Department of Business Administration. In 1972 he returned to Greenville County and served as principal of two elementary schools. In retirement he taught in the county's adult General Education Diploma program. He served as a president of the Piedmont Lions Club.

L. Lawson Byrd '50, December 9, Gloucester, Va. He enlisted in the Navy during World War II at the age of 15

and served on several submarines. After his discharge he was a member of the Naval Reserves for 20 years, retiring as a lieutenant. Upon completing his Furman degree he began a career in education as a junior high school science teacher in Greenville. After earning a master's degree from the University of South Carolina and a doctorate from Duke University, he served as a principal of schools in South Carolina and Virginia, and taught at Clemson University, North Georgia College and Lynchburg (Va.) Community College. While working in education he also attended seminary at Duke and was ordained a Methodist minister. He went on to serve churches in Virginia for 16 years, retiring in 1988. He was a member of the Tidewater Chapter of the Submarine Veterans of World War II and was national chaplain from 1997–2000. He was a lifetime member of the National Education Association and of the Virginia PTA.

James F. Harley '50, June 24, Pueblo, Colo. He was a Baptist minister at churches in South Carolina and Hawaii. He also served as hospital chaplain at Colorado State Hospital and Western State Hospital and was minister of visitation for First Baptist Church in Pueblo until his retirement.

Cannon Eugene Price, Jr. '50, October 31, Anderson, S.C. A retired Southern Baptist minister and educator, he was pastor of churches in the Carolinas, Maryland and Kentucky. After retiring he worked as an interim pastor. He was the founder of Price Driving School and was an income tax preparer.

Douglas Allen Venters '50, November 9, Ruby, S.C. After serving in the Marines for four years he became a chaplain in the U.S. Air Force, from which he retired after holding chaplaincies at bases in Texas, Japan, South Vietnam, the Dominican Republic, South Carolina, Ohio, Germany



ASSOCIATED PRESS

ELECTION WRAPUP: WOODALL WINS CONGRESSIONAL SEAT

AFTER 16 YEARS as an aide to Congressman John Linder of Georgia's 7th District, the last 10 as chief of staff, Rob Woodall should know plenty about how Washington works.

And after working behind the scenes for so long, he's now able to put his insider knowledge to even better use. In November, Woodall was elected to succeed Linder, who retired, as the representative for the district, which consists of much of Gwinnett County and the eastern Atlanta suburbs.

Woodall, part of the Republican wave that swept into office, is a 1992 Furman graduate with a degree in political science. He holds a law degree from the University of Georgia. John Ryan of the *National Journal* has written, "Woodall embraces the Tea Party movement's principles of limited government, strict constitutional constructionism and fiscal responsibility."

One of the new congressman's major issues is likely to be the "fair tax." In recent years he worked with Linder and co-author Neal Boortz on two books promoting the issue, one of which was a *New York Times* best-seller. *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* says that Linder credits Woodall with "helping improve and promote [the] plan to replace the federal income tax with a national sales tax."

Woodall emerged from a field of eight candidates in the Republican primary last summer. He won a runoff for the nomination, then defeated Democrat Doug Heckman in the general election with 67 percent of the vote. According to Furman records, he becomes the sixth alumnus to be elected to the U.S. House.

While Woodall is just beginning his service in Congress, the tenure of Baron Hill '75 came to an end when he was defeated by Republican Todd Young in the race to represent Indiana's 9th District. Hill served five terms in Congress.

In one other major state election involving a Furman graduate, Democrat Elizabeth Harrill Mitchell '62 lost her bid for the governorship of Maine. Mitchell, who served as both speaker of the Maine House and president of the State Senate during her long career in state politics, was defeated by Republican Paul LePage.

and the District of Columbia. He received numerous awards and medals, including Parachute Wings, Bronze Star, Air Force Commendation Medal and 12 Ribbons with Two Oak Leaf Clusters Major Battle Star. He served for a time as pastor of Richfield Baptist Church in North Carolina and was a member of the Retired Officers Association and Disabled American Veterans.

