ON THE RECORD
WITH JEN PSAKI '00

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CONNECT AND SHARE: magazine.wm.edu and @wmalumni
As the weather warms, students flock to outdoor activities on campus and in Williamsburg to connect with each other while keeping to our community’s Healthy Together Commitment. Outdoor exercise classes at Matoaka, fire pits outside Sadler Terrace and picnics on the Sunken Garden are just a few of the many options that were available this spring. The latest information for alumni and friends about visiting campus is available at www.wm.edu/pathforward.
Looking Forward

BY CARLA MORELAND ’81, J.D. ’84
President, WMAA Board of Directors

When I began my term as president of the Alumni Association in July 2019, I couldn’t have imagined the changes the next two years would bring, even as our mission to deepen connections with each other and William & Mary remained the same.

During that time, we have provided almost 800 programs serving over 58,000 registrants. It has been remarkable that despite the pandemic, we have been able to serve an even more geographically, ethnically and generationally diverse audience.

Since March 2020, with Zoom as our constant companion, we have seen a 103% increase in overall participation, including a 25% increase in ethnic diversity. The W&M alumni community is alive and well and continues to demonstrate a commitment to lifelong learning and engagement. As Mark Linaugh ’84 eloquently said during our kickoff to this year’s Professionals Week, “The goal of coming through W&M, and the future of our programming will be a hybrid model of both in-person events when possible and a range of virtual online programming. Of course, in-person events may look a little different for a while, but we are excited to welcome everyone back on campus for Homecoming & Reunion Weekend, Oct. 7-10. More details will follow as planning unfolds, but we can’t wait to see you!

As we transition to this new phase of in-person and virtual programming, gifts from alumni and friends like you to the William & Mary Alumni Association Fund (impact.wm.edu/wmaaf) are more important than ever. Your support ensures the WMAA continues to offer a wide range of programming and resources that enrich our lives and connect us with this vibrant community.

As I conclude my term as president and we look toward the future, I am grateful for your support. It has been my honor and privilege to serve you and our more than 100,000 alumni who are leading lives of impact and making a difference around the world.

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Vision Into Action

BY KATHERINE A. ROWE
William & Mary President

In “Imagine It Forward,” William & Mary alumna Beth Comstock ’82 writes: “We must become ‘change ready’ — that is, fearless, perpetually ready to reenvision, rethink and redesign whatever we do, whatever we are.” The challenges of pandemic brought us here: reenvisioning and redesigning, as individuals and as a university, how we deliver on our abiding commitments and mission.

William & Mary became change ready in this year of necessity. Gains have been faster than we could have imagined, and hard won. As we renewed our focus on the university’s longer-term future, we took stock of what it means to be change ready by choice, going forward. The first questions that we engaged this spring, as we restarted strategic planning, were open and exploratory. What should we carry with us, sustaining the momentum gained under pandemic? What should we lay aside?

WHERE WE WERE: PRE-PANDEMIC PLANNING Readers of this column will recall that William & Mary began strategic planning by coming together to craft our first-ever statement of values and by revising our mission and vision. In Phase II, the Strategic Planning Steering Committee scanned the national landscape of higher education in three core mission areas: Teaching & Learning, Research & Innovation and Flourishing & Engagement. Last March, we pressed pause on strategic planning to focus on our community’s immediate needs under pandemic.

WHERE WE ARE NOW We can all take pride in the ways the Alma Mater of the Nation has grown and adapted under pandemic. More than a year later, our commitment to staying Healthy Together has mitigated the spread of COVID-19 and sustained our mission. In my last column, I wrote about lessons learned: flexibility, innovation and humility. Our faculty and staff transformed their work with skill and dedication. Our students committed to each other and to our town. Generous alumni, families and friends supported these new resiliencies.

Our March Community Conversation restarted Phase III of strategic planning by exploring what we have learned, during pandemic, about the most urgent challenges and promising opportunities that lie ahead. We invited our far-flung community to join in to assess areas that showed great potential under pandemic: career pathways, internships and new degrees in key areas of strength at William & Mary such as data sciences and integrative conservation.

The feedback gleaned so far is generative:

• Nimble collaborations broke down preexisting silos at William & Mary: We know how to draw on wide-ranging expertise in small, effective cross-disciplinary teams.
• A deeper understanding of holistic wellness sharpened our focus on flourishing for staff and faculty, as well as students.
• Tools for remote collaboration catalyzed new research opportunities nationally and internationally.
• New teaching modes reaffirmed W&M’s value as a highly personal, face-to-face institution and faculty reimagined their curricula to advance belonging.

CHANGE READY The success of William & Mary’s pandemic response has taught us we can take swift, decisive action to advance shared goals, despite great uncertainty. Three principles that guided us over the past year prepare us to act boldly, post-pandemic:

1. Values drive action.

Our shared values are our north star and this year, we took steps to deliver on them more fully. W&M launched a new Inclusive Excellence framework aligned with the Commonwealth’s One Virginia Plan. Our schools reimagined service in an expansive sense, gaining new capacities while supporting our communities. The committee for the Asian Centennial at W&M is imagining a university-wide commemoration in 2021-22.

2. Whole-university approaches speed work.

Pooling resources from across the university elevated our game in just about every arena. Our new Democracy Initiative, for example, brings together experts and curricula from across campus — forging new partnerships and convening conversations that bolster democratic values and civil debate.

3. The challenges are real but surmountable when we are all in.

Lasting solutions to complex and longstanding challenges require unity and commitment. In March, W&M launched a campaign for athletics called All In. Together, we aim to chart a more sustainable and more equitable future for W&M Athletics and for the university as a whole.

W&M THROUGH 2030 I take pride in William & Mary’s response to one of the greatest worldwide challenges of the past century. We have adapted and supported one another, and we have learned that we can persevere in extraordinary ways. I know that everyone reading these words has done the same: adapted, persevered in the face of loss and challenge and brought each other wisdom, hope and pride along the way. We conclude our strategic planning process this summer in the spirit of adaptation, perseverance and abiding focus on sustaining our mission for the future.
I am incredibly grateful for your generosity and support in my educational pursuit. I plan to work at a local middle school to make positive changes within my community. Receiving this scholarship will help me make that dream a reality. Thank you for investing in my ability to succeed and thrive.”

Scholarships have the power to transform lives. Learn more by contacting Suzie Armstrong, executive director of development for scholarships and special projects, at smarmstrong@wm.edu or 757-221-7647.
CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY: Construction is expected to be completed in summer 2022. The timeline was planned to keep disruption at the Sadler Center to a minimum, and the building remains operational.
As the expression goes, pardon our mess during renovation.

William & Mary’s Sadler Center West expansion project started in late November and was well underway when students returned to campus the final week of January. When work is completed — the target date is summer of 2022 — 53,000 square feet will be added to make Sadler the central hub of campus activity.

“Our goal is to create a hub of student life right in the heart of campus — to meet our students where they spend so much of their out-of-class time,” Vice President for Student Affairs Ginger Ambler ’88, Ph.D. ’06, P ’24 says. “If you think about the construction of the Cohen Career Center next to the Sadler Center, and in 2018 the opening of the McLeod Tyler Wellness Center also in that same part of campus, we have been steadily creating that vibrant center for W&M student life.

“With this beautiful addition to the Sadler Center, students will easily find services they need. They will encounter one another in both planned and unplanned ways, and they will enjoy engaging spaces for meetings, social events, speakers, performances and other community gatherings.”

Presently, student organizations are scattered across campus. Student Leadership Development, Residence Life, the Dean of Students office,
BY&LARGE

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the Center for Student Diversity and the Flat Hat are among those at Campus Center on Jamestown Road.

Community Engagement is in Blow Hall, and Student Transition Engagement Programs (formerly First Year Experience) has an office at the Lambert House on Jamestown.

“They will be able to socialize and have formal and informal gatherings in a place that feels like home in the heart of campus,” Ambler says. “The Sadler Center will have new, inviting spaces. We want to create a place that helps students find and engage in activities that enrich their W&M experience.”

Plans call for a three-story addition on the west side of the Sadler Center in addition to renovations to the Student Health Center. Projected to cost $38 million, the project was approved by the Board of Visitors as part of W&M’s 2015 Master Plan.

Director of Student Unions & Engagement Eric Margiotta says the goal is “to add as much life as we can” with the project.

“We’re pushing hard to make things both unique and relatable to the campus,” he says. “There are some student unions in the country where you know where you are, there is an immediate sense of place, of the campus. In others, you would have no idea what campus you’re on.

“In a student building setting, we can be a little bolder. It’s not going to be super reserved and dull. We’re looking for vibrancy and life and ways to represent the university so you’ll know where you are.”

Drew Stelljes Ph.D. ’07, assistant vice president of student affairs, says the facility will have vibrant color patterns and an open design.

“The art will be selected so that we see people, groups and cultures in new and different ways, drawing our attention to values of belonging and inclusion,” he says. “The expanded student union will inspire creativity and discovery, leadership and service, critical thinking and open-mindedness. It will be a place for our student organizations to practice courageous leadership.”

REFRESH: The Sadler Center, which opened in 1993, was last renovated in 2012-2013. The new expansion includes a three-story addition on the west side of the Sadler Center.
In the meantime, there will be construction work, noise and an occasional mess. There is fencing around the project area.

“The construction site, mostly situated between Sadler and the McLeod Tyler Wellness Center, will be very active for the next year and a half,” Project Manager Amber Hall says. “Temporary measures have been put in place so Sadler Center can continue functioning at full speed for the duration of construction.”

Ambler says every effort is being made to keep disruption to a minimum.

“The team managing the project has a thorough plan for phasing the work so it will be least disruptive to people using the Sadler Center and adjacent facilities,” she says. “We will, for example, continue to have an active dining hall there.

“Interestingly, because of the pandemic, the Sadler Center isn’t as busy as it would have been in a normal academic year. We are not hosting the typical array of evening events and programs, though we are using those larger spaces in Sadler as classrooms during the day. The winter break was an important time for making progress on the project because the campus was even less busy then.”

The Sadler Center was last renovated in 2012-2013. The $8-million project included a 7,000-square-foot expansion of the dining facility.

The building first opened in January 1993 as W&M’s central student activities building, called the “University Center,” containing a new dining hall, a 450-seat auditorium, two ballrooms and numerous meeting rooms. It took the place of three lodges, an outdoor basketball court and an extension of the stadium track.

Comedian Adam Sandler and musical group De La Soul were some of the first performers there. Since then, the building has hosted countless artists, lectures, awards ceremonies, concerts and more.

In 2008, W&M renamed the University Center after W. Sam Sadler ‘64, M.Ed. ’71, in honor of his retirement after 41 years of service. Sadler was dean of men from 1970 to 1973, dean of students from 1971 to 1992, and vice president for student affairs from 1993 to 2008.

“There are few buildings on this campus that are frequented more often by students or more recognizable than the University Center,” Michael K. Powell ’82, D.P.S. ’02, currently the W&M Foundation chair, said during the renaming ceremony at Commencement 2008. “And there are few individuals who give as much [as] Sam Sadler. Now, when students enter this building, they will forever be reminded of a man who devoted his life to his alma mater and to this student body. It is with great pleasure that we rename this facility the Sadler Center.”

Now, with the expansion creating additional space for student services and organizations, the Sadler Center more completely encompasses Sam Sadler’s dedication to serving the needs of students.

“The Sadler Center will have new, inviting spaces. We want to create a place that helps students find and engage in activities that enrich their W&M experience.”

PROVIDING SUPPORT: Naming opportunities will be available for the spaces and programs within the Sadler Center. Contact Anna Norville at anorville@wm.edu for more information.
When Ming Chang ’55 arrived on campus in 1952, he likely had no idea of the legacy that would follow. It had only been 30 years since the first Asian student, Pu-Kao Chen ’23, enrolled at the university. Now, as William & Mary commemorates 100 years of Asian students at W&M, Ming’s story is one of many that come together to create the diverse and complex picture of the experiences of Asian and Asian American students, faculty and staff at William & Mary. He helped blaze a path forward for future generations, including his grandchildren.

**LEADING THE WAY** By almost every measure, Ming’s story is the embodiment of the American dream, merging hard work and the freedom to pursue his destiny into a life of opportunity and success.

Born in Shanghai, China, Ming was 14 when he immigrated to the U.S. with his mother at the end of World War II to join his father, who was in the U.S. Navy working for the Secretary of Defense. Unable to follow his dream to attend the U.S. Naval Academy because he wasn’t born in the United States, Ming took the advice of an admiral’s secretary who graduated from William & Mary and encouraged him to apply.

“Ming was treated truly wonderfully at William & Mary,” says Charlotte Chang of her late husband of 61 years. “He may have been the only Asian American on campus at the time, yet he experienced little to no discrimination. At the time, there weren’t many Asian Americans and people mostly accepted the Chinese population. He was treated like everyone else and he quickly joined a variety of activities.”

Ming became a member of the honor council, the university choir, Lambda Chi Alpha, Baptist Student Union and the Order of the White Jacket, which honors students who work in food service. He received scholarship support and worked three jobs — at the bookstore, in the cafeteria and in the Kings Arms Tavern in Colonial Williamsburg’s Historic Area.

“He used to laugh that so many people wanted to take a picture with him because they had never seen an 18th-century Chinaman,” says Charlotte. “He had so much fun at William & Mary. He was very outgoing and very connected to his classmates.”

In 1953, Ming met his wife, Charlotte, when her parents hosted a party for Chinese college students. Her father was a diplomat in the Chinese Embassy in Washington, D.C., and Ming’s parents suggested he attend without an invitation to meet the diplomat’s daughters.

“He was smart; he went straight into the kitchen to help my mother,” says Charlotte, whose family includes notable members such as her youngest sister, network news anchor and reporter Connie Chung. “Our generation was told to marry Chinese. A week later when he came back to call on me, my mother already liked him, so she said yes.”

From that first meeting, Charlotte knew Ming was destined for a life of distinction. He graduated in three years with a Bachelor of Science in physics and followed in his father’s footsteps into the U.S. Navy with a commission as an officer.

In 1962, Ming earned a Bachelor of Science in electrical engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School and went on to build an impressive naval career with increasingly important assignments in the Navy’s cruiser and destroyer commands. In
1980, he attained the rank of rear admiral and was the first naturalized Asian American naval officer to reach flag rank in the U.S. Navy.

Ming retired from the Navy in 1990 after 34 years of service as the Naval Inspector General of the Department of the Navy. Ming also served on the William & Mary Foundation Board from 1994 to 2000.

Both of Ming’s children followed the family’s Navy tradition. Their son Daniel graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1979 and retired as a commander after 22 years. Their daughter Donalda served 11 years as an officer in the Navy.

BUILDING A LEGACY Just as military service is in the Chang family’s blood, so, it seems, is William & Mary. Two of Charlotte and Ming’s grandchildren have attended the university.

Jake Chang ’09 graduated with a degree in business, then served four years in the U.S. Navy as an officer. “My grandfather had a quiet pride in watching us choose our own path, and he provided a great example as a guide,” says Jake, who works for Facebook as global strategy, planning, operations lead: curation. “He approached life as a balance of hard work and opportunities given. I am so grateful to share his deep connection to William & Mary.”

Jake met his wife, Eliza Murphy ’10, on campus. Eliza has 10 extended family members who are alumni, including her grandmother, Jane Ottaway Dow ’55, who was Ming’s classmate.

Ming’s granddaughter, Grace Gibson ’23, who will graduate during the 100th-anniversary commemoration, shared her connection with her grandfather’s legacy. Grace grew up hearing stories from Ming about his time on campus and her family made many trips to Williamsburg with her grandparents.

“For me, William & Mary just feels like home,” says Grace, a psychology major on the pre-med track and a member of the Gamma Phi Beta sorority. “I have my grandfather’s William & Mary banner hanging in my dorm room and it always reminds me of him and his encouragement to take every opportunity.

“It is important that stories like my grandfather’s are shared. He paved the way for so many in the

100 YEARS OF ASIAN STUDENTS AT W&M

A century ago this fall, Pu-Kao Chen ’23 left Shanghai, China, to enroll at William & Mary, becoming the university’s first Asian student and opening the door for hundreds of Asian and Asian American students, faculty and staff to follow — and create their own firsts — over the next 100 years. • William & Mary is now marking that anniversary with a multiyear commemoration. The Asian Centennial celebrates all those at W&M, past and present, who identify as Asian or of Asian ancestry, including those from Southwest Asia — often referred to as the Middle East. • The centennial committee has been charged by W&M President Katherine A. Rowe to develop and execute the commemoration with three goals in mind: to honor trailblazing leaders at W&M; understand and elevate the impact of Asian and Asian American students, faculty and staff; and advance W&M’s aspirations as a global, cosmopolitan and multicultural institution. • Headlining the centennial’s plans is the commissioning of Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Marissa Aroy to create a documentary film about the history and contributions of Asians and Asian Americans at W&M. Aroy will be appointed the Asian Centennial Distinguished Film Fellow in residence. Research is also a central goal of the centennial with the establishment of the Asian Pacific Middle Eastern (APM) Research Project. • Learn more and get involved at www.wm.edu/asiancentennial

“My grandfather had a quiet pride in watching us choose our own path, and he provided a great example as a guide.”
Asian American community without even realizing it. Even though he is no longer with us, he is still leaving a legacy behind for others to follow. As part of his legacy, he wanted to leave a family connection to William & Mary.

PAYING THEIR GRATITUDE FORWARD  Several years ago, the Changs included a bequest to William & Mary in their will. After Ming passed away, Charlotte decided to move forward with the commitment to establish the Donald C. Chang Scholarship Endowment, named in honor of their second son, Donald, who passed away as an infant.

After Ming achieved his “American Dream,” he continued to work hard supporting Asian Americans by speaking with them about their career aspirations and how they, too, could reach their American Dream.

“Ming would approach everything by trying to be the best he could be. He felt confident he would be recognized for his ability, and he was,” says Charlotte. “He would say that it is hard to say there is prejudice when you are successful at what you do.”

The Chang family knows Ming would be excited about William & Mary’s Asian Centennial celebration.

“We feel very proud to be part of an institution that has provided so much opportunity to such a diverse community,” says Jake. “The celebration is a chance to highlight W&M’s consistent commitment to creating an inclusive environment. I hope my grandfather’s legacy can help do that for young students for many years to come.”

In January, Eldridge announced a collaboration with The Boehly Center for Excellence in Finance on a series of courses for students of William & Mary’s Raymond A. Mason School of Business. The courses allow students to explore and engage with some of the most complicated fiscal and monetary policy issues of our time. 2021 courses include Budget Issues, which provides an introduction to the federal budget, and the policy research seminar Public Debt in America, which explores the growth of national debt and its consequences. • “It is a privilege to work alongside the distinguished faculty at William & Mary and The Boehly Center to create two class offerings that will advance the Center’s mission of changing the way that students learn about the intersection of finance and government,” says Todd Boehly ’96, chairman and CEO of Eldridge. “These courses provide a special opportunity to examine these subjects in depth and concentrate on developing meaningful and lasting solutions.” — W&M STAFF
Memorial Garden

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PAY IT FORWARD

ALL IN

W&M launches $55M campaign for athletics

BY JENNIFER PAGE WALL

Against the backdrop of Kaplan Arena, the university launched a $55-million campaign for William & Mary Athletics in March. Aptly titled All In, the campaign will galvanize the entire W&M community to shape a bolder future in which all student-athletes can perform at their highest level and reach their fullest potential. The fundraising endeavor comes at a pivotal moment for the Tribe as it rises to seize this opportunity to emerge stronger and to elevate the caliber and national prestige of the academic and athletics enterprise.

The overarching goals of the campaign — engage and build community, increase annual giving and raise $55 million — will enable William & Mary Athletics to chart a sustainable and equitable path forward.

“We must invest in our future, not just for athletics but for the entire university. An investment in our student-athletes is an investment in William & Mary,” says President Katherine Rowe. “For more than 100 years, athletics has brought our community together. In learning and striving for themselves, for their teams and for the university, exceptional student-athletes advance William & Mary’s mission. Now is the time to be all in.”

The campaign comes when athletics departments at universities and colleges across the nation navigate an extremely difficult financial landscape. Through All In, William & Mary signals its commitment to secure and strengthen its athletics program’s future. Higher levels of philanthropic support will do just that, adds Rowe.

Building off the tremendous success of the For the Bold campaign, All In was conceived as a rallying cry for students, coaches, faculty, alumni, parents, staff and friends to come together to support all 23 Division I varsity teams, provide for future stability, enhance equity and bolster the entire academic experience at W&M. It also places a heavy emphasis on student-athlete development by transforming the places where players train, compete and study. To that end, efforts are underway through All In to reimagine the home for athletics. These include building a new Sports Performance Center and revitalizing Kaplan Arena — two facilities of many that will encompass the William & Mary Athletics Complex — among other areas.

The reimagined home will require an additional $33-million investment and will represent the importance of athletics to the university and the value the university places on it as an essential part of the W&M experience. While a large percentage of funds was secured for the complex through For the Bold, there remains a gap in funding to begin the project, which will now move forward in a phased approach.

The university has already secured $17 million toward the comprehensive $55-million campaign goal. Nearly a third of this goal is designated for expendable, or immediate-use, funds — the area of greatest need for athletics to sustain its operations.

Preceding the public launch of All In, an anonymous alumni couple contributed a $5-million gift that will fuel the athletics department’s most pressing needs and priorities. The gift was made to demonstrate support for President Rowe’s leadership and confidence in W&M Athletics’ future. It gives discretion to the athletics director to allocate funds as needed to help the program thrive. Separately, the university announced last fall a $1.5-million challenge gift from an anonymous alumna supporting women’s athletics scholarships. Women’s athletics scholarships will remain an area of immense focus as the university enhances efforts to afford equitable opportunities for all its student-athletes.

“The pandemic has amplified the intense need to support W&M Athletics. I’ve seen our community persevere and come together over the last year like never before ... and I know that we can — we will — surmount the adversities that we currently face,” says Interim Athletics Director Jeremy Martin Ph.D. ’12, M.B.A. ’17. “If we meet our goal of building community,
thereby raising the level of pride in the athletics program, increasing broad-based annual support and raising the necessary funds, we will be better positioned in the short and long run.”

Since 2015, existing reserves have been utilized each year to balance the athletics department’s budget. Those reserves are now depleted, according to Martin. W&M Athletics on average faces a $5-million deficit every year — impacting the department’s ability to operate effectively — and relies on private support to close the gap.

According to public data, fewer than 10% of Division I athletic departments generate enough revenue to cover the expenses of their sports programs.

W&M Athletics will need to raise at least $5 million annually in immediate-use funds that will support scholarships, equitable participation opportunities for women-athletes and resources for coaches, among other essential areas. All 23 sports teams will also have annual fundraising goals and must meet them by June 30 each year.

Notably, athletics does not receive support from the state. It relies heavily on annual giving, which can represent between 15 and 20% of the athletics yearly budget.

“W&M Athletics is at a crossroads. All 500 student-athletes and the nearly 115 coaches and staff rely on the support of our entire community,” says All In Chair Sue Hanna Gerdelman ’76, P ’07, P ’13.

“When we are united, we win. William & Mary is stronger because of athletics, our classrooms are enriched because of athletics and our Tribe Pride is louder because of athletics. Let’s continue to fight for what we believe in. Let’s go all in.”

Gerdelman, who previously served as the university’s For the Bold campaign chair, will lead the All In fundraising effort in the same capacity. Honorary co-chairs of the campaign include Todd Boehly ’96 and Katie Garrett Boehly ’95, Jill Ellis ’88, L.H.D. ’16 and Betsy Stephenson, Jennifer Tepper Mackesy ’91 and D. Scott Mackesy ’91 as well as Mike Tomlin ’95, L.H.D. ’08 and Kiya Tomlin ’96.

“The actions we take today will define our tomorrow. Now is the moment to seize the opportunity before us to shape a brighter future for our athletics program,” adds Gerdelman.

“Through this campaign, we will provide enriching opportunities for our Tribe family to celebrate and take pride in athletics while ensuring its long-term financial sustainability.”

ONLINE: For more information about All In and to learn more about ways you can support W&M Athletics, please visit tribeathletics.com/allin.
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Tribe football fans, get the most from your game-day experience with an exclusive tailgate spot, right next to Zable Stadium. With a personalized tent, reserved parking spot and all the game-day essentials, you can treat your family, friends and colleagues to a thrilling pre-game experience!