Marie Byrd Gregg '51, September 14, Greenville. She taught at Augusta Circle Elementary School.

Charles Lewis Pearson '51, September 29, Greenville. He worked with the Life Insurance Company of Virginia and J.C. Penney Co. before retiring from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

G. Raymond Bodie, Jr. '52, October 25, Bogart, Ga. He was a Methodist minister for 25 years at churches in South Carolina, Massachusetts and Virginia. In Norfolk, Va., he was founding pastor of St. John's

Church. After taking early retirement from the ministry, he began a second career as a real estate broker and investor in Hampton, Va., where he owned and operated Peninsula Homes, Inc. He served as chair of the Board for Low Income Housing and was active in the development of Great Oak Apartments for the Elderly in Newport News, Va. He also worked with the Assisted Housing Development and the Newport News Homeowners Association.

Johnnye Murdock Uldrick '53, November 21, Raleigh, N.C. A music teacher, she taught in schools in South Carolina, Florida and Maryland, and also gave private lessons. She was a member and director of the Anne Arundel County Concert Association throughout the 1970s and 1980s.

Sophie Fisher McKissick '54, October 6, Greenville. An avid tennis player, she was active in community affairs.

Malba Mozelle Gardner Starrett '54, November 5, Fairview Heights, Ill.

Frances Bell Thesing '54, September 13, High Point, N.C. She was an elementary school teacher.

Harry Edward Tibbs '54, September 17, Birmingham, Ala. He served in the armed forces as chaplain's assistant at Fort Holabird, Md., during which time he was also interim organist at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. A graduate of the Eastman School of Music and the University of Michigan, he was the first full-time American pupil of noted French organist Jean Langlais at the Church of St. Clotilde in Paris. In 1983 he received the Palmer Christian Award given by the University of Michigan to a distinguished doctoral graduate. He became a professor of music at Samford University, where he chaired the keyboard division and was university organist from 1959 until his retirement in 2002. He was active on the boards of a

number of organizations, played numerous recitals in the United States and Europe, and designed more than 50 pipe organs in the South, including the Samford Memorial Organ at Southside Baptist Church. He was past president of the Birmingham Music Club, president of the Birmingham Chamber Music Society, and dean of the Birmingham chapter of the American Guild of Organists. For 25 years he was organist for the Alabama Symphony and received the Silverbowl Award for outstanding contributions to music in the Birmingham area.

Lillie Ballard Westmoreland, M.A. '55, September 13, Greenville. She was a teacher, guidance counselor and principal for many years in upstate South Carolina and was the first adult guidance counselor at Greenville Technical College. In 1958 she was selected Teacher of the Year at Easley High School. She co-authored a history of Pendleton Street Baptist Church and helped establish a neighborhood

FRANKLIN TAPPED TO HEAD IOWA INSTITUTION

DES MOINES UNIVERSITY, a health sciences institution, has named Angela Walker Franklin '81 its 15th president. She succeeds Terry Branstad, who left the position in October 2009 to make what became a successful run for governor of Iowa.



Franklin was scheduled to assume her new duties March 1. She is the first woman and first minority to lead the school.

She goes to Des Moines from her position as executive vice president and provost at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tenn. A native of McCormick, S.C., she earned her Furman degree in psychology and went on to receive a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Emory University.

At Meharry she had academic and administrative oversight for three schools within the college, as well

as other departments. She was acting president during the summer of 2009 and held a professorship in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

Before going to Meharry in 2007, Franklin spent 20 years at Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta, where she held a number of positions: vice dean, associate vice president for academic and student affairs, associate dean for student affairs and curriculum, assistant dean for admissions and student affairs, director of counseling services, and assistant professor of psychiatry.