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ESPORTS CENTER OPENS

In March, William & Mary opened its Esports Training and Research Center (ETARC). ETARC serves as a research lab, connecting students to research and internship opportunities, and a training facility to host tournaments. Esports — or electronic sports — encompasses a variety of competitive video games. • The esports coursework and research will focus on a number of interrelated topics, including the potential of games for learning, health and wellness, diversity and inclusion, narrative development, data science, computer science and marketing. • This initiative is a cross-campus collaboration, with representation from Arts & Sciences, the Raymond A. Mason School of Business, Information Technology and the School of Education. • “Students come to William & Mary for our tradition and stay for their future,” says Michele King, director of esports and chair of the Esports Advisory Board. “We are focused squarely on innovation. This program elevates the best of all disciplines to shine light on the industry of esports.” • Learn more at wm.edu/esports.

—ADRIENNE BERARD
Bray School Uncovered

Colonial Williamsburg joins William & Mary to research, relocate and interpret 18th-century Bray School for enslaved and free Black children

By Joseph McClain

A small white building that sits tucked away on the William & Mary campus once held an 18th-century school dedicated to the religious education of enslaved and free Black children, researchers have determined.

Now, the university and its neighbor, the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, are working together to ensure future generations learn about the history of the building and the stories of those who were part of it.

William & Mary and Colonial Williamsburg have forged a partnership regarding the future use of the building, now known as the Bray-Digges House, likely the oldest extant building in the U.S. dedicated to the education of Black children. The agreement calls for relocation of the structure to Colonial Williamsburg's Historic Area, where it would become the 89th original structure restored by the foundation.

No date has been set for the relocation of the Bray-Digges building, and Colonial Williamsburg and William & Mary are considering a number of potential sites. The building has been known as Prince George House and most recently used as offices for William & Mary's Department of Military Science, which has been relocated.

Research conducted in 2020 by Colonial Williamsburg connected the final dots in a decades-long trail of evidence begun by Terry Meyers, Chancellor Professor of English, emeritus. The work, focused on dendrochronology of the building's timber framing, further corroborated research indicating that the building at 524 Prince George Street in Williamsburg once held the Bray School, an institution that educated many of the town's Black children from 1760 to 1774. The school was housed in the building from 1760 to 1765.

The compelling story of a historic building's emergence from obscurity was announced at an event on Feb. 25 featuring remarks by Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam.

“It is hard to overstate the importance of this discovery, of the robust history that will be uncovered through this partnership between William & Mary and Colonial Williamsburg,” says W&M President...
Katherine A. Rowe. “So much of our history as a nation has gone unrecorded — the history of African Americans, their oppression and resistance. By studying the legacy of the Bray School students, we will uncover and illuminate some of the most important impacts of education in the story of America.”

Both partners are generating private financial support for the Williamsburg Bray School Initiative. Cliff Fleet ’91, M.A. ’93, J.D. ’95, M.B.A. ’95, president and CEO of Colonial Williamsburg, says the project is a critical step toward fostering a broader understanding of Americans’ shared history.

“Colonial Williamsburg and William & Mary’s partnership to research, restore and interpret the original structure of the Bray School is critical to our ongoing work to uncover our common past and expand our understanding of America’s founding,” says Fleet.

A Virginia Department of Historic Resources marker commemorating the school was unveiled at Brown Hall in early 2019. Rowe notes that the new joint venture aligns with other William & Mary initiatives that address the institution’s historical involvement with slavery, including the Lemon Project, a scholarly and educational initiative that investigates slavery and its legacies at W&M.

“When we talk about the history of slavery and the history of the African American experience at William & Mary, we include the Bray School,” says Jody Allen Ph.D. ’07, the Robert Francis Engs Director of the Lemon Project. “We believe the Bray School not only impacted the children who actually attended the school, but it impacted their descendants. We believe very strongly that they went on to share their knowledge with brothers, sisters, neighbors.”

Nicole Brown ’13, a graduate student in William & Mary’s American Studies Program, is also a Colonial Williamsburg actor-interpreter portraying Ann Wager, a white teacher at the Williamsburg Bray School. She is currently studying the history and impact of the Bray Schools in Williamsburg and beyond. A London organization, the Associates of Dr. Bray, established similar “Bray Schools” in other locations throughout the New World.

Existing records of the Williamsburg Bray School indicate that the student body was about 90% enslaved, with the remainder being free children of color. Ages ranged from 3 to 10 years old, usually equally divided among boys and girls, and the enrollment was around 30.

Another scholar of the Bray School’s history is Julie Richter M.A. ’85, M.A. ’89, Ph.D. ’92, a lecturer in William & Mary’s Department of History and the director of the National Institute of American History & Democracy (NIAHD), itself a partnership of William & Mary and Colonial Williamsburg. She has done research into the students at the Bray School. Known records are far from complete, she says.

Each of the students of the Bray School was taught to read and possibly to write as well as elements of “deportment,” while girls received needlework lessons, all in the furtherance of a Christian education.

Brown and Richter say slaveowners had varied motivations for enrolling enslaved children in the Bray School. A demonstrated degree of numeracy and literacy increased the auction value of any enslaved individual, while Brown pointed out that a Bray School education increased a person’s usefulness to a slaveowner, especially one who operated a commercial establishment.

“Education is almost invariably subversive,” Meyers says. Like Allen and Brown, he notes evidence that Bray School students took their literacy skills home and spread them around.

“If you are taught to read the Bible,” he says, “you will be able to read other things. Once you educate people, they are better equipped to think critically.”
Necessity Inspires Innovation

Virtual format creates new opportunities for participants

BY KATHERINE VERMILYEA ’22

ON MARCH 26-27, THE BOEHLY CENTER FOR Excellence in Finance at the Raymond A. Mason School of Business hosted the sixth annual William & Mary Women’s Stock Pitch & Leadership Summit — the first in a virtual format. Teams from top universities around the world presented stock pitches for panels of alumni and industry expert judges and competed for $10,000 in prizes. After the competition, nearly 100 undergraduate women from William & Mary joined these visiting teams for an afternoon of leadership development and professional networking with alumnae and industry professionals from all areas of business.

Keynote speakers for 2021 included Josephine Umana ’93, chief operating officer, investments & capital markets for Freddie Mac, and Cindy Davis ’80, chief brand officer for Bed Bath & Beyond.

“While I am sad that you cannot all be together with me in person, I am nonetheless excited that we have found a way to bring this event majestically to life this year despite the pandemic’s impact on all of us,” Dean Larry Pulley ’74 said during his opening remarks. “I want to thank our corporate partners and donors who provide the funding to continue to make this a signature event for the business school and for William & Mary overall.”

Because of the pandemic, this year’s event was held virtually using Zoom and Remo. Remo is a platform that features virtual floor plans with “tables” that attendees can move between. Each table is a private video call, which better facilitates meeting new people and having discussions.

“We even made the virtual floor plan to resemble the Miller Hall atrium,” says Alden Wagner ’21, a fellow at the Boehly Center who helped plan this year’s Stock Pitch. “While we would have preferred for the event to be in person, there were some benefits to virtual. For students, it is less intimidating to interact with professionals in the virtual space than in person. Additionally, we had many professional participants who may have not had time in their schedules to travel to Williamsburg but who were able to join virtually.”

WILLIAM & MARY’S WASHINGTON CENTER IS CELEBRATING ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY THIS YEAR WITH A SERIES OF EVENTS THAT HIGHLIGHT THE CENTER’S IMPACT AND BRING TOGETHER ALUMNI, STUDENTS, FACULTY AND THE COMMUNITY.

• Nearly 3,000 students have explored career interests through internships, courses and mentorships at the Washington Center since it opened on Jan. 2, 2001. Ninety faculty members have taught there.

• “The Washington Center exemplifies William & Mary’s vision to transcend boundaries — connecting classrooms with work experiences, current students with alumni and W&M with the capital in a deep way,” W&M President Katherine Rowe said during a Jan. 14 event launching the anniversary celebration.

• Over two decades, 116 students have received scholarships to study at the Washington Center. Fundraising for scholarships will be a priority throughout the year, and everyone who donates in 2021 will receive a commemorative pin and an invitation to the 20th anniversary celebration in November.

Read more at: magazine.wm.edu/studyinde

—TINA ESHLEMAN
**RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE**

## 2021 PLUMERI AWARDS

Outstanding faculty and athletics staff members receive honors

**BY TINA ESHLEMAN**

Life histories of sea urchins, the value of face-to-face diplomacy between global leaders, effects of gentrification on urban religious communities, how to make music using electrical sparks — these are some of the topics explored by recipients of this year’s Plumeri Awards recognizing excellence in faculty and athletics leadership at William & Mary.

Joseph J. Plumeri ’66, D.P.S. ’11 established the award in 2009 to help outstanding professors enhance their teaching and scholarship.

“These academic and athletics leaders dream big and they encourage their students to do the same,” Plumeri says. “They reach across disciplines. They form partnerships outside William & Mary to bring about real change in their community and around the world. They also remind us that learning can be exciting. It can be fun. And once in a while, if you have the right spirit and determination, it can be groundbreaking.”

Recipients of the prestigious Plumeri Awards undergo a highly competitive selection process and are chosen based on their accomplishments in the areas of discovery, scholarship, teaching and athletics.

More than 200 faculty members have benefited from Plumeri’s generosity during the past 13 years. Each of the current 10 honorees will receive an award of $20,000. Here are the 2021 recipients:

- Alan F. Albert ’69, M.Ed. ’71, P ’03
  Associate Director of Athletic Development
- Jonathan D. Allen
  Associate Professor of Biology and Co-director, Undergraduate Program in Marine Science
- Annie L. Blazer
  Associate Professor of Religious Studies
- Joshua Erlich
  Professor of Physics and Physics, Undergraduate Program Director
- Vivian E. Hamilton
  Professor of Law and Founding Director, W&M Center for Racial & Social Justice
- Marcus C. Holmes
  Associate Professor of Government and Academic Director, William & Mary-St Andrews Joint Degree Programme
- Meredith W. Kier
  Associate Professor of Education and Chair, Curriculum & Instruction; Director of Secondary Science Education
- Silvia R. Tandeciarz
  Chancellor Professor of Modern Languages and Literatures
- Kristin L. Wustholz
  Associate Professor of Chemistry and Class of 1964 Distinguished Associate Professor

**DEMONCACY INITIATIVE**

## FIRST 100 DAYS

The first 100 days of a presidential administration are often seen as an indicator of a new president’s performance. But is this measure still relevant? On March 30, the Global Research Institute, W&M Washington Center and the W&M Alumni Association held a virtual discussion about what the first 100 days can tell us about a president’s agenda, approach to foreign policy and relationship with Congress. Michael Powell ’85, D.P.S. ’02, president and CEO of NCTA - The Internet & Television Association, moderated the discussion with Mitchell Reiss P ’16, ambassador (retired), former president and CEO, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation; Liz Schrayer, president and CEO, U.S. Global Leadership Coalition; and Congresswoman Stephanie Murphy ’00. The event was part of William & Mary’s university-wide Democracy Initiative, which is engaging experts and community partners to convene conversations that bolster democratic values and affirm meaningful civil debate.

—CLLAIRE DE LISLE M.B.A. ’21
flanked by traffic and street art

on the north end of Lafayette Square in Washington, Weijia Jiang '05 makes her morning trek through the labyrinth required to enter the White House.

Past the tall fencing surrounding H Street, she stops at a white tent and flashes her ID. Next comes a COVID-19 test in a nearby office building and a short walk toward the north gate. Security checks her press pass, screens her things in an airport-esque conveyor belt scanner, and waves her through with the beep of a metal-detecting wand.

At last on campus, Jiang passes the long arc of broadcast news tents stationed kitty-corner to the White House — colloquially known as “Pebble Beach.” Later in the day Jiang, the White House correspondent at CBS News, will return to those tents a half a dozen or so times to report on air.

But for now, she steps into the James S. Brady Press Briefing Room — far smaller than it looks on TV — and walks to CBS’ cramped office down the hallway, filed like one of many folders in the compact press area. Jiang starts calling sources, chatting with her network’s White House team and crafting questions. The daily briefing is approaching, and she, as always, wants to come prepared.

Just a few walls away, Jen Psaki '00 is also prepping for the briefing — not to question but to answer. Inside her office, ensconced in the White House communications wing known as “Upper Press,” she and her team run through daily headlines and administration policy, with voluminous binders outlining topic after topic.

Psaki usually has a sense for when the briefing will be difficult, whether due to breaking news or reporters who have scoops ahead of the policy process. Still, that doesn’t matter when she eventually walks down the hall, through the twin sliding doors and onto the briefing room lectern, in the gaze of rolling cameras.

At once, she’s speaking to the entire American public and the reporters in the room, kept fewer and farther apart during the coronavirus pandemic. When CBS has its turn in the White House Correspondents Association’s rotation, that group of reporters includes Jiang.

And when she asks Psaki questions from CBS’ seat near the front, they both represent something much larger. Jiang speaks on behalf of the entire White House team at CBS and Psaki on behalf of the White House itself. More fundamentally, the exchange between reporters and press secretaries is a hallmark of

story by NOAH ROBERTSON '19
photo illustrations by MICHAEL D. BARTOLOTTA
American democracy, supported by government transparency and fact-based media.

At the same time, they’re representing their alma mater — speaking as one William & Mary alumna to another. While the White House and Wren Building are 150 miles apart, both Jiang and Psaki hold William & Mary close. Neither expected to land in her current job, but each of their career paths began in Williamsburg.

At the vanguard of the university’s presence in the nation’s capital, Jiang and Psaki are among the most visible members of a growing number of alumni in media and communications. From producer to press secretary, from Washington, D.C., to Beijing, William & Mary graduates are exercising the same curiosity that once helped them thrive at the university. Now they’re applying the toolkit learned from a liberal arts education in Williamsburg to seek the truth at the highest level, and keep the public informed.

For Jiang, Psaki and other alumni on either side of the lectern, it’s all in a day’s work at the White House.

“At this moment in our history, one of the biggest contributions that we can make in this administration and I can make in my job is building trust with the American people and reestablishing what it means to have a free press,” Psaki says. “That’s sometimes tense and that’s sometimes combative, but that’s OK. That’s part of democracy.”

When she arrived for her first year in Williamsburg almost 25 years ago, Psaki was not on the path to becoming press secretary of the United States. She was barely on the path to studying at William & Mary.

Growing up in Connecticut, she first heard of William & Mary in the eighth grade, when a senior that Psaki admired on her high school swim team committed to the university. So, four years later, when one of her best friends had an extra application, she applied as well.

“It was pure luck that I ended up at William & Mary, but I had an incredible experience,” she says.

When not studying for her English and sociology classes, she was involved across campus — varsity swimming, working as a tour guide, interning in the Admission office, volunteering, and serving as president of her sorority, Chi Omega. Conspicuously absent from that list, however, is work in politics and communications.

That shift came in 2002, two years after she graduated, when Psaki broke up with her boyfriend (don’t worry, she says, they’re on good terms), packed her car, and drove to Iowa to work for the state Democratic Party.

“That was a big turning point for me,” she says. “Obviously I learned I loved politics.”

Her next turning-point-turned-road-trip came in February 2007, when she received an offer to work for then-Sen. Barack Obama’s first presidential campaign. A week later she started in Chicago, and in less than two years she was working in the White House communications office.

Over the next 10 years, she went from deputy communications director to President Obama’s 2012 campaign press secretary to spokesperson for the State Department to White House director of communications. Late last year she joined then President-Elect Joe Biden’s transition team. The rest is history — even if, to Psaki, the reality didn’t sink in at once.
“I don’t know if there wasn’t one moment when it hit me, but obviously the realization that you’re being seriously considered for a job like the U.S. press secretary is a huge honor,” she says. “I think it was really when it was announced where it felt real.”

It certainly felt real her first day on the job. Even if she’s worked in the West Wing before, Psaki says, her first White House briefing was altogether different.

“You just think of the enormous weight of the opportunity, but also the responsibility,” she says. “I remember thinking I can mess up other days, but today I really don’t want to mess up.”

Standing behind the lectern, Psaki reads the room and cycles through each reporter’s questions, including those that come from a different ideological background. While responding, she tries to remember that the reporters in the room aren’t the only ones listening. Whether watching live or after the fact, the entire American public may scrutinize what she says.

Sometimes she thinks over questions later in the day. Sometimes she wishes she answered them differently. That’s part of the job.

Yet the high stakes and the high scrutiny are also highly rewarding. Psaki still sometimes marvels at the chance to walk through the White House halls or chit-chat with the president on Air Force One. At times during the Obama administration, she was too focused on work to enjoy that surreal feeling. She’s trying to pay more attention this time around and enjoy her short moment in history while she’s still in it.

That can involve occasional catch-ups with Florida Rep. Stephanie Murphy ’00, a former sorority sister, or explaining to her 5-year-old niece that while she can see “Aunt Jen” on TV, Aunt Jen can’t see her.

“One of the biggest contributions that we can make in this administration and I can make in my job is building trust with the American people.”

ONLINE: As William & Mary’s Chi Omega chapter celebrates its centennial, we talked to a few of the accomplished alumnae, including Jen Psaki ’00, who are working as communicators in politics and public policy. Read more at magazine.wm.edu/chiomega.
Interactions like those help give her peace as she performs one of the world’s most stressful jobs and raises two young children. Her best friends — all from William & Mary — also help. Even at work, she keeps reminders of where she met them, and where she got her start, close by. A picture of the Wren Building hangs on her office wall.

Jiang’s workdays in her home office start with a similar memento: a William & Mary Christmas ornament sitting on her desk. Like Psaki, she followed a similarly unlikely journey to Williamsburg.

Moving from China to America at the age of 2, Jiang grew up in small-town Buckhannon, West Virginia, which nurtured her affection for the outdoors. By her senior year of high school, she’d applied to almost 20 colleges, but only William & Mary felt like what she wanted in a home.

“When I stepped foot on campus, I felt like this is what college is supposed to be,” she says. “It’s sort of a magical place.”

The university met her family’s financial needs and provided scholarships for her to study as a Monroe and William & Mary Scholar. All in all, the decision ended up being easy. Much harder was her decision to enter journalism. Her entire life, Jiang’s father had wanted her to become a doctor. She even started her first year on the pre-med track, majoring in chemistry. But the more time she spent with her pre-med classmates, the more she realized she didn’t share their enthusiasm. She didn’t want a career of going through the motions, and she knew the line of work where that wouldn’t happen.

When she was 13, Jiang won a national competition with Channel One News, a since-closed company that fostered youth media literacy, with alumni from Anderson Cooper to Lisa Ling. Channel One flew her out to Los Angeles for a weeklong media summit. Jiang was amazed.

“For me, it was just mind-boggling that this could be your job because it seemed like so much fun,” she says.

That impression remained true in her time at William & Mary, as she wrote for the Flat Hat and co-starred on an amateur news broadcast with a friend named Luther Lowe ’06 — who 10 years later exited the friend zone and eventually became her husband. Jiang switched her major to philosophy and applied to a graduate program in journalism her junior year.

Then, as now, there was no journalism major at the university. But Jiang avers that her philosophy degree was the best preparation available.

“I actually think the liberal arts education is the best education to have in your pocket as you try to enter journalism,” she says. “For me, the number one quality a journalist possesses is a curiosity for learning, and I think William & Mary really nurtured that.”

After graduating, Jiang traveled to New York for a master’s program in broadcast journalism at Syracuse University. A year later, she started at a local news station in Salisbury, Maryland. From there she moved to Baltimore to New York to Washington, where she covered the 2016 elections as a general assignment reporter.

Her work that year laid a foundation for her to cover former President Donald Trump’s administration, a gig that led to her receiving CBS’ full-time position covering the White House in 2018.

Like her time at William & Mary, her hours are long and her work is intense. Especially during the pandemic, when accurate information is a matter of life and death, missing a briefing is like missing a class. Completing
all the make-up work required can feel like unrolling a snowball.

As she did in Williamsburg, Jiang responds to the pressure through the comfort of friends and family. She’s a bit shy, and oddly enough for a broadcast reporter, she doesn’t like to be the center of attention. So, when she’s on air, she doesn’t think of the overwhelming number of viewers watching from afar. Instead, Jiang focuses on herself and the cameraperson and says whatever she thinks her mom would want to know.

As an immigrant, one story with particular resonance for her has been the rise in hate crimes against Asian Americans over the last year. Since reports of violence and discrimination emerged following COVID-19’s arrival in the U.S., Jiang has tried to keep the focus on the issue through her work.

That effort often involves swimming upstream in a river of misinformation around the pandemic. But Jiang is used to hard work — “even if I’m not working, I’m working,” she says — and hard questions, sometimes directed to her fellow alumna, Psaki, in the briefing room.

That doesn’t mean she’s not proud to have a William & Mary graduate on the other end of the podium.

“It is inspiring to see we have that representation,” Jiang says. Then again, “You don’t have to look very far to find us everywhere in Washington.”

For a few years, Jiang didn’t have to look outside her office. She’s not the only William & Mary alumna who has recently covered the White House — not even the only member of the Class of 2005.

From 2018 through 2020, Jiang’s partner on the White House beat at CBS was Paula Reid ’05, whose shared experience at the university laid the foundation for a friendship and reporting partnership on one of journalism’s biggest stages.

“Weijia and I would divide and conquer important sources and break news,” Reid says. “It was really fun to work with someone I consider a friend, and who I gelled with really well professionally.”

Since her time at William & Mary, Reid has enjoyed teamwork. She was a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority, she volunteered to coach a youth basketball team, and she taught an always full Pilates class three times per week at the recreation center.

But it was the diversity on campus and critical thinking skills she learned at the university that kickstarted her circuitous road to journalism. Initially, Reid thought she wanted to be a lawyer, enrolling in
Villanova University’s Charles Widger School of Law after graduation. Midway through her time there, she says, she caught the “journalism bug.”

“I was at a professional event and I saw a legal affairs journalist giving a speech and just thought, ‘That’s what I want to do,’” Reid says.

By the time she decided on a career change, she had already accepted a yearlong clerkship in Wilmington, Delaware. So, while riding the train there and back, she would plan how to pursue her dream, while balancing a personal life and onerous student loans.

Her answer came in the form of a self-described “geriatric internship” (because she was older than most interns) at CBS’ investigative unit in New York after the clerkship concluded. For half a year, she took the bus from Philadelphia to New York five days a week, all to work without pay.

“I was supposed to go on to a fancy private law firm,” Reid says. “Instead, I got an internship and I just loved it.”

By the summer of 2010 she had earned a job as a production secretary and soon after became a digital journalist. In 2014, after moving to Washington to cover the Justice Department, she began breaking so much news she got opportunities on air and found a home in broadcast journalism.

Her work, particularly on Special Counsel Robert Mueller’s investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election, drew her into the White House’s orbit. So many stories involving the Trump administration had a legal component that her expertise as a lawyer became an indispensable asset — leading to her transition to a CBS White House correspondent in 2019.

“I have prosecutorial training and I brought it to the White House, particularly when we were covering the pandemic,” Reid says. “I bring a lawyer mentality to the front row.”

To her, that style involves rigorous, fact-based questions similar to a cross-examination. It sometimes leads to tense exchanges, but it’s nothing personal, she says. Especially amid a public health emergency, information matters.
But while her time in the briefing room was the most visible part of her job, it was a small part of her day-to-day schedule.

“The White House is one of those jobs that sort of looks glamorous on the outside,” Reid says. “On the inside it’s certainly a privilege, but it’s not glamorous. We work in these cramped spaces. There are long days. You can’t often leave.”

At one point, after being exposed to COVID-19 while in the briefing room last year, Reid had to quarantine for two weeks at home. Continuing their coverage during that time was yet another example of how resilient and team-oriented the White House unit at CBS was. She may often be the one asking the questions on camera, but a whole team works behind the scenes to make that possible.

“One of the things that I really take away from the past year is how collaborative our CBS team was and how collaborative the White House reporters as a whole were,” says Reid, who has since joined CNN as a senior legal affairs correspondent. “Journalism was so essential in trying to get out accurate information to people who had never been through anything like this.”

About the time when Reid would finish her shift in the evening, David Culver ’09, an international correspondent at CNN’s Beijing bureau, would be starting his.

Culver's days start early, often before 5 a.m. He checks in with his family stateside, often having lively conversations with his Cuban mother. Next comes a workout, followed by coffee, and the workday begins.

Starting with Hong Kong and ending with New York, Culver watches the ebb and flow of news cycles around the world. By the time he’s done combing through emails and appearing on air, it can be difficult to find enough hours to sleep. But he has to, because come tomorrow morning the long wave of worldwide news begins again.

The path from growing up in Fairfax County, Virginia, to working in Beijing is a long one, and for Culver it was paved with accidents. But never up to question was his commitment to journalism. He decided on the field, and television journalism in particular, when he was around 12 years old and his cousin passed away. As local reporters interviewed his relatives, he saw an art in their poise during the most difficult of moments.

Thinking he wouldn’t get in, Culver turned in his application to William & Mary two days late and without the optional essay. As if from providence, he was accepted.

Determined to enter his field, Culver received a full-time offer from WAVY, the NBC affiliate in Hampton Roads. But he was still just 21 and had a year left of college. He and the station worked out a schedule. Culver would work weekends and whenever he wasn’t in class, driving the hourlong commute each way.

His first big story came when he conducted on-air interviews with baggage handlers facing layoffs at a local airport. Days later, they called back in tears saying their jobs — and hundreds of others across the country at the same airline — had been saved.

“I remember thinking there’s some real power there, not for me in particular, but for the outlet that we have in journalism to bring things to light that could bring positive change,” Culver says.

At WAVY, Culver went from digital writer to tech reporter to news reporter to producer to anchor. After a few years he transitioned to WRC, the NBC affiliate in Washington. Following a similar enterprising path, he went from Northern Virginia reporter to
anchor to national reporter, where he covered major stories ranging from the Parkland school shooting in Florida to the thawing of Cuban-American relations.

When CNN called and eventually offered him a position in Beijing, he had little idea that a pandemic would hit soon after he arrived.

Culver found himself in a unique position. He doesn’t speak Mandarin. Nor did he study China in college. What he could do, though, was help interpret Chinese politics and culture to the West. After the country’s initial spartan lockdown brought back a semblance of normalcy, he and his team at CNN set out to tell the stories that would resonate back home.

That brought him to Wuhan at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and led him to speak with a mother grieving the loss of her daughter due to the disease. Culver found himself in almost the same position as the local reporters who interviewed his family years before, after the death of his cousin. The poise required of them was now required of him.

“We are expected to hold the power accountable — be it the power in Washington or the power here in Beijing,” he says.

But accountability comes in many forms, whether breaking news from investigative reporters or the unavoidable empathy inspired by a mother mourning her child. In his role as a cultural interpreter, Culver needs to represent a true picture of Chinese life, which is far more diverse than just Beijing. In a country of more than a billion people, positioned across the globe from his hometown, nuance and humanity are crucial.

Culver learned that in Williamsburg. As he worked and studied full time his senior year, his professors did what they could to help, sometimes adjusting deadlines or tailoring assignments to his goals. They helped meet his needs, and he learned a reporter has to meet the needs of the story.

Stories, just like students, are unique and can be powerful. Psaki, Jiang, Reid and Culver came to understand that at William & Mary, and have applied it ever since, whether in Wilmington or Washington, Baltimore or Beijing. For them, Williamsburg isn’t home anymore. But what they learned there is on display every time they appear on camera, or listen, one on one, during a quiet interview.

“The intimacy of William & Mary allowed for the humanity in my work to penetrate the day to day,” Culver says.
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Are you lost amidst the vast galaxy of streaming television? Tired of going where most have gone before? Consider “Star Trek: Discovery.” It fuses a feature-film aesthetic, peak-TV character arcs, and plenty of ongoing mystery in the farthest reaches of space. And it does so with the scientific advice of Mohamed Noor ’92, professor of biology and dean of natural sciences at Duke University.
More than any other Trek series, “Discovery” centers on how humanity and its spacefaring Federation can preserve noble ideals and surmount trauma amidst conflict, betrayal and scientific conundrums. But it is still undeniably Star Trek. In the franchise’s ever-growing continuity, it slides in after its immediate predecessor (“Star Trek Enterprise”) and before the 1960s original and its followup, “Star Trek: The Next Generation.” The show’s namesake vessel bears more than a small resemblance to (and eventually encounters) the legendary starship of Captain Kirk and Mr. Spock. The crew of the U.S.S. Discovery has fought the Klingons, visited the Mirror Universe, traveled through time and beamed down and back up off of dozens of planets.

Without a doubt, it’s the only show anywhere where stars of “Rent,” “The Walking Dead” and “Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon” can share the same screen.

Since production began on the show’s third season on CBS All Access (recently rebranded Paramount+), Noor has been contracted to serve as the show’s biology consultant, inventing plausible scientific principles that justify the writers’ plot points. He draws on his own top-shelf experience in evolutionary biology and genetics, as well as his lifelong love of the Star Trek franchise. Noor proudly mentions that he saw “Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan” in the theater in 1982, before making sure to credit the real-world impact of “the final frontier.”

“The franchise wants to ground things — to the extent possible — in real science. They’re very much aware of how many real-world scientists are inspired by Star Trek,” he says, talking at least in part about himself. Thousands of scientists, doctors, engineers and countless other professionals credit Star Trek with inspiring their career path, and Noor is working on making more of them.

These are the voyages of a renowned and beloved professor of evolutionary genetics, whose continuing mission is to take his award-winning knack for teaching and expand it via strange new worlds.

HIGHLY BIOLOGICAL

But not every voyage is a smooth one. Exhibit A: Interstate 64 between Williamsburg and Noor’s hometown of Hampton, Virginia. Over and over again. The son of two engineers, Noor began his time at William & Mary as a commuter and “B-average” student.

“I remember telling one of the professors at W&M that it’d be really fun to be the science advisor on a Star Trek show,” Noor says. But as much driving as he did in those days, his first few undergraduate years were a little aimless; one professor suggested he “take easier classes.”

“His problem early on was finding a little direction,” says Bruce Grant, William & Mary professor of biology emeritus. “Once he found what he wanted to do, he just ran with it.” Junior year, Noor signed up to take a class on genetics.

“I put it off because people said genetics was hard,” Noor says. Before long, he had to ask: “What are you all talking about?” I loved it. I loved the logic to it and how it all worked together.”

This led him to enroll in Evolutionary Genetics with Grant, a course Noor describes as “life-changing.” The class was conversational and full of storytelling, quite unlike the rote memorization common in those days.

“I was enraptured,” Noor says. “I recorded his lectures.” Even though he felt he had a strong grasp of the material, he would take his recordings to the gym and listen again. By the end of the first semester, Noor was hooked. He asked Grant if they could work together.

“Do you want a job to get paid, or a research job?” Grant had asked.

“Not knowing the difference, I said ‘both,’” remembers Noor. He washed “smelly” vials of fruit flies for money and also became Grant’s research student. Grant and Noor would

“Students have spent a lot of time thanking me as their mentor, but it is I who should thank them for making my life so fulfilled.”
research together for long hours in Millington nearly every day, discussing evolutionary geneticists, news events and plots from the latest episode of Star Trek.

“He is one of the fastest learners I know,” says Grant. “He’s a very social guy. He was a disc jockey at the radio station, he was involved with guiding commuter students — he just gives, gives and gives of himself.”

But generosity went both ways. “The amount of time [Grant] invested in me was amazing,” Noor says. “People don’t get that at many universities: investment in a random undergrad. It felt like we’d talk for an hour or more, many, many days of the week.” He pauses and thinks some more. “At least, I loved it so much, that’s what it felt like.”

Mentorship was not new to Grant. As an undergraduate in Pennsylvania, he encountered a transformative professor of his own in a genetics class, setting off a chain reaction that has irrevocably shaped the field of evolutionary genetics.

“Teaching is important,” Noor says, “not just in the context of people knowing the material. Teaching is what inspires people to go into the research.” To commemorate the impact Grant had on his career and that of so many others, Noor co-wrote a 2005 peer-reviewed article with colleague Norman A. Johnson ’87 for the journal Genetics titled “A Kingpin of Academic Inclusive Fitness: The History and Contributions of Bruce Grant.” The article concludes: “If our scientific worths ever amount to half that of Bruce Grant, or others who have similarly inspired such a great many future scientists, we can retire knowing we have had truly successful careers.”

That’s Mohamed being Mohamed, according to Grant, who retired from W&M in 2001. Noor is never the one to take credit for his success, Grant says; he’s always giving credit to those around him.

“Students have spent a lot of time thanking me as their mentor,” he says, “but it is I who should thank them for making my life so fulfilled.”

LIVE LONG AND PROSPER, AND PROSPER ...

By senior year, Noor was helping Grant grade his Evolutionary Genetics papers, getting Grant’s advice about graduate school and trying to get his parents to watch “Star Trek: The Next Generation” with him. With Highest Honors in Biology and publication for his honors thesis in hand, he connected with Jerry Coyne ’72, a now-renowned professor of ecology and evolution emeritus at the University of Chicago. Coyne was the first member of the Grant evolutionary genetics family tree.

Years before Noor’s arrival, Grant had helped inspire former philosophy major H. Allen Orr ’82, M.S. ’85 toward adding a second major in biology and continuing on for a master’s degree. Orr became the first to go from Grant’s classroom in Millington to Coyne’s lab in Hyde Park. Orr and Coyne would go on to write a seminal book together (“Speciation”) and dedicate an important article in the journal Evolution to Grant. Today, Orr is a tenured professor of biology at the University of Rochester and an accomplished researcher in his own right. The Grant-to-Coyne pipeline was already growing.

“There’s a lot of William & Mary in the field,” Noor says. “The community of evolutionary genetics is not huge, but there are a lot of people who know Bruce Grant who never went to William & Mary.”

At Chicago, Noor and Coyne studied Drosophila, known to most as fruit flies. If you’re wondering why someone would go to
grad school to study insects that pester your overripe bananas, consider that Drosophila and its numerous species are the basis for a stupendous amount of our knowledge about genetics.

Drosophila has chromosomes comparable enough to humans’ to provide useful genome data. Crossbreeding the flies can produce variations in succeeding generations. For humans, this takes millennia, but fruit flies can become grandparents in about two weeks. When genetic changes arise and spread through generations of children, new species begin to take shape. These genetic changes lead to natural selection and evolution.

Noor’s 1996 doctoral thesis charted the courtship behaviors of hybridized fruit flies and their success mating with flies of either individual species. Outside his laboratory, he met his wife while earning his Ph.D., sharing episodes of “The Next Generation” together.

“Dating someone who hates Star Trek?” Noor says. “It would have been a problem.”

His success in Coyne’s lab led him to a postdoctoral position at Cornell, a tenure-track position at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, and eventually to the faculty at Duke in 2005. Along the way, he was published in Science, Nature, The Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, PLoS Biology, Genetics and Evolution, to name a few of the most prominent journals in the entire field.

For his “major advances in evolutionary biology,” Noor was one of only 13 scientists to receive the prestigious and rare Darwin-Wallace Medal from the Linnean Society in London in 2008. Yes, that Darwin. The medal was historically bestowed in small groups, first in 1908, again in 1958, and finally in 2008 before becoming a yearly award to a single scientist. Along with fellow awardee Allen Orr, Noor had made his mark on the field he discovered at William & Mary, but he had too much energy to rest on his laurels. There was, after all, still class to teach and a book to write.

For Noor, teaching and research are a critical interplay that allows him to pass to a new generation the lessons he learned starting in Grant's classes. At Duke, he’s won awards for mentoring postdocs and teaching undergraduates, along with recognition by the graduate program and the medical school for his instruction.

“I like asking students what’s working for them and what’s not,” he says. “I’ll just take them one-on-one and ask them: ‘Do you think people are following?’ ‘Is it paced too fast or paced too slowly?’ It seems to help me adjust my style to work more effectively for them.”

In addition to his coursework at Duke, Noor has also worked on massively open online courses (MOOCs) through Coursera. One-on-one was not an option. With so many students working at their own paces, Noor “flipped” the class and had them review the course’s content on their own time. He spent his class time instead on Q&A and formative assessments, to maximize his effectiveness as an instructor.

“I’m not trying in the dark,” he says. “I’m using techniques based on what people have told us is a more effective method.”

One observer of his classes at Duke said, “He definitely does have humility and huge enthusiastic energy. He focuses that energy outside, which makes him a good teacher.”

Noor began using science-fiction examples in his classes after seeing his Duke colleague Eric Spana speak at the DragonCon pop-culture convention in Atlanta. Noor’s MOOC, along with that convention, helped lead him to another avenue for reaching a large audience with science education: Star Trek.

ENERGY FIELDS

The rest of this article contains mild spoilers for “Star Trek: Discovery.”

DragonCon lit the way for Noor to speak at sci-fi conventions about genetics and evolution. The talks aren’t really about Star Trek, but they use the franchise as a doorway to real-world scientific concepts. For example, in the “Next Generation” episode “Evolution,” Ensign Wesley Crusher unleashes self-replicating microscopic robots called nanites. Noor’s approach to Trek education charts out how these fictional nanites might pass traits down through several successive rounds of reproduction.
He uses the same strategy at Duke, teaching a class called “Genetics, Evolution, and Star Trek.” Noor’s teaching prowess already had a reputation: he didn’t need the pop-culture brand to fill the class roster. Half the students didn’t know the show at all. For the final project, however, some students were inspired to film “scientifically accurate scenes of Star Trek,” in one case with volunteer student actors outlining exactly how an alien race visually identical to humanity might still have evolved super-strength.

Using Star Trek as a pathway to sophisticated scientific concepts became the model for his 2018 book, “Live Long and Evolve.” Noor sat down with all 700-plus episodes from all the franchises and many of the films to delve into speciation, reproduction, DNA and the nature of science fiction itself. He kept a spreadsheet going, too: one row for each episode, one chapter topic per column. When a tardigrade (the only known animal to survive direct exposure to the vacuum of space) proves critical to the navigational systems of the U.S.S. Discovery, Noor’s book breaks it down — exploring the strong science and the science that gets stretched a little too far.

“The idea of the book was to mirror a general introduction to evolutionary genetics,” he says, since “they can’t have an episode where someone is giving a seminar explaining something. That would be incredibly boring.”

And Noor doesn’t do boring. In 2020, he established a YouTube channel called BioTrekkie Explains that takes his Trek-framed concepts off the page and the convention circuit and into cyberspace. He writes, edits and narrates all the videos himself, whether it’s based upon human-Vulcan interbreeding (the kind of thing that produced Mr. Spock) or the infamous episode of “Star Trek: Voyager” where the captain and pilot “mutate” into greasy salamanders.

“He’s a tireless worker, with some kind of drive and enthusiasm,” says Bruce Grant. “Energy is the word. His middle name should be energy, or energetic.”

UNCONVENTIONAL

So: two Klingons and a Starfleet Admiral walk into a lecture. It sounds like the setup to a Star Trek joke, but it sets up something entirely different. As Noor was giving a presentation at DragonCon with astrophysicist Erin Macdonald, actress Jayne Brook and her castmates showed up in the back of the convention hall. Brook, a Blue Devil herself, played Admiral Katrina Cornwell on “Discovery” and made a Duke connection with Noor after the talk. They traded emails, and a few months later, he invited her to stay with his family and speak to his class in Durham.

“He approaches every other mind he comes in contact with as another person who he’s curious to hear from,” Brook says. “That is an environment in which you learn naturally, just by enjoying the other person’s presence and what they know.”

Brook and Noor met up again at another Star Trek convention in Las Vegas and struck up a lasting friendship. She connected him with the “Discovery” writing staff, which led to his contract as their biology consultant.

Noor is reluctant to choose favorite characters on the Star Trek series, but at least one show has an obvious choice.

“So many of them are so radically different, it’s like picking your favorite plant. Do you mean fruit, or vegetable or tree?” Noor says with a laugh. “But I liked [Brook’s] character a lot even before I met her.”

Throughout their encounters, Noor and Brook looked for ways to collaborate. When COVID-19 locked everyone in their houses, they finally had their chance. BioTrekkie with the Admiral is a recent series of YouTube videos where they dissect and discuss the latest episodes of “Discovery.” The clips live amidst Noor’s other science-focused BioTrekkie videos, but they have the added benefit of Brook’s experience with the show’s production and what Noor describes as “her wonderfully curious and inquisitive nature.” And their banter and chemistry is genuine.

“We had so much fun just having a conversation back and forth,” Brook says. “It’s this enjoyable dynamic of discovering these cool secrets about our world — things we don’t think about. I can’t look at fireflies the same way again.”

MAKING IT SO

Now, we go to the distant future. The crew of the U.S.S. Discovery have selflessly flung themselves centuries into the future to keep critical information out of evil hands. They have arrived in the year 3189 to a Federation they barely recognize and a sick bay full of deathly ill aliens called the Kili.
To make matters worse, Noor is the one who got them sick. Sort of.

The season three episode “Die Trying” revolves around a risky quest to find a cure for the Kili people. Because it’s the only ship that can get there in time, Discovery jets off to a seed vault that might hold the key. Noor was asked to propose a non-communicable disease caused by the Kili diet, curable by one of the seeds. His answer? Prions. Though in animals, prion-based diseases usually come from meat (like mad cow disease), it wasn’t impossible to think that alien plants could harbor similarly dangerous misfolded proteins. These kinds of plausible stretches are a big part of what Noor (and his fellow consultant Macdonald) do for “Discovery,” and it’s up to the writers how much detail to include.

“They’re going to use it or they’re not. No hard feelings,” he says. “I’m just happy to be asked.”

And yes, he reads fan theories online during the season. Noor and Macdonald collaborated on the true cause of season three’s central mystery, and he knew “nobody is ever going to guess this one.” True to form, “Discovery” found a surprising way to connect solid science with its core of compassion in its season finale.

‘A DIFFERENT KIND OF HUMAN’

“I feel very thankful and very fortunate for the opportunities people have given me,” Noor says. “I’m very grateful for that.”

When he takes his family to visit his parents in Hampton, Noor is eager to visit Williamsburg and take a walk around campus. His kids insist on sampling the offerings at the Peanut Shop and the decidedly unfuturistic bread ends with house dressing at the Cheese Shop. And even though his old haunt, Millington Hall, has given way to the Integrated Science Center, “I love William & Mary,” he says. “I love coming back and visiting.”

It’s a place that set his career in motion and put him on a path toward scientific renown and the most hallowed science-fiction icons. But more than that, Noor has made an indelible and remarkable impression on his colleagues and friends in academia, in Hollywood and around the world.

“I think he’s just a really good man,” says Jayne Brook. “People believe that when you’re really good at something, it makes you a different kind of human. For some people, maybe it does. But maybe Mohamed has gone so far in science that it makes him humble. Maybe his knowledge is so vast that he’s aware of the even greater mysteries out there that scientists have not yet tackled.”

For Noor’s part, one has to dig into his own research output — the Genetics paper about Bruce Grant — to see him take much credit for his own dizzying success. His career, as he wrote with characteristic modesty, has been “pretty good.”
Yet, the performing arts did not fall silent. Neighbors sang to and played music for frontline workers as they returned home from long shifts, creating impromptu music in the streets. Barcelona’s Liceu Opera famously livestreamed a concert to an audience of plants that were then donated to local health professionals. Countless artists and venues moved their performances online.

“The arts are especially important right now because they allow us to connect with each other and build gateways of understanding,” says Tiffany Bryant ’07. “We can translate our feelings of mourning or celebration in a way that others, whether in our family or community or across the world, can experience, too.”

Bryant is the assistant manager of audience enrichment for the John F. Kennedy Performing Arts Center in their digital learning department. Established as the National Cultural Center in Washington, D.C., in 1958, the Kennedy Center became a living memorial to President Kennedy after his death in honor of his devotion to advancing the performing arts. Before the pandemic, the center presented over 2,200 shows and events each year.

Then, everything changed.

“During unprecedented moments in history we look to the arts and artists for hope and creative reflections of humanity, but at this time we are not able to gather physically, communally, as we have before for the safety of our artists, staff, and patrons,” Kennedy Center President Deborah Rutter said in a May 4, 2020, press release. “Our staff [are] working to create … digital resources while actively exploring new ways in which the nation’s cultural center can continue to be a beacon as we look forward to reopening the Center in due time.”

Bryant and her team create these digital resources for teachers, caregivers and students, as well as anyone who wants to access a deeper understanding of the performing arts.

Before the pandemic, Bryant’s work was mostly focused on providing printed and digital resources for teachers and students attending field trips at the center. These “performance guides” would prepare the group by providing context about the program, point out elements to look or listen for during the presentation and then help the group reflect on their experience.

Working at the Kennedy Center meant sometimes accidentally bumping into stars. Bryant remembers crossing paths with Brandy while going to lunch and running into Tony Award-winning Broadway star Bernadette Peters while getting copies from the photocopier — “all types of art were happening all the

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THE ARTS LIVE ON: The John F. Kennedy Performing Arts Center is a living memorial to the former president, who advocated for the arts throughout his life. As he said in 1962, “The life of the arts, far from being an interruption, a distraction, in the life of the nation, is close to the center of the nation’s purpose.”

SCIENCE IS GOING TO GET US OUT OF THIS. ART IS GOING TO GET US THROUGH THIS.

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time and it was always in motion. I miss that about working in the building," she laments.

As of April 2021, the Kennedy Center is still closed for the pandemic. Its staff collaborates with artists and producers through Kennedy Center @ Home to post videos of performances. Bryant’s team creates supplemental materials, like interviews and learning guides, to enhance viewers’ experiences of educational programs. Being entirely online means people outside of the D.C. Metro area can have access to the Kennedy Center’s resources anytime, from anywhere.

Lesson plans have had to change to adapt to virtual classrooms, hybrid in-person/virtual models as well as caregivers who are teaching their children at home. Bryant works closely with programmers, teachers and parents to meet their needs.

“Unfortunately, arts education is one of the first things cut when budgets shrink, so we offer ways to keep kids engaged in the arts that are quick, fun and accessible, especially with everything parents and teachers have on their plates,” she says.

While some of the materials are available via subscription, others are free for anyone to access.

The resources are designed to be interactive and limit screen time — for example, a teacher or caregiver could watch a five-minute video with their children about how to create a monologue from your favorite fairy tale, and then they could act it out together. Or, for a more physical activity, they could explore yoga storytelling or African dances through online videos and then try it for themselves.

They currently have 67 live lesson plans, with more added on a consistent basis. “Elements of Myth,” for grades 6-8, and “Musical Harlem,” for grades 3-5, are some of their most popular lessons with more than 10,000 views each.

STORIES COME ALIVE: Above: A scene from “Don’t Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus,” a performance at the Kennedy Center based on Mo Willems’ bestselling children’s book. Below: Tiffany Bryant ’07 with the bus-driving pigeon from the story.
Their YouTube channel, Kennedy Center Education Digital Learning, has had over 4 million views over the past year and its subscribers have doubled since the pandemic began.

According to the Brookings Institution, arts education has broad-ranging positive impacts on students’ academic, social and emotional performance. Students who received more arts education had better writing scores on standardized tests, less disciplinary problems and exhibited more empathy than those who received less. Adults who participate in the arts are more likely to be civically engaged and show more tolerance to people different than themselves.

One of Bryant’s favorite performance guides is for “Kid Prince and Pablo,” a bilingual hip-hop adaptation of Mark Twain’s classic novel “The Prince and the Pauper.” The guide she and her team created, available online, provides an overview of hip-hop culture, defines elements of the play like “breaking the fourth wall,” and asks viewers to consider ideas such as oppression, privilege and fairness.

“We want young people to know that the performing arts are more than just watching or listening to something. Young people should be able to see themselves reflected in these experiences,” she says. “Maybe they are going to a ballet show and they think they don’t care about ballet. But if they see all the different elements that come together, or how the story of the ballet is reflected in a book series or a comic book or a video game they know, they can see the meaning behind the performance. Maybe a particular song will make them inspired to go home and translate the feelings they felt listening to that music into music or a poem of their own.”

Through her work and her independent scholarship, Bryant is interested in whose voices are represented through art and whose voices are missing. She is a member of the Popular Culture Association, where as the co-chair of their horror section, she researches representation, identity and intersectionality in horror and other types of popular culture and how they reflect current issues in society — for example, how a zombie film can explore themes of racism. She believes that the way we define “art” as a society should be more inclusive.

“We should be able to look at art, all art, with a similar sense of respect. It’s not that classical music is art with a capital A. There’s something that is inherently problematic about uplifting one art form and denigrating another one just because an art form is considered ‘popular,’” she says. “People tend to write it off because it’s ‘for the masses.’ But it’s something that was created by people. It makes them see the world in a different way, see themselves in a different way, connect with others in a different way.”

Bryant has loved the performing arts and been involved in shaping the education of young people since she was a student at William & Mary. She was a mentor in Project Phoenix, a program that paired W&M students with
local middle school students for tutoring, mentoring and field trips to local cultural institutions.

“It’s been a continuing thread for me to be able to work with young folks, and to offer myself as a person whose experience and ideas might help inspire them to see their world and themselves in a different way and grow from that,” she says.