Founded in 1898, Des Moines University has 1,821 students and is the only private medical school in Iowa. It offers graduate-level, professional degree programs in osteopathic medicine, podiatric medicine, physical therapy, physician assistant studies, health care administration, anatomy, biomedical sciences and public health.

Franklin told the *Des Moines Register*, "There are a lot of schools that really focus more on research. Not

to say that Des Moines doesn't do research, but their primary reason for being is . . . delivery of health care in a very socially conscious kind of way, taking care of the needs of the people."

Larry Baker, a member of the presidential search committee, praised Franklin's academic background and experience and told the *Register*, "She has really risen through the ranks of academic medical schools."

Franklin is in her fourth term as a member of the Furman board of trustees. She has been an American Council on Education Fellow and is a 2004 protégé of the Millennium Leadership Institute, which is sponsored by the Association of State Colleges and Universities to prepare the next generation of leaders in higher education. In Nashville she has served on the board of advisors of the Oasis Center, a youth development agency, and has been a member of the Tennessee Women's Forum.

mission for children. In 1962 she was named Outstanding Woman of the Year in the field of religion by the *Greenville News-Piedmont*. She was also a published poet, and she chaired the Pendleton District Historical and Recreation Commission for 12 years. She was on the board of the South Carolina Education Association and the Boys Home of the South and was a loyal supporter of Miracle Hill Ministries. Other memberships included the state Association of Women Deans and Counselors, Delta Kappa Gamma women teachers honorary society, Daughters of the American Revolution, Daughters of the Confederacy, and the South Carolina Pharmaceutical Auxiliary. In her mid-70s she spent several months in Peru, teaching children of missionaries.

Herman Joseph Williams, Jr. '55, October 23, Mineral, Va. A retired minister, he served churches in North Carolina, Texas and New York. For 20 years he was curriculum research program director at Union College in Schenectady, N.Y. After retiring in 1997, he was active in the Goshen Association and Rural Institute of Theology and served as interim pastor in several churches in central Virginia. At the time of his death he was working with John Leland Seminary in Arlington, Va.

Lillian Pearl Gibson Bryant '56, September 8, Clemson, S.C. She was a fifth grade teacher in Greenville County schools for 22 years.

Campbell Eugene Carroll '56, September 13, Norwood, N.C. He was a Navy veteran of World War II, having served on the battleship *USS Swearer*. He went into the ministry and served Baptist churches in both Carolinas for more than 50 years. He was also a counselor in the Columbia, S.C., area for many years.

B. Carroll Owenby '56, September 8, Dunn, N.C. He was a Baptist minister in North Carolina for almost 50 years, after

which he taught at Heritage Bible College for 10 years. He was pastor of Freedom Baptist Church in Salemburg at the time of his death.

Lewis Frank Vernon '56, October 29, Atlanta. He was a U.S. Army veteran and had retired from IBM.

Ansel Kay Gambrell '57, August 26, Honea Path, S.C. He was pastor of Baptist churches in South Carolina, New York, Kentucky and Ohio, and was pastor emeritus of First Baptist Church in Miamisburg, Ohio. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II.

Margaret McClain Keith '57, September 1, Charlotte, N.C. With her husband, Fletcher, she launched the Keith Clinic of Chiropractic in 1959 and worked there for 50 years. For 20 years she also operated her own accounting and real estate management company, Metro Management.

Millie Fogle Stanton '58, September 29, Santa Ana, Calif.

Mary Frances Brinson '59, November 11, Greenwood, S.C. She was a member of the Augusta Genealogical Society. She was also active with the Daughters of the American Revolution and had recently been accepted into the Huguenot Society.

Don Carlos Whitmire '61, October 16, Port Angeles, Wash. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1950 to 1954 and later worked as a department store window dresser, maintenance worker, photographer and aircraft parts inspector.