Bryant comes from an Army family. She was born in Germany and then moved to Virginia, where she has lived ever since.

She knew she wanted to stay in state for college and be close to family, but still be far enough away to have an independent experience. When she set foot on William & Mary’s campus, she instantly fell in love. The campus was not only beautiful, but felt like it was the right size for her — at William & Mary she felt like she’d be valued as a person, not just seen as a number.

“I was looking for a school that could allow me to be intellectually challenged, but also get to meet new people and have new experiences, and figure myself out,” she says.

She was also fascinated by American history and keenly aware of William & Mary’s complex past.

“There is the part of me that recognized as a Black student that I would be going to a school that had a history where folks like me couldn’t attend up until a certain point,” she says. “It felt important to be able to do something that those before me couldn’t, and I wanted to be mindful of that. I had a sense coming here that even my own little introverted self could be part of this history and help it become more and more inclusive.”

Singing in the Ebony Expressions gospel choir enabled her to explore her love of performance and connect with multicultural students from all backgrounds. She also found a safe space in the office of Chon Glover M.Ed. ’99, Ed.D. ’06, W&M’s chief diversity officer.

“Being a Black student at a predominantly white institution can involve a complicated intersection of experiences and emotions, and while I have positive memories of W&M, a big reason for that positivity came from access to caring staff like Chon who made sure there were spaces for multicultural collective care and celebration,” she says.

Throughout her life, she’s always been someone “with her nose in a book,” as she put it, so she majored in literature at W&M. After trying a few fields, she minored in literary and cultural studies, which is now called film and media studies.

MARK TWAIN REIMAGINED:
“Kid Prince and Pablo” by playwright Brian Quijada is a bilingual hip-hop musical. Bryant’s team created an educational guide for the performance in 2019.
WE WANT YOUNG PEOPLE TO KNOW THAT THE PERFORMING ARTS ARE MORE THAN JUST WATCHING OR LISTENING TO SOMETHING. YOUNG PEOPLE SHOULD BE ABLE TO SEE THEMSELVES REFLECTED IN THESE EXPERIENCES.

“One of the great things about being in the humanities is you’re taught to have strong critical thinking and analysis skills, and that there are many ways to interpret something,” she says. “You are always bringing your experiences and insights into the art you are consuming.”

After graduating from James Madison University with her master’s in literature, she worked as an auditor and a substitute teacher, two positions that taught her valuable skills for the work she does today. When she took an internship at the Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts in their communications and marketing department, she saw a way to work in the performing arts outside of performing — on the administrative and educational side.

Bryant has found herself deep in web design, ensuring the digital learning webpages are easy to use for all these audiences. She’s also doing more of the writing, editing and project managing as the Kennedy Center, like many venues worldwide, implements hiring freezes and budget cuts. It hasn’t been easy — she was furloughed over the summer as the Kennedy Center faced revenue loss of more than $80 million from event and performance cancelations. She’s thankful for the time management and organizational skills she gained at William & Mary for getting her through this challenging time.

In the 10 years she’s worked at the Kennedy Center, she’s shared what she’s learned with current W&M students as a mentor for the W&M Washington Center. The center pairs students studying in Washington, D.C., for a semester with alumni in their field of interest.

Akane Nishimura was a Japanese exchange student at W&M in the spring of 2019 completing an internship at the Kennedy Center through the Washington Center. She says having a supportive alumna there for her was a critical part of her experience.

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“Because of her caring and loving personality, I always felt safe around her and she was one of the people who I would have reached out to if I needed any help,” Nishimura says.

Hannah Lowe ’20 was one of Bryant’s mentees as part of the Washington Center’s 2018 Summer Institute in News and Media.

“One of the great things about being in the humanities is you’re taught to have strong critical thinking and analysis skills, and that there are many ways to interpret something,” she says. “You are always bringing your experiences and insights into the art you are consuming.”

“Her honesty and insight showed me how to make the best use of my time in D.C. and at William & Mary to shape my future career path,” says Lowe. “She also gave me good advice about graduate school and ways to stay involved in research even when pursuing a career outside academia.”

Bryant told Lowe about two of her favorite professors: Arthur Knight, who introduced her to academic scholarship on popular culture, and Francis Tanglao Aguas, who showed her the creative writing side of performance. On Bryant’s advice, Lowe took a class with Tanglao Aguas and asked Knight to be her advisor.

Along with Professor Emeritus Colleen Kennedy, these faculty members showed Bryant how to frame art and literature in approachable ways for diverse audiences, and to consider representation in both the process and the final product. It was in a paper about the movie “28 Days Later” for Knight’s freshman seminar that Bryant first wrote about horror as art.

“Her enthusiasm was so infectious and so deep, and it led her to explore her love of horror in an intellectual way — critically, thoughtfully and in detail. Helping her do her work enriched my understanding of the genre,” says Knight.

“We want our students to be engaged citizens who can look critically at all facets of our society, and Tiffany’s exemplar. It’s wonderful to see her integrating what she learned at W&M, at JMU and in her independent scholarship into her career in educational outreach at the Kennedy Center.”

Now, 10 years later, the world looks a lot different than when Bryant graduated. The pandemic and the Black Lives Matter protests have brought the importance of understanding each other and building community to the forefront. Bryant hopes her work is helping the next generation contextualize and navigate their world through art.

“Regardless of what I’m doing, whether at my day job or through other opportunities related to my creative and academic identities,” she says, “it’s important to me that evidence of diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility and justice are being acknowledged and activated respectfully and authentically.”
SPRING SUNSHINE

Students enjoy a socially distanced picnic outside the newly expanded Alumni House. Completed in summer 2020, the expanded house has an additional 33,000 square feet of indoor space, including a grand ballroom, alumni lounge and meeting spaces. New outdoor areas include the Family Courtyard, located in front of the Historic Bright House, which honors multigenerational W&M families and other groups with strong ties to the university.

PHOTO: ALFRED HERZEG
REFLECTING ON SOCIETY: As a journalist, Cord Jefferson ’04 wrote about the intersection of race and culture. He has continued exploring those themes in his work as an Emmy-winning television writer based in Los Angeles.
As an entertainment writer, Cord Jefferson ’04 draws on history, current events and lived experiences

ALUMNI PROFILE Echoes of century-old racial violence and oppression reverberate through generations in the fictional world of the HBO series “Watchmen.” There are deadly traffic stops, hidden identities, corrupt police officers and vigilantes who carry out their own forms of justice and revenge. Also, it rains squid from time to time.

Sound at all familiar? (Aside from the falling squid, that is.) Cord Jefferson ’04, an Emmy-winning writer for the series based on DC Comics’ graphic novel, is often asked about the show’s connection to recent events. “Watchmen” aired in November 2019, about six months before the police killing of George Floyd and the social unrest that followed.

“Immediately post-‘Watchmen,’ there was a lot of discussion of the show feeling prescient,” he says. “We didn’t have a crystal ball. We had history books, and if you read history books, you’ll start to see that history has a way of repeating itself in this country, particularly when it comes to issues of racism and social injustice and police violence.”

Jefferson explored those themes as a sociology major at William & Mary, although he didn’t know then that he would draw on his education in quite this way. As a biracial youth who grew up in a mostly white, upper-middle-class suburb of Tucson, Arizona, after living in Saudi Arabia and Greece, Jefferson looked to sociology to help make sense of the world around him. Through his classes, he delved into topics of women’s history, immigration, criminal justice and the politics of being Black in America.

“It forced me to start thinking about these very serious things in a way that I hadn’t been forced to when I was growing up,” he says. “I credit those classes with shaping the way that I think about the world in a very real way, and I appreciate that.”

Jefferson came to William & Mary through a family connection — his father, Wilson C. “Jeff” Jefferson Jr. J.D. ’72, was the second Black graduate of W&M Law School, and the university’s chapter of the Black American Law Students Association is named for him. Cord recalls visiting the campus as a child and hearing glowing reports about the

“I credit those classes with shaping the way that I think about the world in a very real way, and I appreciate that.”
Jefferson’s father, a Vietnam War veteran, returned from the battlefield with emotional scars that affected his family relationships.

Jefferson’s parents divorced when he was 14 and his mother, Susan Haas, died in 2016 after battling cancer. His father lives in Saudi Arabia, but the two remain close despite the distance. In 2008, he donated a kidney to his father, who had been on dialysis because of kidney failure.

After graduating from William & Mary, Jefferson moved to Los Angeles, where he took a job as a communications director at a small nonprofit and started doing freelance writing on the side for newspapers and magazines.

“I always assumed that eventually I would have to go to graduate school and get a real job one day, and writing would be a hobby of mine that I would just have to do on nights and weekends for the rest of my life,” he says.

After a while, he realized he could make as much money doing freelance writing as he did at his day job, so he decided to focus his efforts on what he enjoyed most.

“I started out doing music journalism in L.A. and then I moved to New York — and then the bottom dropped out of the industry there and so I moved to D.C.,” he says.

In Washington, he covered the White House as a political reporter for The Root, an online magazine focused on Black culture. After moving back to Los Angeles, he got a big break during the summer of 2013 when MSNBC’s “All In” host, Chris Hayes, noticed a sardonic column that Jefferson had written as West Coast editor of Gawker and invited him to appear on the show. Headlined “Video of Violent, Rioting Surfers Shows White Culture of Lawlessness,” Jefferson’s piece lampooned the tendency of some media reports to hold an entire university from his father over the years. He’s the first to admit he was not a stellar student.

“Being interviewed for this magazine is a little funny to me because I largely remember William & Mary as a time in which I was getting in fights and cutting class,” he says. Laughing, he adds, “I feel some sense of vindication that we’re having this conversation right now.”

In “Watchmen,” a central character is Will Reeves, who as a child survives the 1921 race massacre in Tulsa, Oklahoma, a real event that Jefferson calls “the original sin of our show.” Reeves’ parents are killed, along with hundreds of others in an attack by a white mob. Episode 6, for which Jefferson won his Emmy along with show creator Damon Lindelof, reveals how that trauma spills over into subsequent generations. The massacre, combined with the racism and injustice Reeves experiences as an adult, leads him to become the superhero Hooded Justice.

Jefferson acknowledged his own challenges when he thanked his therapist during his Emmy acceptance speech. Through counseling, he recognized that he struggles with anxiety and depression, something he attributes in part to intergenerational trauma and his reaction to injustices he saw happening in America and around the world.

“For a long time, I didn’t really have the vocabulary to understand that,” he says. “When I was at William & Mary, the most I could have said was that I felt stressed out or gloomy. Finally meeting a therapist that I felt comfortable and safe with has been huge from my mental health, and I think huge for my creative life, too.”

In terms of his own inherited trauma, Jefferson says that he never met his maternal grandparents, who were white, because they disowned his mother for marrying a Black man.
racial group responsible for the actions of those who share the same skin color.

“Toward the end of my journalism career, I was doing a lot of essay work,” he says. “I was also writing a lot about the intersection of race and politics in America.”

His appearance on “All In” caught the attention of Mike O’Malley, an actor, writer and producer who looked up more of Jefferson’s work, then hired him as a writer for the show “Survivor’s Remorse” about a low-income Black family from Boston moving to an upscale neighborhood outside Atlanta. From there, Jefferson went on to write for “The Nightly Show with Larry Wilmore,” “Master of None” and “The Good Place.”

One thing his disparate projects have in common, Jefferson says, is “they’re all ambitious in their own way.”

“I think that ‘The Good Place,’ for instance, is trying something new in the world of sitcoms,” he says. “If you would have told me 20 years ago that you’re going to be having philosophical discussions on an NBC sitcom about mortality and life after death and what it means to be a good person, I would have said, ‘Of course not. That’ll never work.’”

Not long after winning his Emmy, Jefferson signed a four-year deal with Warner Brothers Television to create and produce programs for HBO, HBO Max and other platforms.

“I’m taking two TV shows I created and trying to sell them to buyers and hopefully get them on their feet somewhere,” he says. “One is about journalism and one is about politics and media.”

In an effort to help others get a foot in the entertainment industry door, Jefferson has partnered with the Writers Guild Association Foundation to create a fellowship named in honor of his mother, a longtime educator, for freelance or unemployed journalists who are interested in TV writing.

“I want to give that opportunity to people as much as possible, because I think that the work is better when you have diverse voices,” he says. Being awarded for the first time this year, the fellowship attracted 700 applicants for two spots.

Looking farther ahead, Jefferson hopes to emulate his literary heroes, Joan Didion and James Baldwin, in the scope of his writing.

“They would write a book of essays, then a screenplay or a novel, and then they would go follow a political candidate and write a piece of journalism for a magazine or newspaper,” he says. “I want to write as much as possible in as many mediums and genres as possible. That, to me, is what keeps things interesting.”

— TINA ESHELEMAN
‘Mr. Blackstone’

BILLY COLEBURN ‘90 BALANCES ROLES AS AN ELECTED OFFICIAL AND NEWSPAPER EDITOR

PRESS CORPS: Billy Coleburn ’90 and his father, Doug Coleburn, are the brains behind the Courier-Record newspaper, owned by their family since 1946.

ALUMNI PROFILE If Blackstone is a small pond, then Billy Coleburn ’90 is a big fish as both mayor of the 3,600-person Southside Virginia town and editor of the independently owned Courier-Record newspaper. He presides over Town Council meetings and reports on government actions. He throws the ceremonial first pitch at little league games and covers the crowning of the prom king and queen.

But when he arrived at William & Mary as a freshman in the fall of 1986, he felt like a fish out of water. To start with, his Southern accent stood out, even among other students from Virginia. And he had a nagging feeling that he wasn’t smart enough to be at William & Mary.

“When my parents drove away, I sat outside Fauquier dorm and cried and shook like a baby — and then proceeded to party my way to forgetting about how much I missed my small-town home,” he says. “Then gradually as I got into the flow of William & Mary life, I realized that I had skills — I can write and I can speak.”

Although he returned to his hometown after graduation, Coleburn was profoundly changed by his experience at the university.

After growing up in a racially segregated environment, William & Mary exposed him to a diverse student population. As a political science and government major, he learned about the history of the Voting Rights Act, the dangers of the executive branch holding too much power and the importance of transparency and accountability in government — lessons that would guide him both as a journalist and as an elected official.

FINDING HIS PATH As a freshman at W&M, Billy received some much-needed encouragement from English professor Henry Hart during a Writing 101 class.
“When I go into someone’s house and see a news clipping on the side of their refrigerator, that means more to me than any plaque.”

“This was a time when I didn’t have a lot of self-confidence,” Coleburn says. “He told me, ‘You remind me of a young Hemingway. Your writing is very clear.’ Professor Hart’s positive comments freshman year really helped sustain me at times when things got tough.”

Coleburn recalls that his parents received a report card in the mail that year with the following grades for his five classes: A, B, C, D, F. The “F” was in a religious studies course on Christianity.

“My mother, typical Southern lady, said, ‘Son, you’ve been to church all your life. How did you fail Christianity?’” The course was challenging, he told her. Still, he acknowledges, “I played too much.”

That same year, Coleburn got into some disciplinary trouble after a night of partying. He and a friend walked by the president’s house — then occupied by Paul Verkuil ’61, D.P.S. ’17 — and spotted a trip wire that had been placed under a trampoline in response to students sneaking in and jumping on it.

“The next thing I know, my friend pulled the trip wire and police were everywhere,” Coleburn says. “I ran all the way to Jefferson dorm and they caught me.”

His punishment was community service doing safety patrols around campus and reporting any suspicious activity. This eventually led to a paying job, which is how he came to know his wife, Joyce Anzolut Coleburn ’90, who worked at Tucker Hall checking students’ IDs. A Cleveland, Ohio-area native, Joyce was introduced to William & Mary as a sixth-grader when her late father, Richard Anzolut ’51, took her to Williamsburg.

“At the end of junior year, I walked her back to the Phi Mu sorority house, and I just kind of had this feeling — why don’t I ask this girl out?” Billy says. The next fall, just before classes started, he saw Joyce with a friend at Paul’s Deli and they struck up a conversation. Joyce says she was charmed by Billy’s sense of fun, Southern accent and gentlemanly politeness.

“We’ve been inseparable ever since,” Billy says.

Well, almost. After graduation, Joyce went to live with her parents, who by then were in the Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, area. Billy started working at the Courier-Record, which his family had acquired in 1946 and where his father, Doug Coleburn, had been editor and publisher since 1948. Doug Coleburn retains the title of publisher and still writes columns for the Courier-Record at age 93. He was inducted into the Virginia Communications Hall of Fame in 2020.

Newspapers such as the Courier-Record, established in 1890, are declining in number nationally as more independently owned publications are bought by corporate chains. According to a report by the University of North Carolina’s Hussman School of Journalism and Media, half of all weekly newspapers in the country were independent in 1997. By 2018, fewer than one-third of the 5,829 U.S. weeklies with circulations under 15,000 were locally owned.

“It’s challenging because in a small, rural town, the number of decision-makers in business who can buy advertising has decreased,” Billy says. Another concern is social media taking up readers’ attention span, with people reacting to headlines rather than reading the full story, he says: “They’ll say, ‘I heard about that. I saw it on Facebook.’ But you didn’t see the truth. You saw what somebody said that somebody said. So that’s troublesome for our product.”

The Courier-Record is holding strong with a print circulation of 5,000, which is larger than the number of people living in Blackstone and about a third of the population of surrounding Nottoway County. The newspaper also offers digital subscriptions, and Coleburn encourages a social media following through his “Facebook Live” reports and other posts.

Living and working in close proximity to readers promotes accountability, he says: “I see the people at Food Lion, the post office and at church. I think that aspect makes you a fairer journalist.”
Billy had resisted the idea of joining the family business at first. He’d seen how hard his father worked and decided the newspaper life was not for him. During the summer of 1990, he applied for jobs but wasn’t having much success getting interviews.

Then at William & Mary’s Homecoming that fall, he heard friends talk about the noise, traffic and high cost of rent in Northern Virginia and a realization hit him: “I’m not making that much money, but I live in the town that I love. My parents are nearby. I enjoy telling stories. All of a sudden I thought, ‘Maybe this is what I was meant to do.’”

He could see that his stories were making a difference in people’s lives.

“I call it refrigerator-door journalism,” Coleburn says. “You can win all the awards you want — and I’ve been blessed to win a few — but when I go into someone’s house and see a news clipping on the side of their refrigerator, that means more to me than any plaque.”

When Billy and Joyce were married Dec. 7, 1991, in the Wren Chapel, there was no question of them living anywhere but Blackstone.

“It’s kind of like when I married Billy, I married the town,” says Joyce, laughing. “He’s always been ‘Mr. Blackstone.’ He knows everyone.”

But while she gladly accepts the honorary title of “first lady of Blackstone,” her professional life has always been outside the town — first as director of annual giving for Longwood University and now as an education account executive for Honeywell, serving 20 school districts in the region. As a member and former president of the Southside Virginia alumni chapter, she has helped maintain connections to William & Mary and led efforts to fund a scholarship for a student from the region.

The Coleburns have two daughters: Caroline, who followed her father and grandfather’s footsteps into journalism and works as a television news reporter in Richmond, Virginia, and Mary Katherine, who will start a graduate program in school psychology at William & Mary this fall.

**ACCESSIBILITY AND REPRESENTATION**

Journalists and public officials sometimes find themselves at odds given the traditional “watchdog” role of newspapers, but Billy Coleburn says the key to navigating the dual roles is fairness and transparency.

That’s especially important in a locality that’s almost evenly divided between Blacks and whites, Democrats and Republicans. Coleburn, who is conservative politically, won reelection as mayor in 2018 with 72% of the vote against a Democratic-leaning opponent.

Billy grew up attending an all-white private school and playing baseball in a segregated little league, but as mayor and newspaper editor, he strives to ensure that everyone’s voice can be heard.

Lewis “Peanut” Johnson, a community advocate who occasionally has bumped heads with Coleburn, says that after he expressed concerns about the need for more recognition of African American residents, the mayor initiated a Black History Heroes program during the month of February to highlight Blackstone natives who achieved success despite the racial barriers they confronted. Coleburn also supported a proposal from Johnson and other Black residents for a March Against Racism in 2019.

The mayor participated in the event, and he has encouraged Johnson to keep attending meetings and speaking up.

“He’s one of those guys who you can go talk to,” Johnson says. “His door’s open. If he disagrees, he’ll let you know in a nice way. He won’t embarrass you in front of everyone. He’s a man of integrity.”

Coleburn says he first decided to run for mayor of Blackstone in 2006, after 16 years of covering meetings for local governing bodies, because of frustration with how unresponsive he felt elected officials in the town were.
officials were when residents voiced concerns at meetings.

“There was very little dialogue between elected officials and those they serve,” he says. “As mayor, I love a packed house because everyone’s watching. Government that is watched governs best.”

Government oversight also has been a focus of his newspaper career. Coleburn’s influence extends beyond the Courier-Record as a General Assembly appointee to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act Council, which reviews changes to the state's open-records law and makes recommendations to the General Assembly.

“Billy plays an important role in providing government transparency and protecting a free press,” says Betsy Edwards, executive director of the Virginia Press Association. Coleburn also served on the association’s board from 2016-20.

Many of the issues related to the Freedom of Information Act involve local government, and as the only member who is both an elected official and a journalist, Coleburn can see things from both sides, Edwards says. When local government officials on the council make excuses for why they can’t provide information, he challenges them.

“He’s a local official and knows what it’s like to have to answer questions,” she says. “He believes in giving the public as much information as you possibly can. Billy gives out everything that’s required and often is looking for ways to give out further information. It’s a real breath of fresh air for the FOIA council.”

Despite his popularity as mayor, Coleburn says he does not plan to run again in the next election, which will be held in November 2022 now that the governor has signed legislation moving local elections from spring to fall.

“I’ve been a big believer in term limits,” he says. Would he consider seeking a higher office — perhaps a member of the Virginia House of Delegates? State Senate? Governor?

“I’d be lying if I said I never thought about it,” Coleburn says. “I can’t say I might not put my foot in the stream again. But right now I’m ready to go back to the shore.”

— TINA ESHLEMAN

GRADUATION DAY: Billy and Joyce started dating at the beginning of their senior year.

Honorary Alumni

Valerie Foradas and Michael Halleran join the W&M alumni family

HONORARY ALUMNI

This year, two extraordinary individuals have been nominated by their peers and selected by the W&M Association Board of Directors to be inducted as honorary alumni. Valerie Foradas and Michael Halleran are recognized for their exceptional service, support, advocacy and commitment on behalf of William & Mary and its schools, departments, organizations and boards.

Valerie Foradas has loved William & Mary since 1974, when she began visiting campus to see her future husband Michael Foradas ’78. Together, they have hosted numerous alumni events in Chicago, including the For the Bold campaign celebration, and Valerie was instrumental in arranging several key events during W&M Weekend in Chicago in 2008. During Michael’s eight years on the W&M Foundation board, Valerie attended almost every gathering, demonstrating at every turn her boundless enthusiasm for the Tribe and her warm, gracious and sincere care for the W&M community. In 2018, the Foradases were inducted into the James Blair Society, recognizing donors who have contributed $1 million or more to the university.

Michael Halleran retired in 2019 as provost of William & Mary after 11 years of dedicated service. In that time, he skillfully oversaw all of the university’s academic and research programs and strategic development. He helped launch the St Andrews Joint Degree Programme, expanded online and graduate programming, oversaw the creation of an engineering minor and implemented the COLL curriculum, among other accomplishments.

As a professor, an administrator and a friend, Halleran is known as a wise counselor and a careful listener. He is an advocate for and generous supporter of scholarships and led the university’s implementation of the William & Mary Promise. He has also made significant gifts to the Lemon Project, professorships and other initiatives. As he often said at Convocation, William & Mary is the “best university on the planet!” and his love of his honorary alma mater shines through in both word and deed.

— CLAIRE DE LISLE M.B.A. ’21

ONLINE: To submit a nomination, visit wmalumni.com/awards. Nominations are accepted all year but are due by Nov. 15, 2021, for awarding in 2022.
Pizza Art

As students, Jonathan Leahy ’00 and Michael Fitzpatrick ’00 created museum-quality art out of pizza boxes

Pizza Head

Chanello’s Pizza, Sigma Phi Epsilon, art, engineering and rock ’n’ roll.

To most, this may seem like a random list of words. To former roommates Jonathan Leahy ’00 and Michael Fitzpatrick ’00, these words are interconnected in a massive way — a 7-square-foot Jimi Hendrix portrait made of pizza boxes.