J. Bradley Fowler '62, September 18, Charleston, S.C. He was a civil rights activist and in the 1960s was deeply involved with President Johnson's War on Poverty. He served as director of new careers with the Office of Economic Opportunity in Charleston and in the 1970s was director of the Coastal Plains Human Development Council in Beaufort County. In addition to his efforts in the Lowcountry, he worked as director of the



JONATHAN ANDERSEN

BUBBLY HELP FOR LAKE RESTORATION

ANYONE TAKING a leisurely stroll around the Furman lake in recent months has likely noticed a bubbly new water feature.

Could it be some sort of Loch Nessian monster rising from the depths? Another campus fountain? A Lawrence Welk-inspired music department production?

Actually, the bubbles are by-products of the lake restoration plan launched several years ago. They come from five recently installed "aeration/destratification" systems, which sit on the lake floor and help boost the oxygen supply, lower water temperature, and reduce sedimentation (muck accumulation) and growth of algae.

Scot Sherman, director of campus planning, says low oxygen levels and high temperatures create an environment where algae thrive. He says the lake lacks vertical "turnover," or top-to-bottom and bottom-to-top air flow. The new equipment works to increase the vertical rotation of oxygen.

Other plans for improving the lake include dredging to help increase water levels, adding rain gardens, and reducing the mowing of grass around the lake's shore.

A deeper lake will take longer to heat in the warmer months, slowing the buildup of algae and bacteria. More rain gardens will help protect the lake from fertilizers, oil runoff from roads, and other sediments, thus allowing water to flow into the lake more naturally.

Less frequent mowing of the lake shore serves much the same purpose, as higher grass helps filter surface runoff. Mowing less also reduces emissions and costs associated with labor and fuel.

All these plans are part of ongoing efforts to restore the health of the lake, and perhaps once again make it available for recreational use.

STRATEGIC PLANNING INITIATIVE LAUNCHED

A WIDE-RANGING CONVERSATION involving virtually all Furman constituencies has been under way since December as the university prepares a new strategic plan.

Discussions with faculty, staff, students, parents, alumni, and community representatives will contribute to the development of a set of guiding principles focusing on four themes: broad strategic directions to guide future growth, institutional identity (including the university's academic mission and religious heritage), external relationships, and resource and programmatic allocations.

"Furman has a strong record of strategic planning, and the efforts over the past decade have provided a detailed roadmap for the university's advancement," says President Rod Smolla, who is chairing a 16-member steering committee consisting of students, faculty, staff and senior administrators. The committee is charged with gathering information and drafting the strategic plan, which is scheduled to be presented to the board of trustees at its mid-April meeting.

"Our intention is to build on the initiatives already under way, to conduct our work in concert with that of existing divisions, departments and offices, and to chart a general course that will provide flexibility in meeting the challenges of a rapidly changing higher education and competitive landscape for Furman," Smolla says.

The process will include open forums on campus, meetings with alumni and community members, on-line submissions, and a general survey, which was administered in January.

Drug Action Council in Greensboro, N.C., and was associated with the Human/Economic Appalachian Development Corporation in Berea, Ky. He was also active as a volunteer youth coach in the Charleston area.

Calvin Wesley Morrow '64, September 10, Rock Hill, S.C. He was a Baptist minister in South Carolina for more than 45 years, retiring from Roddey Baptist Church of Catawba. He was pastor emeritus of Calvary Baptist Church in Rock Hill and was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II.

Roy Clarence Barnes '65, May 8, Lancaster, S.C. He was minister of music at First Baptist Church of Lancaster for more than 33 years and was also the church's associate pastor and senior adult minister.

He traveled on numerous mission trips and was a soloist with various music groups, including the Singing Churchmen of South Carolina. He was a charter member of the Century Men, served as chaplain of Springs Memorial Hospital, was a past president of the Lions Club, and was a Rotarian.

Joseph Daniel Martin, Jr. '66, October 24, Chester, S.C. He was a retired band director from Chester Middle School, where he was Teacher of the Year in 1997-98. He was former band director of Dorman High School in Spartanburg, S.C., where under his leadership the school was the 1970 winner of the Cherry Blossom Festival National Marching Band competition in Washington, D.C. North Lakes Sertoma Club named him Man of the Year in 1975.

Harriet Lee Gibson '67, November 1, Landrum, S.C. After completing her certification as a registered nurse in 1946, she enrolled in the Army Nurse Corps. She served as a registered nurse for more than 20 years before returning to school to obtain her bachelor's degree. Afterward she taught in Spartanburg District 1 Schools for 20 years. She was a longtime volunteer for Mobile Meals, founded the "Great Friends" program at White Oak Manor, was involved in Landrum Friends of the Library, and played an instrumental role in establishing the Landrum Cemetery Perpetual Care Association. In 2004 she received the Landrum Chamber of Commerce's Citizen of the Year Award.

Donald A. Prewette '67, October 26, Bellingham, Wash. After high school he entered the U.S. Naval School of Music in Washington, D.C. He went on to play in U.S. Navy bands for three years, having the honor of playing "Taps" numerous times at Arlington National Cemetery. He eventually became an ordained minister and was pastor of churches in South Carolina and Georgia for 23 years before retiring to Bellingham in 2004. Active with the Boy Scouts, he also sang with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus. He was a life member of Inman (S.C.) Masonic Lodge No. 201, 32 Scottish Rite Masonry, Valley of Atlanta Orient of Georgia, and Yaarab Shriners of Atlanta.

Frank Arthur Hooper III, M.A. '70, August 27, Hickory, N.C. After military service with the U.S. Navy during World War II, he was a pastor and missionary to Israel from 1956 to 1968. He was also a science teacher and a drug abuse counselor.

Henry Ravenel "Pat" Nicholson '71, September 3, Greenville. A U.S. Navy veteran, he was an art teacher in several South Carolina cities.

Kathy Lee Shell '73, October 15, Towson, Md. She taught for many years at John Ruhrah Elementary School in Baltimore and held an Ed.D. degree in education from Johns Hopkins University.

Caren Gayle McDonald Archer '77, August 30, Atlanta. She was employed as a capital markets specialist at C&S/Nations Bank in Atlanta for seven years and was a substitute teacher for five years at various Henry County schools. She was active in the Woodland High School Athletic Boosters Club and in Henry County community activities.

Ruth W. Brewster, M.S. '82, September 18, Travelers Rest, S.C.

Judith Ann Ford Owen, M.A. '82, November 5, Travelers Rest, S.C. Judy worked in quality control for Digital Equipment Corporation and managed the ISO 9000 certification for Habisat Belting.

Laura Ann Lewis Owens '82, October 24, Atlanta. She was a partner in the Atlanta law firm of Alston & Bird, working in the products liability group, and was recognized nationally for her expertise in drug and product liability. She served on the American Bar Association's products liability committee and the organization's subcommittees on pharmaceuticals, medical devices and consumer products. Prior to joining Alston & Bird, she worked at the King & Spalding firm.

Pamela Hauer Wallace, M.A. '84, November 17, Rockledge, Fla. She retired to Rockledge after a 26-year teaching career in Simpsonville, S.C.

Barbara Morris McAbee '86, October 25, Greenville. She was a pediatric nurse practitioner with the Christie Group for 32 years.

Wesley Marion Lowder '01, November 3, Chapel Hill, N.C. He was owner of the Reservoir Bar.

POWER PLAYER: EDENS BUILDS ON ELECTRIC VEHICLE MOMENTUM

BRIAN EDENS HAS ALWAYS BEEN FASCINATED by how things work. As a teen, he would pore over *Popular Science* magazine and build water wheels and generators with his dad, a fellow tinkerer. Even then, he knew that cars with the typical internal-combustion engines were problematic. "I didn't think it was sustainable long term, and this was before that word became popular," he says.

When General Motors came out with its first electric vehicle, the EV1, in 1996, Edens followed the story closely and saw how a combination of oil companies, car dealers and other vested interests — plus a general resistance to change — stopped the project in its tracks.