“Pizza Head” now resides in the collections of the Museum of Pop Culture in Seattle. Formerly known as the Experience Music Project, MoPOP was founded by Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen in 2000. Born in what was formerly the Fraternity Units and is now the Green & Gold Village, the pizza box portrait has been in the museum since its founding.

Details of the Hendrix portrait’s origin story have become fuzzy to Leahy over the years. He recalls that it all began in Monroe Hall during his freshman year, when he met Fitzpatrick, who became his best friend.

“Sophomore year we lived together. We were eating a ton of Chanello’s Pizza and at the time those boxes had a really bold, colorful design,” says Leahy. “I was also going through a huge guitar phase. My freshman and sophomore year, I was teaching myself how to play by slowly learning my favorite Hendrix solos. So we have all these pizza boxes lying around and I’m butchering a bunch of guitar solos, and one day we just make the next logical connection, ’let’s turn all of these pizza boxes into a giant portrait of Jimi Hendrix.’”

Both roommates love music and would leave songs queued up for each other on the stereo, Fitzpatrick says.

“Neither of us were particularly academic, so we decided to do a fun project,” he says. “That plus a bunch of old, moldy pizza boxes led to the portrait of Hendrix. At the time, it seemed like a much more fun option than studying for exams. To Mike’s and my surprise, it actually turned out to be a pretty decent portrait of Jimi Hendrix.”

The portrait also required the combination of both art and engineering skills.

“The sides of the portrait actually come off to make transportation easier. We designed it so that the wings attached and it was seamless in the front, overlapping and weaving together,” Leahy says.

But while Fitzpatrick may have been the one who helped get the job done, he credits Leahy’s creative
genius for the idea itself. “I mean, who sees pizza boxes and thinks Jimi Hendrix?” says Fitzpatrick. “Jon and I were a nice complementary match of idea and execution, which made the project and time together so much fun.”

Once the portrait was complete, word of it quickly spread around the William & Mary community and beyond. Fitzpatrick put his marketing major to use in an effort to generate interest in their creation.

“We didn’t know what to do with this giant thing in our dorm,” he says. “At one point it was displayed in Sadler Center. We decided to see if anyone wanted it. I put together a press packet and it got picked up by MTV News and from there, donated to the Experience Music Project. It was an amazing cross-country college road trip taking it to the museum.”

Another alum, Katherine Hughes ’05, works at MoPOP as a registrar, caring for and maintaining the museum’s collection — including “Pizza Head.”

“It was hilarious! We have had Pizza Head in storage for a long time and one day I got curious about it. I pulled up its record and the first thing I saw was that it was made from Chanello’s boxes. I couldn’t believe its origin story,” says Hughes. “One cool thing about W&M I’ve discovered in my career is how often there is a tie back to the university. It gathers likeminded people, trains them, sends them out into the world and we continue to help each other.”

After W&M, Fitzpatrick joined the military and now works in finance as the vice president of business operations for Vector Remote Care. Leahy continued to pursue the arts. Most notably, Leahy worked on the music for all six seasons of the hit HBO show “Girls,” for which he was nominated for a Primetime Emmy, and the movie “Bill & Ted Face the Music,” which earned him a Grammy nomination. He credits his studies for preparing him for his career.

“One of the things that I loved about being an American studies major was that it allowed me to study film, music, literature, religion and philosophy — a variety of things I was interested in,” says Leahy. “This eclectic mix is also reflected in my current job, which combines music and film. In hindsight, it was a natural fit and prepared me well.”

— KATHERINE VERMILYE ’22

Inscribe your story

While visiting friends in Northern Virginia, Garrett ’15 met Isabel by chance. They had an instant connection and knew they would meet again. A few weeks later Isabel visited Garrett at William & Mary for their first official date: “croquet” outside of Barrett Hall, dinner at the Cheese Shop, stargazing on the Sunken Garden, and a long walk through campus. It was a magical day, and they still feel that magic every time they visit William & Mary. Eight years after that perfect first date, they will return again to make one more beautiful memory at William & Mary, where they will marry May 29, 2021.

Garrett & Isabel Hendrickson
Love at First Flight
Est. 03/15/2013

Leave your story on a brick to be placed in Clarke Plaza at the Alumni House to join bricks from generations of W&M alumni and friends. Learn more at wmalumni.com/gifts-gear or call (757) 221-1168.
Racing Into a Digital Age

Lauren Edwards ’08 leverages social media to help athletes build their brand

REINE: NOUN [ feminine ] /REn/

The pronunciation of reine, the French word for queen, should sound strikingly familiar to most William & Mary graduates.

For Lauren Murray Edwards ’08, the word has many layers of significance. She and her husband, Jon, live mainly in Charlotte, North Carolina, which is nicknamed the Queen City. They also spend time in Quebec City and enjoy the quintessential French-Canadian culture and language there. Finally, the pronunciation of reine ties it back to the Wren Building, a landmark for every W&M student since our 1693 charter. In 2016, when it was time for Edwards to name her new company, Reine Digital was a no brainer.

Reine Digital & Consulting is a social and digital agency rooted in strategic communications that focuses on supporting companies, athletes and personalities with their online branding and presence. Other industries represented include entertainment, spirits and fashion.

Before starting Reine Digital, Edwards worked at Octagon, a sports and entertainment marketing company, and most recently for Jimmie Johnson.

For those unfamiliar with the world of racing, Johnson is a seven-time NASCAR Cup Series champion and he is considered by many to be one of the greatest drivers of all time.

“At the end of 2016, I had been with Jimmie for four years and I felt like I wanted something more, to use what I’m good at to help more people,” says Edwards. “I had this conversation with Jimmie and he said, ‘If you want to go for it, then start your own company and I will just become a client of yours,’ which is something that never happens with athletes of his caliber.”

With an opportunity like that, Edwards felt that she had to seize it.

“Owning my own business was never something I imagined. It was not in my five-year plan or even my 10-year plan. But when Jimmie gave me the opportunity, I felt like I would be crazy not to try it. Two weeks later I had a company,” says Edwards.

“People knew that I did social media for Jimmie Johnson and were aware of the growth and success he had on his media platforms. Eventually, a couple people started reaching out and we started adding clients and simultaneously adding more employees.
We just finished year five in January. It has been a huge learning process.”

Edwards has always had a strong passion for helping athletes.

“Athletes tend to be the missing piece of the puzzle. The team or organization tends to have a social media team. Sponsors have a social media team. Brands that work with athletes have a social team. A lot of the time, the athletes themselves are left to figure it out on their own. Social media is such an incredible tool for athletes, and helping them is my passion,” says Edwards.

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed everyone’s world. For Reine Digital, 2020 was a very interesting year.

“Because we’re so heavily focused on social and digital, we actually were busier last year than ever before, because everything else kind of went away,” says Edwards. “No one could attend in-person sporting events, so there was no on-site execution, no on-site hosting, no mobile marketing, no in-arena signage.”

Edwards and Reine Digital use social media as a tool to both bring in new fans and connect with existing fans.

“One of the first questions I ask every client is what are their personal goals. For some, it’s followers. For others, it’s conversion rates. Bringing in people is huge. I think one of the primary ways sports gain fans is through social media,” says Edwards.

Unlike traditional forms of media, social media has the ability to drive real-time tune-in.

“With sports, you might not be watching a certain tournament or game, but you’re scrolling through social media and all of a sudden everyone starts talking about this moment that just happened,” says Edwards. “Then you might go over to the TV and turn it on because you know something exciting is happening. Now we can drive tune-in rates as the events are occurring and that’s powerful.”

Edwards did not always know she wanted to work in sports marketing. During her first two years at William & Mary, she was an international relations and economics major. The summer between her sophomore and junior year was her first exposure to the industry.

“My family friends owned the Pocono Raceway, and I interned with them knowing absolutely nothing about racing. I went and worked for them doing sales and marketing. I absolutely loved it. Of course, I am a fan of racing now, but before the internship, it was just something my grandfather watched on Sundays. It was so exciting, I ended up going back the next summer and at that point I added the marketing major,” says Edwards.

During her time at William & Mary, Edwards was involved in service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega and social sorority Kappa Alpha Theta, and she was president of the Intersorority Council. This leadership experience, as well as developing her ability to multitask, was invaluable.

“I work in a male-dominated field,” says Edwards. “Something that gives me confidence is knowing that by having a William & Mary education, I can stack up against anyone I am sitting with in a conference room or boardroom.”

— KATHERINE VERMILYEA ’22
A Vibrant Community

Updates from W&M Alumni Association Identity Networks

**Affinity & Identity** In January, the W&M Alumni Association (WMAA) was honored to receive a Silver Award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, District III, for its Leadership Circles initiative.

The Leadership Circles launched in 2019 to deepen the engagement and volunteer leadership of alumni through the identity lenses of race, ethnicity and sexual orientation. Alumni from each of the WMAA's identity networks convened independently as well as together, to provide opportunity for intersectional discussions. They reflected on the past, met with university leadership and looked to the future of engagement, leadership and philanthropy for underrepresented alumni.

From the findings of the Leadership Circles, each network is engaging in a strategic planning process to refine their missions and visions and plan for the future. Here's what's new for each network.

**Crim Dell Association**

Earlier this year, the LGBTQ+ alumni network, previously known as GALA, was officially renamed the Crim Dell Association.

“The name was chosen to honor a symbol that is unique to William & Mary and represents the values of inclusion, diversity and love that we feel are universal and speak to the need for acceptance,” says Wayne Curtis ’82, past president of GALA.

The mission of the Crim Dell Association is to cultivate a vibrant community, expand opportunities for current LGBTQ+ students and allies, and maintain a strong connection with the university.

This June, they will celebrate their 35th anniversary as part of Pride Month with three special virtual programs. The first, a panel discussion on June 8 with some of the original members of GALA, will examine GALA’s origins as part of a larger national movement; the second event, on June 15, will explore items in Swem’s special collections related to LGBTQ+ alumni; and the third, on June 22, will look to the future by connecting with current students.

**LatinX Alumni**

The LatinX network, too, is looking to rename to more accurately and fully represent the diversity of its members.

“It remains clear to us that as Latinx alumni, we can and need to play a role in the furthering of racial equity at W&M,” says Horacio Carreño Karp ’10. “Recently, our focus has been to increase the visibility and representation of minority voices in leadership at W&M and to support the personal and professional development of current and future Latinx students, alumni, faculty and staff. Together, we want to foster a deeper sense of belonging within W&M’s Latinx community and serve as a vehicle to promote Latinx leadership, service, philanthropy and recognition at William & Mary.”

This past fall, LatinX hosted virtual events to connect alumni with students to share their wisdom and advice. They are also launching a series of programs featuring the many ways Latinx alumni serve in their communities.

**Hulon Willis Association (HWA)**

Alumni Service Award winner Thomas Johnson ’92 has ably led HWA, the alumni organization for alumni of Black and African descent, forward for five years. As his term expires, HWA is recommitting to its vision with a new board of directors this April. Their focus is on increasing generational diversity as well as diversity of backgrounds, experiences and identities within HWA. They are beginning plans for HWA’s 30th anniversary in 2022 and a possible tailgate this fall.

“HWA is in the midst of an exciting transition as we shape a new board that affirms diversity in all of its forms. As such, we are deepening our commitment to bold action and courageous leadership that supports alumni, students, faculty, staff and W&M as a whole,” says Jerome Carter ’12. “We are
channeling our collective lived experiences to make a greater sustainable impact. We look forward to honoring our rich legacy while growing into the organization that we needed as students.”

This spring, among their other activities, they co-sponsored virtual programs focusing on women’s health with the Society of 1918, W&M’s philanthropic society that supports alumnae initiatives.

**ASIAN-PACIFIC ISLANDER-MIDDLE EASTERN ALUMNI (APIM)**

Founded in 2020, APIM consists of alumni who self-identify as Asian, Pacific Islander and Middle Eastern/Southwest Asian who are working to foster a greater sense of community at William & Mary. This year, APIM is collaborating with partners across the university to plan the centennial of Asians and Asian Americans at the university (see article on page 13). As well as connecting with current students, APIM is working to build their network of alumni.

“APIM allows us to express our authentic experiences and worldviews and explore our commonalities and differences, all within the umbrella distinction of being W&M alumni,” says Banan Malkawi ’05. “We aim to celebrate an inclusive and diverse grouping of rich heritages.”

**TO GET INVOLVED**

All of these groups and the events and programs they sponsor are open to all alumni. To learn more about, support or get involved in any of these networks, as well as the Association of 1775, Order of the White Jacket, Young Guarde, Olde Guarde, W&M Women and Alumni Band Organization, visit wmalumni.com/get-involved/affinity-groups or contact engagement@wm.edu.

— CLAIRE DE LISLE M.B.A. ’21

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**Awards & Accolades**

**Honoring regional alumni networks**

**WINNER WINNER** Despite the challenges of the past year, W&M regional networks hosted an impressive smorgasbord of events, featuring both virtual and in-person programs. This year’s winning events include beer tastings over Zoom, “lunch & learns,” exclusive museum tours and service events at James Monroe’s Highland.

This is the third year the William & Mary Alumni Association has conducted the Annual Accolades, a process to recognize and celebrate excellence in regional networks. In 2020, 10 networks won in at least one category. The three Overall Awards focus on the vision of the network’s board, effectiveness in connecting alumni to alma mater and highest percentage of giving by the volunteer leadership team. The eight Programming Excellence Awards recognize exceptional events and initiatives.

Best Virtual Engagement Opportunity was added as a Programming Excellence award in 2020 to reflect the rapidly evolving programming this year. The 2020 awards honor events and board activities that took place between July 2019 and December 2020.

W&M Charleston won the Educational Programming Excellence Award. Vietnam veteran Woody Caine ’66 led a tour at Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum of the Vietnam Experience exhibit, a historically accurate representation of a naval support base in the Mekong Delta and of a fire base in the northern part of Vietnam, circa 1968-1969. Woody provided expert interpretation of the political backdrop of the Vietnam War, as well as the routine and harrowing experiences of young soldiers during that era.

D.C. Metro won the Signature event category with the Evening at the Embassy. For over 12 years, the D.C. Metro Network has hosted an annual reception in one of Washington D.C.’s iconic embassies. Alumni, parents, family and friends gather for an evening of speeches, socializing, and food and beverages from the host country. In 2019, the Embassy of Italy hosted the event and attendees enjoyed remarks from Italian representative Armando Varricchio and W&M professor Monica Seger.

— ASHLEY DUSTIN

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**ONLINE:** To learn more about the award winners, visit magazine.wm.edu/accolades2020

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**AWARD WINNERS**

**STRATEGIC VISION**

D.C. Metro

**CAMPUS CONNECTOR**

Williamsburg-Peninsula

**LEADERSHIP GIVING**

Lower Northern Neck Triangle

**PROGRAMMING EXCELLENCE AWARDS**

Cultural: South Hampton Roads

Educational: Charleston

Family: Williamsburg-Peninsula

Partner: Orlando

Service: Charlottesville-Highlands

Signature: D.C. Metro

Unique: New York City

Virtual Engagement: Charlotte
Journeys Resume

Alumni Journeys offers trips to select destinations

ALUMNI TRAVEL  As the world reopens, travel experiences through Alumni Journeys begin again with new safety measures.

Where have you dreamed about traveling to, once it is safe to do so?

As the COVID-19 vaccine becomes more available and travel restrictions are lifted in many parts of the world, the W&M Alumni Association’s travel program, Alumni Journeys, has begun offering trips to select destinations again. In partnership with travel operators, Alumni Journeys provides opportunities for W&M alumni and friends to explore domestic and international locations as a group with expert guides, including W&M faculty members.

All travelers will need to either provide proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test result within three days of departure. Masks, frequent hand washing and social distancing will continue to be required.

Two domestic trips will run this June, to Santa Fe and Southeast Alaska. These are the first trips to run since early March 2020. In the fall, trips will be available to destinations including South Africa, Israel, Peru and throughout Europe, including “Paris: Featuring the African American Experience” in late September. W&M and the tour operators continue to monitor the situation closely and keep travelers updated about any changes.

“People are looking for those bucket-list trips,” says Donna Coggins, assistant director of business development for the W&M Alumni Association. “After being at home all year, alumni are excited to see the world safely. The pandemic has shown us not to take for granted how wonderful it is to make memories with friends and family.” — CLAIRE DE LISLE M.B.A. ‘21

ONLINE: To learn more about Alumni Journeys and see all 2021-2022 trips, visit wmalumni.com/travel.

WE ARE AN ALUMNI COMMUNITY MORE THAN 100,000 STRONG.

The W&M Alumni Association provides programs and events to help our community stay connected — from Homecoming & Reunion Weekend to career & networking resources to exclusive virtual opportunities with alumni, faculty and industry leaders.

Make your gift today to the W&M Alumni Association Fund and help build connections that last a lifetime.

IMPACT.WM.EDU/WMAAF
Class Notes
What's the Story?

BIRD’S EYE VIEW

Detail of aerial view of Williamsburg looking from William & Mary toward the Capitol, photographer unknown, Jan. 12, 1928.
— Special Collections, John D. Rockefeller Jr. Library, The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

Class Notes has been a William & Mary tradition for decades, made possible by the efforts of our dedicated volunteer class reporters. While we make every effort to collect columns and check facts, each column is the responsibility of the class reporter.

1951

Class Reporter

VIRGINIA “GINIE” CROSBY UNDERHILL
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As of this writing on the eve of Inauguration Day, our weather reporter has promised that the sun will come out tomorrow to scatter our cares and calm our fears while being led purposely by our new political administration. As our favorite comic character Annie sang, “Just thinkin’ about tomorrow / Clears away the cobwebs / And the sorrow / ’Til there’s none!”

Can we look forward to a better year than 2020? What happened after dark storms and fierce lightning frightened us with their threats of dwindling supplies will remain overstated. There were prayers for others who couldn’t or wouldn’t face well-meaning politicians and their useless advice but finally came around to some acceptance, prayers for others who didn’t trust doctors either but were able to dodge the scourgé in spite of chaos. We can always count on children’s happiness. They trusted their elders, especially parents, teachers, and doctors, to educate them within boundaries of virtual classrooms and plenty of time for vacations — maybe too many vacations.

The happiest person I know sent me a 2020 Christmas card with most of his family cozily crowded onto several separate photos. Louis Compo had just celebrated the birth of his 12th great-grandchild! Yes! Eleven “greats.” Louis deeply trusts in family and makes sure everyone is smiling, happily guaranteeing more tomorrows together during every vacation. His happiness is contagious.

In addition to Orphan Annie, another comic character worthy honoring during these troubled times is Pogo. He garnered fame by proclaiming “We have met the enemy and he is us.” Bingo! Too true! A solution: Can we face our adult responsibilities now? Can we offer advice, trust and listen to experts and bury attack weapons? If this suggestion doesn’t offer the hope and trust we need, then maybe we can enlist further help from other comic characters again until it does work. I won’t start another list yet. There should be many good tomorrows left for all of us.

See more at magazine.
w.m.edu/class-notes

1954

Class Reporter

EDITOR’S NOTE: We are looking for a reporter for the Class of 1954. If interested, please contact the magazine staff at alumni.magazine@wm.edu or at (757) 221-1167.

See more at magazine.
w.m.edu/class-notes

1955

Class Reporter

ANNE LUNAS VINCENT
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(704) 367-1354

Hi Classmates,

As I write this, it’s still January and we’re finally seeing some hope that life will get back to being more normal. I got my first COVID-19 dose today. The thing I look forward to the most is not being required to wear masks!

I received a letter from Mark Hask, Elaine Elias Kappel’s son-in-law, with the news that she passed away last November. Elaine was a wonderful writer (see our past Class Notes) and a talented photographer. Mark is the father of her grandsons, Alex and Tom.

We did spend Thanksgiving and Christmas with our youngest son, Rob, and his family. Their two oldest are in remote college classes and the youngest is in 10th grade.

We received a nice letter from our oldest “grand,” Alex Vincent ’16, in January. She was working with a primary care physician as part of her medical studies at Georgetown and wrote, “I get to see patients, do the history and physical exams, interpret labs, follow up with patients and write notes.” In January she visited her sister, Christine, who is a medical student in Philadelphia.

I have read some interesting books during the past several months. If you have done this, let me know and we can share impressions and titles.

See more at magazine.
w.m.edu/class-notes

1956

Class Reporters

ED AND BEULINDA WATKINS
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Bart Tayer was the first to comment that it is 65 years since our proud graduation from William & Mary. He fondly remembers Dr. Fowler, our great history professor, and Dr. Moss, the chair of the government department — his major. (Dr. Harold Fowler was my favorite.) It was an exceptional four years of learning and fellowship. Bart went on to Tufts and earned a DMD, then to Boston University for an M.Sc.D., where he trained to become a specialist in orthodontics. He married Marjorie in 1969, joined the Army as a captain, and eventually had three children, who then produced six grandchildren. His orthodontics practice was in Brookline, Massachusetts, and he also taught. Bart and Marje are now enjoying retirement in Brookline and Mattapoisett, Massachusetts.

A history lesson (plus) from Nancy Harshbarger Hummel. She received a certified letter from the Shenandoah Valley Battlefield Foundation informing her that she was a 1/24 owner of the land where the Battle of Cross Keys was fought during the Civil War. There is so much development around Harrisonburg (JMU, etc.) that the foundation wants to protect the land from developers by gaining control of the title. In the fall, Nancy and John kept their overnight reservations for the W&M vs. JMU football game (canceled due to COVID). They drove Skyline Drive and by the old farms where her parents were reared. Nancy has cousins living on the family farms, dating from the 19th century. They drove to the Cross Keys Battlefield and found it was a lovely farm with rolling green pastures, a cemetery and a little white church. The peace and beauty are a balm in today’s world. My parents, from New York and Missouri, spent their honeymoon in that area, as did Ed and I.

Les Sykes Waldron is frustrated with the COVID restrictions! Aren’t we all? The news as I am writing this is all COVID and national politics. We both hope this shall pass — at least by the time you read this. She and Jim yearn to be with their children and grandchildren whom

See more at magazine.
w.m.edu/class-notes
they haven’t seen for a year. They miss being involved with the Williamsburg Players, which have been in lockdown since March 2020.

Ginny Ferre is lucky to have her youngest son and his wife living nearby. They are able to help her out with chores and they have occasional meals together with masks for all! Her son, Peter Ferre ’85, has a daughter in the Honors program at Montana State University, and she is close enough to Ginny’s condo to come for meals and laundry. Another granddaughter, studying at Stanford University, has all her classes online. She is living nearby and Ginny gets to see a second granddaughter! After all, Ginny gets to see a second grandson, study- ing at Stanford University.

Most of these many years, Shirley Richard- son Fitzgerald and her daughter, Ann Fitzgerald ’17, were able to visit William Fitzgerald ’22, a grandson attending William & Mary. She also has two grandchildren at Christopher Newport University and one in the University of Maryland Law School. Shirley has kept busy bicycling and working on a potted vegetable garden on her deck.

I received a nice email from Mickey Curro, who has been getting through this pandemic by painting watercolors and crafting greeting cards. She was able to make a trip to North Carolina to visit family and friends. Mickey also keeps in close touch with Lillie Kocher.

Mary Thompson ’56 and Jim Thompson ’68 still keep in close contact by telephone with Jane Thompson Kaplan ’56 and Jim Ka- plan. The Kaplans have moved from their home of many years to Williamsburg, a lovely, managed care retirement community not far from their previous home. Jane reports that after they moved in, she opened her door and right across the hall, out came a classmate and fellow Landing resident, Barbara Harding Hager. Jane and Barbara were Barrett Hall residents for three years, 1953-55. It’s a small world after all.

I speak often on the phone with Denys Grant ’58 and Don Engelenken ’59. The three of us talk Tribes sports and look forward to when we can again attend William & Mary Athletics events.

This has been an awful time for our nation, and I realize most of us have been pretty much limited to our homes and outside activities. I know Marsha and I spend many an hour on Zoom or Facetime talking with our children and grandchildren and I’m sure it’s the same for many of you.

This class letter is being written in January for the spring edition of the Class Notes. Let’s hope when it’s time for my next request for the fall issue we are all seeing better days in the nation and I hear from many more of you. Don’t forget you may always call me at 757-345-6878.

See more at magazine, wm.edu/class-notes

1958

Class Reporter
DR. PATRICIA “PAT” KING SELL
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Greetings ’58 Classmates,

Diane Hamel Hoyt reports her family is safe, relatively healthy and comfortable. She has been looking at old photos of “She Stoops to Conquer” and “Antigone” — 65 years is a long time ago. Hard to remember being that young! We must be old by now!

Ed and I are pretty much settled in the new quarters with Maise the cat. Our daughter, Car- ol ine Watkins ’83, is a few blocks away, working at home for AT&T.

Don’t wait for us to ask for news. Send news anytime you wish.

See more at magazine, wm.edu/class-notes

1957

Class Reporter
PETE KALISON
pkalison1@verizon.net

I am pleased that I have heard from some of you.
even though we have not been able to do much with the COVID-19 virus. I can always count on Jim Dil- lard, Charlotte Tolley Etgen and Dick Shirey to stay in touch, though. I will start with Jim and I will quote his letter! It seems quite exciting!

“In July, Joyce Dill- lard ’58 and I traveled to Tibet and joined a group to Everest. At 57 we are the oldest people who have ever reached the summit. We did not want to make a big deal about it, but National Geographic insisted on doing a story on us. On our way back from Tibet we stopped off in the South Island of New Zealand to white- water raft. Joyce saved the life of a man pinned on a rock by the raging current after he tumbled from his raft. Joyce received a citation for bravery after risking her life in saving her fellow rafter just moments before he would have been sucked under and lost. The Prime Minister of New Zealand recognized Joyce with a gala reception.

“We had a layover in Guam and were hosted by their speaker of their assembly. We had many other excursions this year such as our exciting visits to Costa Rica and Peru. But I have gone on too long and don’t want to bore you with our further exploits.”

Jim concluded with a thought like this: “If politi- cians can get away with stories like this so can I!”

Now for the real story: “Joyce and I were in the last ‘clear up’ raft going to the COVID-19 virus. I can even though we have not been back to the campus since the end of basketball season in February 2020! We did attend the CAA Basketball Tournament in Washington, D.C., with Kathy Watson Lawl- yer ’59 and Betty-Wright Frager Armbruster ’58 and Bill Armbruster ’57. Terry Thompson ’67 and Chip Kerby ’67 hosted a wonderful Tribe gathering on Friday night before our first game on Saturday. Spirits were high! This was our year to make it to The Big Dance! Unfortunately, it was the only game that we played. We left the tour- nament the next morning. Although we cannot be at our stadium, we can watch the games on FloHoops! Football games in the spring could also be interesting if that happens.

“Our family is growing. One grandson was married in Dallas, Texas, this past July! Due to COVID-19

1960

Class Reporter WARREN P. JOBLIN

EDITOR’S NOTE: We are look- ing for a reporter for the Class of 1960. If interested, please contact the magazine staff at alumni.magazine@wm.edu or (757) 221-1167.

It is with great sadness we report the passing of Warren Joblin on Jan. 21, 2021. He retired as Class Reporter in December 2020 after more than 16 years reporting on behalf of the Class of 1960, saying, “It has been one of my joys as an alumnus to serve the class.”

Warren was freshman class president, served a number of reunion committees, co-founded the Southern Connecti- cut Alumni Chapter, received the Alumni Service Award in 2005, was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame and was Alumni Admis- sions Coordinator for Connecticut for many years and served on the Olde Guarde Council. His daughter Bonnie Joblin Crows ’82 was a recipient of the Young Guarde Service Award and his granddaughter Julia is a member of the W&M Class of 2022. He will be dearly missed by all who had the pleasure to know him.

See more at magazine. wm.edu/class-notes
and our age, unfortunately we did not go! Their ceremony was streamed so we were able to see it! Our oldest granddaughter is getting married in Louisiana this October. We are planning to be there if all is well!

“Hope to see everyone at Homecoming for our 60th Reunion! Stay safe and well, Go Tribe!”

From Paul Verkuil ’61, D.P.S. ’17: “I’m wondering how our class is doing with getting vaccines. Judy and I got our first in Miami Beach and are waiting on the second. Since we are all in the 75+ age group we should have 100% ‘attendance.’ Would love to see everyone at a 60th in person in the fall.”

Holly Ruffner Clark: “Teddy Johnson Taylor, Sue McDonald Dilloway and I haven’t done anything exciting or interesting since we went to Natchez in 2019. Hope to see you at Homecoming.”

From Patty Moore Myers: “My husband, Marvin, passed away last January which made 2020 even harder! I stay healthy by exercising daily and enjoying the outdoors when that beautiful sun is shining. I feel very fortunate that we have a lovely home in Deltaville, Virginia, on the water. It has been a great retreat during this virus.”

From Ken Lounsbery: “The pandemic has turned me into a sedentary soul — in my 54th year after admission. I’m ratcheting down my hours for a gradual retirement.”

From Jill Longstreet: “The downsizing move was not and who is still around. Bumped into a guy while wearing my Williamson & Mary hoodie. He reminded me how hard it was to get into W&M because ‘you have to be really smart!’ Also met a 1951 graduate at the local plant nursery. She shouted out: ‘Go Tribe!’”

Dan Link ’61, M.Ed. ’62 is still in Oakton, Virginia, taking each day as it comes. He was unable to make his annual trip to Melbourne, Australia, to visit family for the holidays. His daughter, Kristin Link Dillon ‘00, and her family live in Portland, Oregon.

Allan Brownfeld ’61, J.D. ’64 is busy with writing, doing a regular column and editing two publications. He also does a monthly article for the Washington Report on Middle East Affairs.

He shared his thoughts on the January Capitol riots, which you can read in the online Class Notes.

His son, daughter-in-law and grandchild in Italy all had COVID-19. Fortunately, they are all now better.

Margie Gessner Cheek: “I moved out of Baltimore city to the county into a retirement continuing care community. My independent living quarters are great and I’m happy to be here albeit during COVID-19! The downsizing move was extremely difficult — glad it’s over. I’m lucky to have three children all within 40 minutes of me.”

Wayne Seipel is retired 15 years now from the solo urology practice. He writes: “My wife and I have been living and working on a farm in the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia, for 49 years with two grown kids. One daughter is a respiratory therapist working with COVID-19 patients in a major hospital outside D.C. In the past nine months, my wife and I have not missed a beat despite COVID.”

From Liz Rader O’Neill: “I had a wonderful but odd Christmas. Zoomed with the family. A child in my grandson’s class came down with the virus, so daughter Laura and her two had to quarantine. On New Year’s Day, they came here where we enjoyed a big dinner, lots of presents, a few games of croquet and then they went back home to Charleston. 5 1/2 hours in face masks. Sat 6 feet away at dinner. It was great! Hey, you take what you can get!”

Joan Costabel Austin writes: “It’s kind of gray and dreary these days but I get out for a five-mile walk every day which cheers me up. I’m also finding a great deal and cleaning out the attic. After 45-plus years in this house, it’s quite a project! No travel plans…”

Please be sure to read the online notes for a wonderfully fun story about Jim Porach.

See more at magazine. wm.edu/class-notes

January 2021

NANCY CLARK hagens
4647 Prince Trevor Drive Williamsburg, VA 23185
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downdogstreet@cox.net

I must apologize for not writing a column in the last Class Notes. I was in the midst of Jim being in and out of the hospital. Jim was removed from dialysis after four years. He came home in August to home hospice care until a room independent cottage. He was not and who is still around. Bumped into a guy while wearing my Williamson & Mary hoodie. He reminded me how hard it was to get into W&M because ‘you have to be really smart!’ Also met a 1951 graduate at the local plant nursery. She shouted out: ‘Go Tribe!’”

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1962

Class Reporter
NANCY CLARK hagens
4647 Prince Trevor Drive Williamsburg, VA 23185
(757) 221-8314
downdogstreet@cox.net

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See more at magazine. wm.edu/class-notes

1963

Class Reporter
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Virginia Jacobs Seacrist sent a wonderful article about the Kappa...
Kappa Gammas continuing to keep in touch. She began by mentioning there were 19 freshmen in 1960 who pledged Kappa Gamma sorority. They pledged “love and loyalty” and have kept that pledge for 60 years. Their reunions began about 15 years after graduation at the home of Judy Giles Compton (“Giles”) in Hilton Head, North Carolina. Gale West Parmentier (“Westie”) organized the reunion with “Giles.”

Phyllis Eason Galanti, Jean Garde Parker, Joanna Scott Hennessy, Peggy List DuVall, Bonnie Barr Gilliom, Adriel Williams Doyle, Marcia Clough Sheller, Judy Linton Heald, Olinda Elliott Simon, and Virginia Jacobs Seeger met not every five years, usually at the beach, when Giles died at age 60, reunions continued in various sister’s homes. At Olinda’s in New York, Gayle Oakey Hancock, Betsy Brown Doss, Betty Risser Heenan and Bev Bozarth Colgan joined in. They united in Florida at Ginny’s, in South Carolina at Bonnie’s and in California at Tink’s. Peggy and Phyllis were luncheon hostesses in Richmond, Virginia, after William & Mary reunions. Westie hosted in Williamsburg at their 50th reunion. As they turned 70, reunions occurred every five years, some at funerals of members or their spouses. One time they re-occupied their old rooms at the sorority house when Wardlee Kennedy Liberti and Yvonne Baay Brendley came too. Now the Kappas meet by Zoom monthly. Read more about them in the online Class Notes.

John Findlay died in September. He served in Vietnam as a Marine. He became an executive vice president of L.L. Bean in Maine, helping to see its tremendous growth in the 1960s. John moved to executive positions at T.J.X and J. Crew. He enjoyed fishing, boating and traveling.

Betsy Holland Lunger wrote that she and George Lunger have been taking walks in the neighborhood and finding a real community of friendly people. Zoom, FaceTime and YouTube have kept them connected with their church, college friends and others. George has spent time converting their old minivan into a camper for one of their grandchildren. He also made Advent crosses for church. Hopefully, they will be coming to the Philadelphia area in August to celebrate that Big Birthday—so many of us are now having, I look forward to seeing them.

Sherry Parrish Swan’s husband, Al, flew them from place to place visiting friends and family. Flying back to Tampa was wonderful and sad since Al sold his plane, and now the Swans will be visiting out West by car next summer. Sherry has been sailing, going to her book club meeting outside and making a quilt (hooray!) for a granddaughter.

Rosemary Brewer Philips and Charlie stayed in one of the Colonial houses in Williamsburg in December. Rosemary still volunteers at Longwood Gardens, having just completed 25 years there. She is glad their grandchildren live nearby.

Kathy Dudley Okada sent pictures of her grandchildren with their pets to help in this isolating time. While life has been quieter, I am beginning to see hope for easier, happier and more friendly times. Let’s keep in touch and stay healthy.

See more at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes

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1964

Class Reporter
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EDITOR’S NOTE: See the full version at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes/1964.

First, I want to offer a huge congratulations to our latest classmate to receive the Alumni Medallion, Susan Roache Warner. We are very proud of Sue and all her contributions to William & Mary over many years.

I would also like to thank so many of our classmates who have made donations to William & Mary. We are truly a sharing and a giving class.

Here we are, more than a year after COVID entered our lives. I hope you all have received the vaccines, as desired. There are some advantages at times for being a senior citizen.

George Goodwin: “Our ‘not done’ list exceeds our other lists. Had my first virtual meeting as Class of 1964 member of Olde Guarde. Great to be involved with the College again. Susan had at least five trips to Japan canceled before the airplane stopped flying due to COVID-19. We visited Napa the last weekend it was open in March and the first weekend it re-opened in June. We had our picture taken by an AP reporter and the article went worldwide. I still write articles for Senior Lawyers Division, joined the local HOA and keep in touch with family and well.” Thanks Dick.

Ann Lyon Ackiss: “The girls and their dogs will be here for Christmas—provided COVID-19 does not rear its ugly head and someone tests positive. Emily is coming from Easton, Maryland, and Amanda from Ann Arbor, Michigan. We’ll have two rescue greyhounds, a rescue pit mix and our schnauzer, Tom and I are doing very well and hoping for the same in 2021. Tom is beach walking, rowing his shell and keeping busy with never-ending projects. My only recent health issue is three broken ‘paddle boarding’ ribs (on Labor Day), but all is good now and I’m back to Pilates, etc. All my cancer tests have been good so far.”

Barbara Drucker Smith: “I have come out with a book, A Brush With the Famous, that is available at Amazon. I have also as a hypnotherapist gone to the Zoom NATH National Association of Transpersonal Hypnotherapists. I garnered the one award given out in 2020 for a hypnotherapist hypnotist. I have also Zoomed a mental health Israeli Conference for mental health providers, a conference for United States preservation of museums, etc. and several Zoom writing conferences at Old Dominion University, the Library of Virginia yearly Writers Conference and have participated in several readings by the Poetry Society of Virginia and religious services and study groups.”

Margaret Fisher Overman: “Like everyone else I’ve been wearing my mask, sheltering in place and trying to stay 6 feet away from anyone else. While staying at home, I’ve played so much bridge online that I finally attained my Life Master and Bronze Life Master ranking from the ACBL.”

Charles W. “Bill” Lucas ’64, M.S. ’67, Ph.D. ’74: “My wife, Alice Pittard Lucas ’68, and I have four children, John, Joseph, Amy and Daniel, with nine great grandchildren so far. After retiring from the U.S. Census Bureau in 2013, I became in 2017 the president of Common Sense Science, an international scientific organization leading the most major revolution in science in the history of the world. I also became the editor of the science journal Foundations of Science in 2017. The scientists of Common Sense Science have discovered that the electrodynamic force is the universal force and published new, improved theories of elementary particles. My latest book is titled the Atomic Nucleus and the Theory of Molecules. The new theory of the atom was a high school science fair project at Oxon Hill Science and Technology High School for our second son, Joseph. At the International High School Science Fair, he received one of the grand prizes which resulted in full scholarships to California Institute of Technology and Harvard University. The future looks very promising based upon this new technology based upon the universal electrodynamic force!” Read all about this technology in our online Class Notes.

Ilene Lambert Dillon-Fink: “Made it through COVID-19 so far. I’ve been ‘Coviding’ at my son’s home in Northern California with my RV in storage for 10 months. Our summer veggie garden (I was put in charge) was fantastic. I postponed to be at least ‘semi’ retired, but I keep picking up more and more work. Since I love my work, this has been great. I’m ‘seeing’ therapy clients, appearing on podcasts (including Planet 54) and have also Zoomed a mental hypnotherapist hypnotist. I am the Zoom NATH National Personal Hypnotherapists. I am a hypnotherapist gone to Harvard University. I have ‘not done’ list exceeds our other lists. Had my first virtual meeting as Class of 1964 member of Olde Guarde. Great to be involved with the College again. Susan had at least five trips to Japan canceled before the airplane stopped flying due to COVID-19. We visited Napa the last weekend it was open in March and the first weekend it re-opened in June. We had our picture taken by an AP reporter and the article went worldwide. I still write articles for Senior Lawyers Division, joined the local HOA and keep in touch with family and well.” Thanks Dick.

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for people interested in global wellness. I’d love to have you come or I can drive over for a visit.

Greg Presnell: “Not much new from here in Orlando. We are well. Cecelia is still working from home. I go to the courthouse every day but have had no trials since March. However, I have been kept busy with two remote sittings on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals by designa-
tion of the Chief Justice. Although I no longer own or manage my old race car team, Level I Racing, I am a sponsor and honorary member of the crew.

For the past two years, since winning the class A national championship in Bowling Green, Kentucky, we have continued to dominate class A (cars with less than 300 cubic inches) in the Champcar endurance road racing series. The highlight of the year was our race in September at the Palm Beach International Raceway, where we had our first overall first-place podium finish; quite an accomplishment for a Mazda Miata, racing against BMWs, Fords, Mustang Cobras and the like. At the 14-hour race at Sebring in November, we won class A by 10 laps and finished fifth overall out of 86 cars, despite a blown clutch that required our lead driver to drive the final 90 minutes in fourth gear on the 17-turn road course.”

Gail Blake Wright: “Class of ’64 Alpha Chi Omegas were saddened by the deaths of two of our members. Pam Derrickson Etheridge also passed away in June 2020 of a lengthy illness. Pam Derrickson Etheridge also passed away. May they rest in peace. Although we could not hold a reunion in 2020, we started an initiative in fall 2020 to maintain our connections. Each month our Alpha Chi ’64 classmates are invited to a Zoom meeting. These conver-
sations have deepened our relationships and have brought us back into con-
tact with sisters who have been ‘missing’ for several years. We are hoping for a reunion in fall 2021.”

Claudy Tucker Barnes: “I don’t see Mary Ann Venner Schmidt at tennis as much but we vis-
ited her as she was docent-
ing for an historic house near our courthouse — the Whitehurst-Buffington house built in the 1700s! William & Mary is getting a ton of press here as the Daily Press has taken over our Virginian-Pilot. Fred-
erick Lowe ’63, respect-
ed attorney and judge, died of lung cancer at 79. I am still painting acrylics in a studio and playing a little tennis. Loved hearing from so many Thetas this season.”

Robinette Hender-
sen Fitzsimmons: “I knew you would want to know of the death of Pam Derrickson Etheridge (she was married for many years to Al Etheridge ’64, M.L.T. ’83, who was also in our class). Pam died of leukemia on Oct. 8, 2020, in California. After spending many years in Florida, she moved to California to be closer to her sons as her health declined.”

Bill Corley: “I learned that William & Mary had made a decision to eliminate several minor sports due to insufficient sports funding. Several months later, I learned that the men’s track team was on the chopping block while the women’s track and field would continue. In a bold collective decision, all women track and field athletes decided they would not continue to participate unless men’s track was reinstated. Men’s track and field was ulti-
mately reinstated. Since I had also participated in track, as well as basketball, I decided to donate significant funds in order that all minor sports would be funded, fearing that, if minor sports were cut or reduced, this would start a downward spiral and, ultimately, all athletics would go by the wayside. Thus, I am requesting that all my friends and former classmates at W&M donate annually not only to scholastic scholarships, but to athletic scholarships as well. This will enable the College to maintain the appropriate balance between academic and athletic scholarships.”

Ed Horton: “I still have my home in Williamsburg, but I have added Naples, Florida. I got the virus in the first quarter of ’20, although it wasn’t as bad as I thought it would be. Being free of it would have been much better. Hope to see you at Homecoming.”

Yes, Ed, here’s hoping that we have our “normal” Homecoming. We do need this to look forward to. [Editor’s note: Homecom-
ing is currently scheduled to be held Oct. 7-10 on campus. Visit homecom-
ing.wm.edu for more information.]”

Stay safe and well everyone.

See more at magazine.
wm.edu/class-notes

1965

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Hopefully, by the time you read this, social distancing will be a thing of the past. But at the moment, it’s still a thing of the present …. so here we go with Social Distancing Around the World!

First from New Zea-

land: Ted (Joseph) Fecteau has lived in New Zealand and the Pacific for 52 years since the Peace Corps took him to Samoa, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and back to New Zealand. He now lives on the Tasman Sea Coast. He has seen all of the magnifi-
cient sights of the country by motor home in the last five years since he retired. The country has had few pandemic restrictions due to closed borders and no overseas visitors. As with all of us, he has worries about family and friends in America and other parts of the world. Still, he enjoys each day, appreci-
ating what he has.

From Hilo, Hawaii: Su-

zanne Garnett Frayer lives in a lovely spot on the Big Island with her partner, musician Jean Pierre. Their home backs onto a tropical forest where they walk, exercise and eat outside. They are sequestered most of the time, socially distancing and wearing masks when they are out. She says that the Islanders are quite responsible about following CDC guid-
elines. They make good use of their situation by reading, cooking, studying French and following the news. Jean Pierre plays his saxophone, flute or piano. (Lucky Suzanne to have in-house entertain-
ment.) Since she’s been a researcher and professor most of her life, staying home was rather easy for her being surrounded by thousands of books, while keeping in touch with friends. She says she has had “time to reflect on experiences in my life and think more deeply about the importance of relationships and love.”

Nice thoughts.

From Hilo, Hawaii:
Libby Gehhart Cotting-
ham is still in Atlanta, where she is near her son. She will be spending three months in Naples, Florida, after she has comple-
ted her COVID-19 shot protocol. She mentions the difficulties that have arisen due to the pandem-
ic and the vaccine rollout. She wishes us all success in receiving vaccinations and hopefully by the time you read this, that will have happened for all of us. We’re in that age group, ya know!

St. Simons Island: Geo-

rge Dupuis lived here with his rescue dog after the passing of his wife, Beth, in 2017. There he met a widow, Joyce, and they married and moved to a new home on the island. They were planning to attend the Robert Boyle Society event this spring at W&M, but it was virtual. He is looking forward to introducing Joyce to W&M, his classmates and the new Alumni House at the event in 2022. See you there!

Virginia: Williamsburg/
Richardson-on-the-James: Howard Busbee ’65, J.D. ’67, M.L.T. ’68 and Mary Whitt Busbee HON ’03 divide their time between the two places and have taken an occasional trip to their family vacation home in Georgia. Other trips, family reunions, etc. went by the wayside this year. A special Zoom was celebrated in January by the 50th birthday of their second child, with three more to go. In honor of this occasion, Howard will toast with his new drink: the “quarantini.”

Winchester: Sharon Sposcio sends sports reports from her senior commu-

nity that they are very fortu-

nate to have experienced very little COVID-19, although they did have the same lockdowns, masks and social distancing that most of us have. The restrictions lifted a bit in August and there is even some socializing now. She did get in a quick trip to Florida to visit the kids on Thanksgiving, filled with shrimp and lots of walks on the beach.

Ginny Blount Fluet reports from the luxury and safety of her Westmin-

ster Canterbury commu-

nity that they are completely moved in and settled and loving every minute of it. She got a surprise when Mary (Rusty) Rollins Stevens called and said she and Kent Stevens lived in the same complex. They were able to have lunch, see each other in the gym and plan future social activities when everyone is all vaccinated and safe. Eliott Canterbury and his wife, David Fried- 
man, wrote of her passing on Dec. 3, 2020, from metastatic bladder cancer.
Let's cut to the chase! Everyone I have heard the same theme: all travel canceled, family and friends visits canceled, graduations and weddings missed, virtual everything, Zoom classes and meetings, clean closets and new recipes, books read, TV and the COVID numbers watched — and now hope at the end of these strange times with the arrival of the vaccine!!! Of course, I have to fill in some of the blanks.

Judy Poarch Nance '69 and Peter Nance have added a new Havanese puppy to their world and Peter has stepped up his painting, some of which I shared in the online Class Notes. Our last social event was last February's Charter Day, when Pete received his Alumni Medal — weren't we in the future then? Kathy and Jim McNulty are celebrating their 55th Anniversary in June. Jim retired in December 2019 after 50 years of academic and federal government work. Jim's multiple degrees were all in economics, including a Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina.

Jake Jacobsen's four horses and two dogs have given him and Vonnie lots to do. He attributes shoveling manure to keeping him fit as their National Champion Dressage horse gets back in place. Jake is also working on writing a book from old scripts he had tried to sell as movies. The onset of COVID disrupted Jack Cole's men's chorus but he still was an active fundraiser and managed to make up the lost revenues from canceled fundraisers and concerts. Jack lives in Fort Lauderdale.

Clare Guth-Larson had a litany of canceled adventures from a trip to the Maritime Provinces to multiple motorcycle rallies. They did do small local motorcycle rides, which Clare says automatically provide "social distancing."

Carlton Hardy's notes always tickle me. His favorite: "I learned how to prepare tofu — throw it in the trash and grill some meat." Carlton has reduced his board and committee obligations but is far from idle mentioning the community advisory council for transportation planning among his many involvements. Our condolences to Fran Cole Arndt on the death of her husband, Murray, last summer. Murray was a very popular professor at UNC-Greensboro.

Susan Romans downsized to a condo in Stovey, Vermont, which puts her close to everything. Great comment on the lockdown: "Now I know what hell is for extroverts!"

Jake Smith and Ginger Graef Smith '69 have 2021 plans to cruise the Chesapeake, celebrate with family and hug! Wilford Kale came out of retirement at 77 and is writing twice weekly for the Virginia Gazette as a freelancer — aka "back in the saddle" and thrilled with the opportunity.

Colston Newton had a trout fishing trip canceled three times due to COVID. He also plays bridge weekly with Al Hooker '72.

Woody Caine is a public librarian in our class: A Just Slightly Above Average Soldier's Life." His book is available on Amazon and Barnes & Noble — that's exciting. The blurb on the back cover: "The stories in this book are as real as memory and documentation can insure, but then, all such stories suffer from the impact of multiple retellings and time."

Cam Buchanan and Debra have a tandem bicycle fundraiser from San Francisco to St. Augustine, raising money for the reinstated W&M volleyball program. Amazing! Vie Cramer has plans for a French canal barge trip next September. He also has two granddaughters starting college in the fall. With wings being clipped, Sandy and Keith Dauer have set up travel scholarships. Sandy's is for history students at Indiana University and Keith's is for history professors at William & Mary. Florida for the winter is their plan right now.