Edens, a 1994 Furman graduate, went on to build a successful career in technology sales, but never lost his interest in the automotive industry and, in particular, the move toward electric power. Now, he says, the time is right for electric vehicles to take off, and he's launched a company, Thurso Power Systems, in anticipation of the surge.

Thurso, based in Greenville, provides infrastructure for electric vehicles. The company opened an electric charging station in September in Greenville's West End — the first high-voltage charging station in the state — and Edens is working with a variety of clients, including The Spinx Co., Bon Secours St. Francis Health System, ScanSource and Mast General Store, to add more. He's also talking with companies in surrounding states and has plans to be a regional leader in the industry.

Edens says a variety of factors make this the right time for the move toward electric and hybrid vehicles. First, the green movement has gone mainstream, and more people are looking to reduce their environmental impact. The geopolitical aspect of dependence on the Middle East for oil has increased interest in finding alternatives, and last spring's oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico sparked additional concern and discussion. And thanks to wireless phones and computers, battery power has made tremendous strides. Today lithium ion batteries allow electric vehicles to operate more efficiently than ever.

Automotive companies are taking notice, and Edens says the 2011 model year includes 10 electric

vehicles by major manufacturers. By 2012, there will be more than 20 producers of electric vehicles. The Chevy Volt, a plug-in hybrid, uses batteries for the first 40 miles after a charge, then has a gas-powered generator that can kick in if needed. The Nissan Leaf, a pure battery electric vehicle, is also gaining popularity.

"Every single Volt and Leaf made is already sold," Edens says.

He realized all the pieces of the puzzle were in place but one. "In my opinion, the thing that will make electric vehicles feasible for people to drive is to have an available and reliable charging network," he says. And



with his background in sales and technology, plus his knowledge of electrical construction gleaned from summer jobs as a student, he knew he had the skill set and drive to create a charging network.

"So after a few sleepless nights, I got up the courage to tell my wife I wanted to quit my cushy corporate job and go out on my own during the worst economy since the Great Depression," he says with a laugh.

"She was my first sale on the idea."

He lined up his former boss at Foxfire Software, John Sterling, as an investor, and contacted consultants such as Joachim Taiber, a research professor of electrical and computer engineering at Clemson University who focuses on clean transportation. A few months later,

Edens was installing his first charging station and had contracts for several more.

Edens points out that electric vehicles are not simply for "tree-huggers." He doesn't classify himself as such, but he is an avid outdoorsman and thinks of himself as a conservationist. "I think resources were put here for us to use, but we need to use them with common sense," he says.

While he appreciates the environmental benefits of electric vehicles, he also points to the significant cost savings. He drives a low-speed vehicle, or LSV, the 9.2 miles from his Greenville home to his downtown office each day. Basically a street-legal golf cart, the LSV adds only a few minutes to his daily commute and doesn't use a drop of gas. But he says the savings with electric vehicles only begin with gas. There is no need for oil, oil changes, air filters, radiators, radiator fluid, or other aspects of car maintenance. All things considered, he says, research shows that it costs about one-third less to drive an electric vehicle.

Edens, who majored in economics at Furman and played football for three years, says his college years prepared him well for his multifaceted career. "A liberal arts education is invaluable in anything," he says, "but especially in something like this, in that there are a lot of different aspects that come together — the technical side, computers, social, the environment. Being able to grasp different concepts is something a liberal arts education is all about."

Although the market for EV charging is rife with opportunity, Edens doesn't plan to stick with just one aspect of the business. He recently signed a contract to build a solar carport that's tied to an in-home EV charging station, and he's learning more about other related technologies. "I'm not limiting myself on where we can go with this," he says.

— LEIGH GAUTHIER SAVAGE

Visit <http://thursopower.com> to learn more.

The author, a 1994 graduate, is a freelance writer in Simpsonville, S.C. Photos by Jeremy Fleming.