Jeannie Williams was a COVID-19 victim at Christmas, but recovered nicely and was well remembered by many classmates — our William & Mary connection has been recognized — by a logo on his car, a baseball hat, conversations that resulted in mutual friends and the like. It's always fun when some people have these chance meetings and my husband is now proudly sporting a brand-new W&M sweatshirt just to prove it.

Grace Guin Cramer '66, M.A. '67 had her memoir put on hold with the pandemic but is still hoping for publication by late spring. Her son works in the NICU in La Jolla, California, delivering babies from COVID mothers.

Mike Greenwood had extensive shoulder surgery after several delays. He has become quite the musician and performs as a very popular Elvis at his retirement community. They love him!

Our grandson has restarted his dorm life at UNC after spending two weeks on campus last August — hoping this time he gets to stay. Lots of lives turned upside down last year. And one quick quip. Dick Kern '64 had a heart CT last week and one of the comments said "Upper Abdomen Unremarkable." I'm sure that's a good thing, but the last time anyone said Dick was unremarkable was his English 101 professor! Love to all.

See more at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes 1967

EDITOR'S NOTE: We are looking for a reporter for the Class of 1967. If interested, please contact the magazine staff at alumni.magazine@wm.edu or at (757) 221-1167.

See more at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes 1968

Class Reporter SANDRA ABICHT SIMMERMON

1145 Rockbridge Avenue Norfolk, VA 23508 Sandra.Simmermon@gmail.com

Hi classmates! This is Kerry Ann Sawick, subbing for our class reporter Sandra Abicht Simmermon.

During the past year, I have continued to go to my strength training classes twice a week (luckily the place where I go is classified as a health facility) and it is just myself and the trainer (who is masked). Like so many people, I have done home renovations, been catching up with reading and am very thankful for Amazon Prime, Netflix, BritBox and Acorn!

Bruce Oliver writes that he and his wife, Nancy Hulse Oliver '69, have adjusted their daily activities due to COVID-19. They host driveway dinners and back porch get-togethers with safe distancing and are doing virtual visits to doctors and Zoom visits with their extended family. During his twice-daily walks, Bruce took pictures of lawn decor for Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas and posted them on Facebook to the delight of homebound friends. Bruce and Nancy check their front porch regularly for treats from Amazon and grocery deliveries from Instacart. Another ritual is "taking lots of naps, both voluntary and involuntary."

Linell Broecker says
she has probably not been as isolated as she should be, “but I have lots of pretty masks to wear.” She had her kitchen re-modeled in the spring and has been working with an organizer to declutter and down-size her condo.

Living in Washington, D.C., Linell has been wrapped up in politics. She got together in Virginia Beach with Kappa Alpha Theta sisters Bari Hodge Bienia, Dee Joyce-Hayes, Pat Vakos and Jenny Kerns-Windsor and their husbands to celebrate the inauguration of Joe Biden and Kamala Harris.

Having canceled three trips, Linell is eagerly awaiting her turn to get vaccinated so she can be prepared for traveling again.

After 51 delightful years (even 2020 in close quarters together didn’t lead to “mariticide”) Ric McKittrick and Ann Hamilton McKittrick ’69 have adhered faithfully to the COVID guidelines. “You all know it: no dinners out, or weekend getaways; longing to see kids and grandkids, outdoor visits (drinking mandatories and prescrip-tions and prescriptions) and the Post Office, ing Amazon, UPS, FedEx and December bankrolls — with books, Zoom work via Zoom and enough porch for friends to visit and still keep their distance.

Milton and I are well and riding out the pandemic like everyone else — with books, Zoom and carryout. Hope to be vaccinated and in time to attend my niece’s wedding in April!

Finally, let me thank everyone and each one of you who made an end-of-the-year contribution to William & Mary — and there were many! Thanks so much — especially those of you who gave to the Class of ’69 Scholarship. We are within $80,000 of reaching our $1 million goal, so we will (hope-fully) get there this year and be able to fully support a student every year. Thank you so much!

See more at magazine. wm.edu/class-notes

1969 ✦

Class Reporter WIN WHITEHURST ’69, M.E.D. ’72 2206 Raymond Avenue Henrico, VA 23228 winwhitehurst@yahoo.com

Dear Friends:

Congratulations to Jim Taylor and Romne Repka Taylor on winning the 2020 Alumni Service Award, given annually to alumni who make outstanding contributions to the Alumni Association. Romnee and Jim were cited for their many years of leadership first in the Chicago area and now for the Lower Northern Neck Regional Network, as well as all the work they have done for our class. They have served on many of our class reunion commit-tees over the years. Jim was co-chair of the 50th Reunion and instrumental in raising $20 million. He is now one of our class representatives on the Olde Guarde Council. Romnee has served on the Swem Library Board. They helped to host the William & Mary Weekend in Chicago, where they also served in leadership positions over the years, and they have been tireless cheerleaders for William & Mary. Thanks for many years of service to the Class of 1969 and to W&M!

Sadly, I must report the loss of three more classmates: Sam Sykes III, Lud Lorenzino “Renz” Spivey and Kathleen Friedman Bright.

Sam was a French major who earned his M.A. at Middlebury College and taught French for years in Newport News and at W&M. He loved travel and current world events. Sam died in August 2020 and left two sisters and several nieces and nephews.

Renz Spivey transferred to W&M from Ferrum and earned master’s degrees in both public administration and divinity. He served on the Windsor Town Council, drafted the Arlington Isle of Wight Planning Commission, Economic Develop-ment Commission and Public Service Authority and the Western Tidewater Jail Authority. A social worker by training, he worked as a juvenile probation officer, court service supervisor and adult probation officer. Many of us remember Ren from his school job of driving the Green Machine. His hobb-ies included gardening, genealogy and talking to people. He died in June 2020 and leaves a wife and two children.

Kathy Friedmeyer Bright led the National Capitol Hill with Sen. Charles Percy after college and met her future husband there. They moved to Connecticut, where she worked as an assistant buyer in a department store, and then to Massachusetts, where she raised two children. She also had a custom knitting company and traded vintage costume jewelry. An avid tennis player, she also served on the boards of the Visiting Nurse Association, the Hingham Cemetery, the England Friends Homes and the local Parrot Club. Kathy died in October 2020 and leaves her husband, two children and a brother.

Our condolences to their families and friends. They will all be missed.

Phyllis Kline Appler ’69, M.A. ’74 wrote at Christmas that all is well with her family. David Appler ’68 stays busy with outdoor things and playing his trombone, while Phyllis is still involved with women’s issues, the garden and visiting with their children via Zoom. They both read extensively and travel when they can.

Linda Freeman Holmes wrote that she is still working as a prosecutor and enjoying her horses on her “farmette.” She was able to do her work via Zoom and reports she was busier than ever. She has a large enough porch for friends to visit and still keep their distance.

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See more at magazine. wm.edu/class-notes

1970 ✦

Class Reporter RANDY PEARSON VAN DAM 215 Myrtle Street Hawthorne, NJ 07641 rpvd921@yahoo.com

On Dec. 1, 2020, Virginia Business Magazine announced its 2020 Legal Elite, which again includes Tom Frantz ’70, J.D. ’73, M.L.T. ’81, chairman emeritus and partner of Williams Mullen, a Virginia Beach law firm. “The former chairman, CEO and president of the state’s third-largest law firm, Tom represents multi-national corporations handling mergers and acquisitions... For nine years, Tom served on the Williams & Mary’s Board of Visitors and currently serves on the university’s Real Estate Foundation. Tom also was named King Neptune XXIII at the Virginia Neptune Festival, which he directed.” Read the full article in our online Class Notes.

Also in our online Class Notes, see two articles on Bill Cole’s latest endeavors to document/annotate an interesting piece of “unsung” Yorktown history: The Virginia Gazette, “York River Inn owner researches guest book found in Yorktown home, connections to Spanish Flu Pandemic of 1918,” Nov. 30, 2020; and an essay at William & Mary Libraries’ website from September 2020, “No re-specter of persons: Some Yorktown Visitors and the ‘Spanish Flu’ Pandemic 1918-1919.” Bill is the owner/inkeeper of the York River Inn, former di-rector of the Watermen’s Museum, and an avid Yorktown historian and author.

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And “In your own words” from our Colonial Re-Echo ...

Susan Auerbach Triplett wrote from
Lake Oswego, Oregon: “Upon graduation, I was incredibly lucky to get a job with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. After the first 10 years, I transferred into the Forest Service, and after four years in D.C., I had the opportunity to get some ‘field experience!’ Most of my time was in business operations, but I had three wonderful years on the Gifford Pinchot National Forest when we were developing the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument! I am now retired, but enjoying my Forest Service friendships and playing the piano in several venues!”

Jim Larson says, “I returned to Wisconsin, where I earned my doctorate at Marquette University. I enjoyed a long career as a professor in the psychology department at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. My area of interest was school violence prevention, and I continue to write and lecture on the subject. My wonderful wife, Teri, and I have two sons and live in downtown Milwaukee.”

And from Jean Muench in Georgia: “After teaching with the Peace Corps in Ghana and coding for the IRS, I obtained my M.D. from MCV and became a pediatrician in Marietta. I raised three children from MCV and became a pediatrician in Marietta. I met my husband, Warren Lippitt, in church choir; we raised three children and have three grandchildren. A favorite trip was volunteering for three weeks of medical service in Central America on the USNS Comfort, while my eldest daughter was aboard as a Navy officer. Now retired, I am enjoying morning tea and papers with Warren and wishing we could get back to singing in our choir.”

Patty Wendell Fryer attended University of Hawaii for grad school and found the following years doing research in marine biology: “People on planes ask me if I work with dolphins — no I don’t. I like seafloor volcanoes of all kinds. The research has taken me on 54 marine research expeditions now, mainly in the Western Pacific. The most fun is getting to dive in submersibles. Every time you go down you get to see things that no eye ever witnessed — the deeper the better. The record sub dive for me is 6,499 meters. In 2012, I got to go to sea as a science advisor for James Cameron’s Deepsea Challenger solo dive in the Challenger Deep of the Mariana Trench, then again for Victor Vescovo’s Five Deps Expedition to dive there April-May 2019. Both were amazing adventures! The best expedition though is when I met my wonderful British wife, Mary, in 1971. He is a geophysicist and an earthquake and tsunami expert. It will be 48 years in July 2020. Our lovely grown daughter is a classically trained singer!”

Karen Schutte says, “My first professional job was an elementary school teacher in Southampton County, Virginia. One year was enough and I moved on to employment with the state; my first job was a disability claims examiner in Richmond. In 1974, I relocated to Virginia Beach and met my future wife, Patsy. We had a daughter, Regan, who quite inadvertently chose to attend the University of Miami rather than W&M. I retired from the Commonwealth after 30 years as regional director. I then took the position of chief of the state Bureau of Disability Services in Carson City, Nevada. We enjoyed the small town atmosphere but never quite adjusted to the ubiquitous slot machines. We enjoyed touring the West Coast and traveling on to Hawaii and Mexico. After years we returned to the East Coast and I took a job in Raleigh, North Carolina, until there retirement in 2013, after 43 years in government service. We returned to our home in Virginia Beach, enjoy traveling, volunteer work and our granddaughter, Sedona.”

As I write this, we in Northern New Jersey are covered still with what is left of 15-20 inches of snow ... though today is 50 and sunny!!! Many of you I hope are enjoying the Zoom and/or Facetime sessions with classmates, other alumni and friends, and scattered family members! I am optimistic that we are nearing the end of the trials and tribulations of lockdowns and face masks!! And I am especially hopeful that you are all healthy!! Continue to send me current updates ...

My next deadline for the full issue of the W&M Alumni Magazine is May 19. See more at magazine. wm.edu/class-notes

1971 $ Class Reporters

LYNN GREENWOOD FRISCA ‘71, M.S. ‘74 & JIM FRISCA friscia71@comcast.net

Here we are almost one full year after COVID-19 was introduced into our lives. For many of us, the past 12 months have been lost time, at our ages, that is a significant proportion of our time remaining on the planet. We hope that many have used this time to reflect, reconnect and explore new interests. It is our sincerest hope that widespread vaccinations and herd immunity will have occurred by the time you read this report.

There is very little that is new to report as our classmates have done great. Besides COVID-19, William & Mary had its own piece of turmoil regarding W&M Athletics and the announcement to drop many varsity teams. The Virginian-Pilot published an open letter in November 2020 from former athletes including Richie Richardson and Nicholas Luccketti ’71, M.A. ’91 stating their concerns.

Jim Frisca had his own email conversation with President Rowe stating his concerns as a former non-revenue sport athlete at W&M. Let’s hope that new leadership in the department and increased transparency will result in a more viable plan moving forward. We received the following news: “Carry me back to ole Virginia” is the 2020 theme for Lou is Lawrence (Larry) Boyle ’71, M.A.Ed. ’73. Now nestled near the foot of the Massanutten Mountain just a few miles east of Harrisonburg, Larry finds retired life just as busy as at W&M. Instead of cooking for himself, he enjoys an occasional home-cooked meal from nearby Massanutta Springs, a Presbyterian Conference Center where he and other alumni (Martha Hopkins and Mimi Webb) once worked over 50 years ago.”

Steve Lancashire ’73 asked us to include the following regarding Kathy Kerr ’75 in our report. “It is my sad duty to report that Kathy passed away in April. She put up a brave fight for five years with heart and kidney issues caused by uncontrollable Type 1 diabetes. She got an M.S.W. from Virginia Commonwealth University and had her own practice specializing in child and play therapy until she was forced to retire in 2015. Thanks for doing this...”

The virtual 50th Reunion in April will have come and gone by the time you read this. Hopefully, there will be plans for an in-person reunion in the near future. No details from the committee yet, but probably not before 2022. Pat Russell Van Zandt sent out a classwide email in October 2020 announcing an archive project for our reunion and beyond. Please consider contributing any or all of your W&M memorabilia, if only to relieve your kids from having to throw it out years from now.

Updates: We hear from many of the usual suspects — Scott McEvoy, Kathy Plasmati Baldwin, Alice Scantlebury Keener, Kathleen Hawks Walker, Cary Kennedy, Rich Guardino ’72, J.D. ’76, Bob Ramsey ’72, Streams Paramananda (Jack Peterka), Ann Minnick Wheeler and Tom Cooney. All are doing OK.

The deadline for the next issue is mid-May 2021. Please write! Where in the world are Nancy Terrill, Carol Hockmuth Klein, Jim Almond ’71, J.D. ’74, Leigh Clements and Mike Hoole? Happiness and health to all. Stay safe.

See more at magazine. wm.edu/class-notes

1972 $ Class Reporter

PEGGY CORSO GOULD 13906 Edgecomb Court Centreville, VA 20120 dbgould@starpower.net

Hello to everyone as we wait for spring and continue our pandemic experience. I know we all look forward to happier times with a lot less “virtual” in our lives.

In 2014, after living for many years in New Hampshire, Mary Druscilla Rose Fall Boswell and her husband, Tom, moved to Frederick, Maryland, to be closer to family. They were married in 1976 and are still going strong. She became the executive director of a struggling museum and library. Its new name is Heritage Frederick and, at the time I heard from her, she was working on an exhibit and related programs tracing the county’s original popu-
lation from 12,000 years ago to the 21st century! It was part of Frederick’s 275th anniversary celebration. In 2017, Mary’s publisher asked her to update one of her books, “Seasoned with Grace,” a national award winner 30 years ago. She is thrilled it is still in print. She continues to write, including monthly articles for Frederick Magazine under the name Mary Rose Boswell. She had to postpone a trip to England last fall where she planned to meet Joan Flourney, Linda Sherrill, and Carol Short Peabody (all residents of Brown sophomore year). They hope to reschedule. I’m impressed by the fact that many of our classmates are gifted and talented. As a “longtime evangelist” for the Audubon Park neighborhood it is obviously a passion for him. His decade-long determination and leadership culminated in the Audubon Park Historic District. He is also the creator of the virtual walking tour AudubonParkNY.com. Check it out!

Alan W. Clarke ’72, J.D. ’75 and his wife, Laurelyn Whitt ’75, have published a book titled “North American Genocide: Indigenous Nations, Settler Colonization, and International Criminal Law.” He is a professor of integrated studies at Utah Valley University and she is a professor of native studies at Brandon University in Manitoba, Canada.

Jay Wild, living in Ashe County, North Carolina, spent over 31 years with the North Carolina Park System and 25 years at the New River and Mount Jefferson state parks in Ashe County. He is an avid photographer whose interest in photography began when he was 8 years old. To kick off the local Friends of the Library 2020 season, Jay presented a program on photography covering a wide variety of topics. He also has studied biological photography and electron microscopy photography. For the past 20 years, he and his wife, Hollis, have operated a tree and shrub nursery. He has certainly used his biology degree!

That’s it for now. Stay well everyone and keep in touch! I am optimistic there is a brighter “normal” ahead.

Peggy

See more at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes

1974

Class Reporter

MARY MILEY THEOBALD ’74, M.A. ’80
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By the time you read this, I hope we will all have been released from COVID’s cruel grip and have our lives back. News is hard to come by when no one goes anywhere, does anything, or sees anyone. Still, I did my best to drum up some tidbits from our classmates.

Steve Noll was recently cited in a New York Times article which profiled how various teachers and professors help students make sense of and put in context the mob insurrection on Jan. 6 at the Capitol.

Joe Montgomery, who is managing director of investments at the Optimal Service Group of Well Fargo Advisors and heads up its Williamsburg office, has been racking up industry awards. He was added to the Barron’s Advisor Hall of Fame in 2019 and in 2020 was named No. 1 in Virginia for Forbes’ Best State Wealth Advisors list. Joe has been an active alumnus since graduation, serving as president of the Alumni Association and on the Board of Visitors. Congratulations, Joe!

Lynn Cole and travel buddies Cindy Memanus Bellomy and Sara Thomas Hunt have had some nice mini-vacations over the past 15 years, meeting up in places like Sacramento (Lynn’s house), New Orleans, Chicago, Charleston and San Diego. As soon as they get the vaccine, they’re planning a get-

SPRING 2021
Rick and Leslie hope their long-postponed summer trip to Tuscany will happen in 2021. After a few years of job hopping (Washington, D.C., Charlotteville for law school, San Francisco, and D.C. again), Laurie Keenan settled into a career at Ivins, Phillips & Barker where she practiced tax and benefits law for 35 years. She and one of her partners agree that the activity that best prepared them for the practice of tax law was the study of 17th-century poetry.

“Thanks, Dr. Evans!” she writes. “My husband, Jim Brightwell, and I live in Nellysford, Virginia, not far from the winery owned by your correspondent, who has also been zoombailed.” (Correspondent’s correction: that’s part owner.)

Until the pandemic struck, Laurie and a group of William & Mary friends dating back to freshman year in DuPont used to gather periodically in Williamsburg. Mary Hale Horne, Sally Gordon Stocker, Deborah Terry Eley, Karen Yannello, and Laurie stay at the Fife and Drum Inn on Prince George Street, a venue that “allows us to re-live (but definitely not re-enact) our sophomore year in Brown.” We all look exactly the same, that’s a lie. We do still have a very good time together and have collapsed in helpless laughter multiple times during these visits.

COVID restrictions meant that Laurie Keenan’s daughter, Elizabeth Kent Brightwell J.D. ’20, graduated from William & Mary Law School without a ceremony. Their graduation ceremonies have been postponed twice and are now scheduled for May 2021. Elizabeth is clerking for a federal judge in Richmond, Virginia, John Gibney ’73, HON ’J.D. ’13, another W&M English major.

See more at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes

1976

Class Reporter
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Hello out there fellow ’76ers! Is it safe to come out yet? Have the vaccinations made it out your way yet? Boy, it sure will be good to get out and about again once it is safe to do so. Personally, I have a lot of pent-up travel wishes. How about you guys? And how about if you write in and tell us something unique you did during the pandemic?

Just one news article this time, singing the praises of Rolf Williams.

Grable and your reporteer, Leanne Dorman Kurland!

Sadly, classmate Gene Spencer passed away Nov. 30, 2019. Gene was from Emporia, Virginia, and came to William & Mary on a full tuition scholarship. He had a long and impressive career as a widely recognized housing finance advisor who worked with Mortgage Bankers Association, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Quicken Loans, Owcm, CLR and others. Please see the In Memoriam section of the online magazine for more.

Barb Ramsey was re-elected last May to a second four-year term on the Williamsburg City Council. As Barb so beautifully put it, “Williamsburg belongs not only to its residents, but to William & Mary students and alumni far and wide and all the visitors to Colonial Williamsburg.” As for working through the pandemic to help the city has created various grants and programs to help businesses and nonprofits, has worked with William & Mary on best practices and signed on to the university’s “Healthy Together Community Commitment.” She said the students’ behavior has been commendable and much credit should be given to them for adapting to the crisis and persevering through it all. We’re sure and check out the fall issue (magazine.wm.edu)! If you missed it you for further information on Barb and the council’s activities and accomplishments, and definitely contact her anytime for more details at ramsyb@aol.com.

Cindy Holbrook (Martha) checked in from Vermont. Biking, hiking, kayaking, skiing, tennis and even moonlight hikes are keeping her active (and from going crazy!) during COVID. She and her husband managed to get to Maine for a week of “glamping” at a new resort called “Terramor” near Acadia National Park. There was too much to report on this extraordinary spot, so check it out on Google and be sure and visit the online Class Notes, magazine.wm.edu/class-notes/1976, for pictures. Fall was especially beautiful this year with color display. Perhaps Mother Nature’s attempt to ease some of the virus stress? Her new consulting business for nonprofits (again, see fall edition for details if you missed it) is going well. And her partner now have five clients they are working with. She and Mark continue working on house projects, another popular COVID activity it seems. We, too, have done a lot of “honey-do” projects here in Richmond!

Connie Warren DeSantiniers writes in a Daily Press Williamsburg Magazine article, “Other Peninsula Artists to Know.” Please go to the online Class Notes for lots more details. It’s a great article, but I’m at my word count limit for print edition!

Stay well and we will gather again soon!

See more at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes
Rolf’s father, also named Rolf, founded a company called Anders Williams Ship Agency and also led Marine Oil Service and Port City Transportation, all in the Tidewater area. Our Rolf is president of the shipping and trucking branches of Anders Williams and executive vice president of Marine Oil Service, out of both Norfolk and New York City. Rolf also finds time to serve as vice president of the Virginia Maritime Association. If I am not mistaken, Rolf’s mother, Sunshine Trumbo Williams ’44, was a William & Mary graduate and former class correspondent.

Well, there’s gotta be something going on with somebody, so that somebody should write and tell us about it. We’re all ears.

Body should write and tell somebody, so that something going on with & Mary graduate and former class correspondent.

Don Bowers was appointed vice president of sales and marketing for Conval, Inc., a global leader in high-performance valves, in late 2019. Don has almost four decades of knowledge and experience in the thermal power and severe service valve industry.

Don Thomson married Margaret Serfass on Aug. 19, 2020 in Nashville, Tennessee. They met at her daughter’s wedding in August 2019. Don and Margaret live in Brentwood and invite his fellow Phi Lams to visit and enjoy live music on Broadway. Please be safe.

Jerrold Epstein recently retired from practicing dentistry in Alexandria, Virginia. He is now passionate about working with Honor Flight Chicago, a Washington, D.C., volunteer coordinator, he is looking for loving, helpful people to assist in its mission. Honor Flight Chicago is part of the national Honor Flight Network, which comprises approximately 125 nonprofit organizations, or hubs, across the country, who share the name Honor Flight, as well as a common mission to bring a thank you inspire by building awareness and appreciation of the debt of gratitude America owes its veterans. The centerpiece of the program is the actual “Honor Flight,” in which they escort senior war heroes to Washington, D.C., for a Day of Honor at the memorials built in tribute to their service. This trip is provided at no cost to the veterans and is intended as a heartfelt thank you for their service and sacrifice from a grateful nation. Each veteran is assigned their own guardian for the entire day who is responsible for that veteran’s well-being and comfort. Guardians will escort their veterans to the Iwo Jima, Air Force, WWII, Korean War and Vietnam Veterans Memorials, as well as the Lincoln Memorial and the Udvar-Hazy Air and Space Museum. Many vets tell stories of their experiences to their guardians that they have not told to anyone since their time in service. The guardian also preserves the memories of the day for their veteran by taking photos along the way. Jerrold signed up to be a guardian for one flight, and when that was over, came home and cleared his schedule for all upcoming flights, and eventually volunteered to help behind the scenes with the volunteers. Jerrold shared that it is the most rewarding experience he has ever had.

If you or someone you know who lives in the D.C. area and would like to join them, please contact Jerrold at dkguardian@ honorflightchicago.org. If you know a veteran from WWII, the Korean War or the Vietnam War, have them look up their local Honor Flight hub and fill out an application to join a flight.

Barbara Bowen John and her husband, Richard John, are well and working remotely. They live close to their son, his wife, and their two children. Barbara shared news of the death on Dec. 8, 2020, of her father, Maurizio Levin Kortlang. On behalf of our class, I offer our deepest condolences to her husband, Rick, their son, Andrew, and his wife, April. Before her death, Maura welcomed her first grandchild, Audrey. Karen Staha, Barbara and Richard attended Andrew’s wedding two years ago. Maura and Barbara were friends at Gunston Junior High School in Arlington, and both graduated from Wakefield High School in Arlington before living on adjacent halls their freshman year (Honors Second East and Second Center).

Thanks for your news. Send updates and know that the Class of ’77 cares.
As I write this on Inauguration Day, I am celebrating the end of 2020 and looking forward with hope to a new year, a new administration and an end to the pandemic. By the time you read this, life may have returned to some semblance of normalcy with the widespread distribution of vaccines that has only just begun in these early days of 2021. While it seems most of us have pushed the “pause” button on our activities these past 10 months, a few of our classmates are making the news:

Laura Carman joined the Board of Trustees of the Dr. Thomas P. and Edwina V. Martin Medical Scholarship Fund. After graduating from William & Mary, Laura studied at the NYU School of Medicine and has practiced medicine for nearly four decades, most recently as an internist/primary care physician at Tufts Medical Center Community Care, Medford, Massachusetts. Laura and her husband, Tom Goslin, live in Winchester, Massachusetts, and have a daughter, Emily.

John Gilstap has published another novel in his Jonathan Grave thriller series, “Hellfire.” John has a master’s degree from the University of Southern California and is an explosives safety expert and a former firefighter, in addition to being a New York Times best-selling author. He lives in Fairfax, Virginia. Now that life is slowly winding back up, please don’t forget to send in your news. We’re all looking for something interesting to read! Be well.

By the time you read this, we will be well into 2021, but I wanted to take the opportunity to wish everyone a safe, healthy and particularly a happy new year. I certainly feel like we can go nowhere but up! I don’t have a lot of news, so I will keep this short and sweet.

Kathleen Wieland Brown is currently living in Montana and taking a brief hiatus from her practice in dermatology. Kathleen completed her M.D. at Eastern Virginia Medical School, after which she did a two-year residency in internal medicine in Norfolk followed by a dermatology residency at Washington Hospital Center, completing her internal medicine residency in Baltimore at Johns Hopkins. She practiced both internal medicine and dermatology first in Baltimore and then in Oregon, with a part-time faculty appointment to Johns Hopkins. Shortly after moving to Oregon, Kathleen focused solely on dermatology, first in a group practice and then in her solo direct-pay practice. She has become a firm believer in the direct-pay model. Now that Kathleen has become a firm believer in the direct-pay model. Now that Kathleen has become a firm believer in the direct-pay model. Now that Kathleen has become a firm believer in the direct-pay model.

Stay tuned!”

Kathleen Wieland Brown

1980

Class Reporter
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By the time you read this, we will be well into 2021, but I wanted to take the opportunity to wish everyone a safe, healthy and particularly a happy new year. I certainly feel like we can go nowhere but up! I don’t have a lot of news, so I will keep this short and sweet.

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Stay tuned!”

Kathleen Wieland Brown

1981

Class Reporter
MICHAEL “FITZ” J. FITZGERALD
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Congratulations, Jeff! Once again, I don’t have a lot of news, we can go nowhere but up! I year. I certainly feel like everyone a safe, healthy and particularly a happy new year. I certainly feel like we can go nowhere but up! I don’t have a lot of news, so I will keep this short and sweet.

Jeff Oleynik was recognized by his peers as a “Super Lawyer” in the area of business bankruptcy in the 2021 edition of North Carolina Super Lawyers. Congratulations, Jeff! Well, I promised to keep it short and sweet. Until next time, stay safe and be well. When you have a moment, please drop me a note. Take care!

See more at magazine. wm.edu/class-notes

1982

Class Reporter
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Greetings everyone! It is January as I write this. I am still optimistic that 2021 will turn out better than 2020, but we’ll see! First, please note that my email has changed! If you send something to me at the old sbcglobal address, I may not receive it. I hope you and yours had a wonderful holiday season!

I heard from Jon Huddleston ’82, J.D. ’86 who writes that he is happy to pass on some good news (hallelujah): “I have been recently elected as the president of the Virginia Law Foundation. It is an exciting board that has a terrific share of fellow Tribe alums, including Colleen Marea Quinn ’85, Barbara Cole Joyner, Margaret Nelson Phillips ’79, Lauren Morgan Ellerman ’01, Lee Osborne J.D. ’80, M.L.T. ’83 and John McGavin J.D. ’82. Hopefully I didn’t miss anyone. Andy Morse ’79 just left our board after also serving as president of the organization. I am so proud to work with this group and my fellow alums. Interestingly, Mary Ann Delano ’82 on our class also served as president about 10 years ago.”

He continued, “In other news, my college roommate Kevin Doyle has recently accepted an exciting position as dean of the Haldenstein Betty Ford Graduate School of Addiction Studies in Minnesota. Finally, my wife, Cyndy Nash Huddleston ’83, M.Ed. ’86, and I have bought a condo across from the law school in Williamsburg and will be spending more and more time there.”

All the best to Jon and Cyndy.

In other news, maybe some of you caught a recent CBS Sunday Morning when our own Steve Tang was interviewed! I nearly spilled my coffee! Steve is president and CEO of OraSure Technologies, which is developing and manufacturing several COVID-19 testing solutions. OraSure has been on the frontlines of the battles against HIV, Ebola, and now COVID-19. OraSure is based in Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania. Prior to his tenure at OraSure, Steve served as president and CEO of the University City Science Center in Philadelphia, the nation’s first and largest urban research park from 2008 through 2018. He also served on the National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship and the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Innovation Advisory Board. You can see President Rowe interviewing him on Feb. 7 at wm.edu/conversation. Congratulations to Steve!

A new production of “Yes, Virginia: The Musical” debuted in Culeper, Virginia. The 2012 original musical was created by Mac’s and was the handiwork of composer Welsey Whately and Bill Schermerhorn. Bill became vice president and creative director of the Macy’s Parade and Entertainment Group. For more than three decades, he was best known for producing Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade and the department store’s July Fourth celebration. He won a daytime Emmy Award for the song “Yes Virginia (There’s a Santa Claus)” with Whately, created for Macy’s 2010 Thanksgiving Parade.

That’s all the news I have! Please write/email/text and let me know how you are doing and what is keeping you busy and sane! Stay safe! Miss everyone!

See more at magazine. wm.edu/class-notes

1983

Class Reporter
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Stay safe! Miss everyone!

See more at magazine. wm.edu/class-notes

1984

Class Reporter
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Spring greetings to the Class of 1984! I hope by
the time this reaches you that the snow and ice storms, as well as the extreme weather conditions much of the country is experiencing as I write, are a distant winter memory and that spring has begun to arrive!

Two of our classmates were profiled in the recent online issues of the W&M Alumni Magazine, and both were instrumental in the creation of one of the COVID-19 vaccines now being administered around the country. Lisa A. Jackson, a senior investigator with Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Institute in Seattle, led a team that launched one of the first human clinical trials of the COVID-19 vaccine. Lisa majored in biology at William & Mary before completing her medical degree at the University of Virginia and her Master of Public Health at the University of Washington. An infectious diseases epidemiologist, Lisa has spent two decades of prior experience conducting vaccine trials at the Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Institute and her work on NIH-funded trials since 2007 to her integral role in the eventual successful production of a vaccine for COVID-19. Read more about her in the online edition.

In her role as chief scientific officer of platform research and in charge of mRNA technology at Moderna Inc., Melissa J. Moore has been instrumental in leading the biotech company's effort to produce 200 million COVID-19 vaccines for the U.S. government to distribute to Americans across the country. After completing her degree in chemistry and biology at William & Mary, Melissa earned a doctorate in biological chemistry from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where her research included mapping the biochemical safety of all those who engage with the organization. A four-year starter on the Tribe's soccer team, Mike was a government major. (Side note: Mike and I attended the MBA program at William & Mary during the same years and served as co-editors of the Business Review in 1987.)

Jon Stewart '84, D.A. '04 will host a current-affairs series for Apple TV+, according to the New York Times. Apple TV+ ordered the series of one-hour episodes, each dedicated to a single topic, for multiple seasons. The show is expected to explore current topics in the national conversation and Jon's advocacy work. After Jon joined Comedy Central's "The Daily Show" in 1999, the show had a successful run, winning the Emmy for best talk or variety series 11 times. Since leaving the show in 2015, Jon has appeared occasionally and has been involved in production of programs such as Stephen Colbert's CBS late-night show. His Busboy Productions will also be among the producers of the Apple TV+ show.

Guy Crittenden recently shared that his artwork "Cinnamon Teal Pair" was chosen as the 2021 Oregon duck stamp competition winner. He previously won seven times for Virginia duck stamps and 12 times in other states. Guy began drawing and painting as a child, exhibiting in his family's gallery intentionally. He drew inspiration from the natural beauty around his home on the Chesapeake Bay in Gloucester, Virginia. Guy prefers to work in oils, and his subjects include landscapes, wildlife and sporting scenes. After playing football for the Tribe and graduating from William & Mary, he attended The Art Institute of Atlanta and then worked for several years in advertising agencies before opening Crittenden Studio in Richmond in 1994. His work has expanded to include prints and other popular channels. Guy's work can be viewed at exhibitions multiple times each year. You can also see and purchase his work online at www.crittendenstudio.com.

Don Lucidi shared news on Facebook of a reunion held via Zoom of some halls of his freshman dorm, including Yates 2nd South and Center. Organized by Tim Wilson, the attendees and other participants included Greg Faragasso, Chris Gleason '84, J.D. '87, Noah Levine, Adam Frankel, John Baiocco, Josh Slucum, Jean O'Sullivan Supron, Eleanor Dehoney, Theresa Sn Winnett, Dabney Carr, Parry Wilson, Patty Canonicco Herdine, Beth McGaffey Wetzler '84, M.A.Ed. '94, Michael Sturm, Paul Wolffteich, Bob Newman '83, Dave Ramey, Jennifer Gregg Ramey, Randi Talbot Jenkins, Mark Wysong '84, M.B.A. '99, Michelle Melany, Dave Christiansen and Jay Squired.

What a great opportunity to connect with many friends once again! While our Zoom calls have offered a special opportunity for connection and support for many during this time, we all hope to be able to see one another again in person this year, so mark your calendars and keep your fingers crossed! It is safe to return to William & Mary for Homecoming & Reunion Weekend, the event will be held on Oct. 7-10, 2021. [Editor's note: Homecoming is currently scheduled to be held in person on campus. Visit homecoming.wm.edu for more information.]

I hope that you and your loved ones remain healthy and safe as we progress to the next stage of pandemic recovery. Sharing news and connecting with each other remains as important as ever, so please let me know if you have any updates you'd like shared in the next Class Notes. You can reach me via email, text, phone, Facebook, message, or mail.

See more at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes.
Dear friends,

I begin with the sad news of the death of Jennifer King Chacon on Jan. 13, 2021, following a long illness. She had been a beloved elementary school teacher and librarian in Arlington County, Virginia, for more than 30 years. Jennifer was one of my first college friends, and she was full of laughter and fun, kindness and grace — characteristics that remained to the end. Survivors include her husband, Omar, and their daughter, Emma Chacon ’18, M.A.Ed. ’19.

Last fall, I heard from Janet Loughlin, who is the mother of a 6-year-old. She was thankful that her child had recently gone back to in-person school. Eileen Schechter Scordy and her husband, Dave, spent May to October at their house in West Virginia, where they enjoyed hiking in a rural area. In the fall, they traveled to Colorado for Dave to go elk hunting. Their retirement years continue to be filled with many outdoor adventures along with their golden retriever, Skipper.

Jeanne Cherundolo McPhillips (Dolan) is a full-time professor of business with Savannah College of Art and Design, teaching virtually. Her husband, James Dolan, is the brother of Tri Delta sister Alison Dolan Keller ’89. Jeanne is the founder of SuperGirls, a platform created to inspire and empower girls to launch from college into life. She has had many William & Mary alumni on her podcast, “The Hero Whispers.” Her son, Mark McPhillips, graduated from Connecticut College last year and is working for Sony Pictures in development and production.

Last year, Terry Boyle McDougall’s book, “Winning the Game of Work,” was published by New Degree Press. She has been an active voice in the press and has launched a podcast called Marketing Mambo, which is focused on chatting with movers and shakers in the world of marketing. Terry’s husband, Scott, has celebrated his one-year anniversary with JP Morgan Chase, after retiring from his career as the long-time stay-at-home parent for their three children. Their son Brady graduated from the University of Missouri in 2019 and is applying to MFA programs. Cameron is a junior at Arizona State University, and Caroline is a junior in high school.

Leslie Gamble Brodhead and her husband, Bryan, a meteorologist, have lived in Nederland, Colorado, for 10 years. She is in her third year of working with Boulder County’s Wildfire Partners program as an outreach specialist, educating mountain homeowners about how to protect their homes against the threat of wildfires. She also works part-time at Winter Park Resort teaching kids how to ski. Check out her blog about life in the mountains of Colorado at www.nederlandliving.com.

Ann Brown-Hailey of Williamsburg reports that it was wonderful to have students back on campus. She was so impressed that they were all wearing masks. Her work as a meeting planner was slow last year, so she filled the time with sewing masks — 1,500 completed by Dec. 31! Her husband, Chris Hailey ’84, M.A. ’92, returned to in-person teaching at Hampton Roads Academy this fall.

Richie DeLoria and Donna Wade DeLoria ’87 have lived in Charloottesville, Virginia, since marrying in the Wren Chapel in 1982. They are attorneys, he with Albermarle County and she as a law partner with Payne & Hodous in downtown Charlottesville. Despite persistent encouragement to attend William & Mary, both of their children chose James Madison University. Their son, Richie, attended college on an ROTC scholarship and, since graduation in 2018, has had Army assignments in Georgia, Kansas, California and Eastern Europe. Their daughter, Kathy, graduated last spring by Zoom and now works in Richmond with CodeVA as a graphic designer. With their nest empty, Richie and Donna have started bird watching and continue hiking and biking.

Please see magazine.wm.edu/class-notes/1986 for a longer version of this column.

See more at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes

Class Reporter
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1987

Despite the myriad challenges of 2020 being a little unexpected, it seems that our Tribe classmates have found many ways to stay connected. See the online class notes for more.

Jenny Koleda Hoenscheid met up with Julie Valeska Benedick ’86 over Labor Day weekend in New York and headed up to Cape Cod to tour an unusually quiet and crowd-free Chatham and Harwich by bike. On their way home, they stopped in Connecticut to see Nan Stanley Cunningham ’86 for a quick visit. Jenny already had made reservations for W&M’s 2020 Homecoming along with Kristin Rombough Roundtree and Julie Valeska Benedick. Lezlie Farrell Anderson ’87, M.B.A. ’96 and Nan Stanley Cunningham ’86. The group is going to hopefully regroup for Homecoming 2021, which will be a much-needed celebration for all of us. [Editor’s note: Homecoming is currently scheduled to be held Oct. 7–10 on campus. Visit homecoming.wm.edu for more information.]

While many people have been working remotely from home this past year, Matt Harrison ’87, M.A. ’94 has been busier than ever working at four different Charlotte area hospitals. He is currently medical director for the student health clinic at Belmont Abbey, assistant professor at Campbell Osteopathic School of Medicine and medical director at the HELP crisis pregnancy center/prenatal clinic. Matt and his wife, Kathleen, have seven kids between the ages of 12-23. Despite all his important responsibilities and being so busy, Matt told me he also finds time to travel on medical missions to Ghana. He is still in touch with many old William & Mary friends including Rob Skoff, Danny Malks, Chris Bernart, Ray Nardo, Sharon Varallo, George Coundouriotos, Robert Garnier ’87, J.D. ’91 and Marnie Cramniss Garnier ’88, M.A.Ed. ’91.

Chris Geschickter has really been missing out on being downtown this year, but the Facebook page, Chris Geschickter ’85, and his NASCAR team that passed on this season due to the COVID restrictions. He and Tad still keep up via phone often. Chris got away for a few times this summer to reunite in a socially distant way with some of his Saint Stephen’s classmates and Tribe friends (including Tom Repke and Karla Lynn Palmier) at Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. Chris also stays in touch with Jenny Koleda Hoenscheid and enjoys reading updates on the Class of ’87 Facebook page. Chris is excited that his daughter Lindsay (a high school senior) is going to be applying to William & Mary this fall.

Elizabeth Overstreet Trumbull is living in Northern Virginia and has recently started meeting up regularly with Lynn Flaherty Dommel for walks on Saturday mornings to catch up. She was able to join with friends Beth Buzzard Armstrong, John Armstrong and Cindy Clark for a socially-distanced happy hour at Melinda Speer Miller’s screened-in porch in Great Falls recently. Their W&M Supper Club has actually been meeting since 1988 when they all lived in Arlington after graduation. A
few members of the group that couldn’t make it to the recent happy hour include Christy Cheekel Sweet ’88, Kathleen McCarthy Sober and Carrie Harrison. Elizabeth’s two daughters followed her footsteps to attend W&M. Her oldest daughter, Brittany Trombull ’19, was also a Kappa and is now working for Deloitte Federal. Her daughter Aly Trombull ’24 is having a wonderful freshman year and also recently pledged Kappa.

Suzie Gruner McMul- len and her husband are newborn nesters! Their son Luke is a student-athlete at Salisbury University, where he plays tennis. They are hoping to see him play pretty often as the university is near a family practice. Her twin, Heather, and her husband, Christopher, started a new business venture and launched Park Street Wine Sellers in January, in Alameda, California. They can ship to any state that allows interstate shipping of wine to consumers. Their daughter, Miranda, just started her freshman year in high school and is a talented swimmer and Theresa serves on the Board of Directors for the city’s 200+ member swim team, the Alameda Gators. Theresa is a Tribe cross country and track & field alumna who hopes her daughter would consider swimming at W&M and was devastated to hear of the seven sports being cut (they are now reinstated). Theresa was able to see Liz in February when she graduated from nursing school and passed her licensing exam.

All is well, for all now. Thank you to all my classmates that responded to my call for news this time around! I couldn’t do it without you. I am already missing bumping into old friends in Williamsburg on fall weekends, so I’m hoping we can all reunite sometime soon. Take care and let me know if you have news to share!

See more at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes

1988

Class Reporters
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Carrie Taylor Lang is in human resources at Yellowstone National Park. They all, including Theresia Jacoby Massie, keep in touch whenever they can arrange a Zoom call but are hoping to get together again at the next W&M Homecoming. Theresa Jacoby Massie continues her work as a senior brand manager for Sutter Health in California. Theresa and her husband, Christopher, started a new business venture and launched Park Street Wine Sellers in January, in Alameda, California. They can ship to any state that allows interstate shipping of wine to consumers. Their daughter, Miranda, just started her freshman year in high school and is a talented swimmer and Theresa serves on the Board of Directors for the city’s 200+ member swim team, the Alameda Gators. Theresa is a Tribe cross country and track & field alumna who hopes her daughter would consider swimming at W&M and was devastated to hear of the seven sports being cut (they are now reinstated). Theresa was able to see Liz in February when she graduated from nursing school and passed her licensing exam.

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See more at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes

1989

Class Reporter
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Margaret Lisi Ghose went to nursing school after graduation and worked as an RN for several years in the ICU at Fairfax Hospital in Northern Virginia. She lived in NOVA until 2003 where her husband, Subroto, was offered a job in Dallas; they are still there. They have been married for 20 years and have a daughter, Amrita Ghose ’24, who is a freshman at William & Mary, and a son, Shohan, who is 17 and in high school. Seeing pictures of her daughter on campus gives Margaret a strange feeling of deja vu!

Paul Gormley joined the Foreign Service six years ago after 20 years
as a lawyer, most of which was at the U.S. Department of Justice as a trial lawyer in the Environmental Enforcement Section. He’s currently serving at the U.S. Embassy in Somalia while his wife and four kids (Ronan, Maeve, Saoirse and Eamonn) stayed at their last post, Beijing. Next up is Turkey!

**Diana Paige Clark** and **Greg Perry ’86** are the proud uncle and aunt to six nephews and nieces. They moved to Raleigh, North Carolina, about five years ago when Greg had an exciting job opportunity and closer to Greg’s family. As part of their move, Paige left her job at Virginia Commonwealth University Health System. She landed her dream job as a curriculum specialist at MedSure, an educational measurement company. She didn’t even know such a thing existed before. She writes, edits, researches and does statistical analysis (great for a “nerd” like her) with an amazing group of colleagues. Last anyone got too jealous, Paige said her 2020 was (like many people’s) pretty awful, but she has high hopes now that 2020 is in our rearview.

**Dave Cumbo** was recently named manufacturing director of the Goodyear plant in Danville, Virginia. Dave is a third-generation Goodyear employee and has been a part of his career in Danville as a mixing operator. He also has an MBA and served in the Army.

**Jennifer McIntyre Ciccone** became the chief people officer at McKim and Creed, a growing geomatics and engineering consulting firm based in Wilmington, North Carolina. She lived in Pittsburgh for the last 30 years and loves being near the ocean. Her daughter is in physical therapy school at the University of Pittsburgh and her son is studying engineering at NC State.

**Margaret Musa** was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis 23 years ago, and her life is very different from what she thought it would be. Unable to work as her disability progressed, she began volunteering her time and talents. She started as a peer support volunteer for MSFriends helpline in 2013, taking calls and offering support to callers around the country living with MS. Last November, she accepted the position of MSFriends liaison and is now responsible for a monthly newsletter, Zoom meetings, scheduling and being an intermediary between the management team and her fellow volunteers. Additionally, Lydia has been very involved with Walk MS and has raised $45,000 since 1999.

**Dave Neely** and **Leann Hanhila Neely** celebrated their 20th anniversary in June. They have four children: one is at the University of South Carolina, another at UVA, and the youngest are in high school and middle school. They live in Richmond and have a 15-ish year tradition of celebrating by driving with **John Pfisterer ’89, M.B.A. ’91** and his family. Dave has his own general contracting company and Leann recently started working for VCU in the Student Financial Management Center. Working on campus reminds her of how much fun it is to be in college.

**Jim Whiteside and Karen Hoke White-side** have a few less kids around these days with only two high school juniors left at home; the rest are either on their own or in college. Jim is still a professor at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine and has wide ranging duties from clinical gynecology to clinical informatics. Their lives have been impacted by COVID, but they’ve managed. With nothing else to do, Jim started riding his bicycle more and regularly participates in “virtual” bicycle races. Karen is looking for things to do now that she has more free time. She recently caught up with **Margaret Musa.**

I received a surprise Facebook call from **Sallie Welkens McOwen ’89, MA.Ed. ’93** who was parked in my driveway! (And Steve McOwen was visiting his parents in Delray Beach, Florida.) We enjoyed a short, socially distanced chat — my first in-person one with a W&M friend since I moved to Florida just before COVID started. Thinking about it still makes me smile!

Whether it’s talking with W&M friends or sharing what you’ve done over the past 30-plus years, please send me your update.

**See more at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes**

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**1990**

**Class Reporter DORI KOSER PITZNER (203) 912-1101 dorijean@gmail.com**

In the better-late-than-never department — please accept my sincere apologies for not publishing the first four of these updates almost a year ago!

When her children were young, **Ellen Painter Dollar** wrote on the topics of disability, family, faith and ethics. She published a well-reviewed book (that didn’t sell that well) and wrote articles for national magazines and websites. Four years ago, she was asked to apply to be parish administrator at an Episcopal church in West Hartford, Connecticut. It’s the best job ever — combining communications, pastoral and clerical work that’s never the same from one day to the next. Ellen has one child each in college (daughter is a junior at the University of Vermont), high school and middle school. Last year, Ellen traveled to New York City for the second time in four months for a knee replacement. Her bone disorder caused early-onset osteoarthritis, and a surgeon in New York took her complicated case. For the past few years, her arthritis has limited her time spent outdoors with family, so she’s hoping to return to a more active life. She also hopes to publish another book.

**Julie Ryder Frey ’90, J.D. ’94** is practicing trusts and estates law in Austin, Texas, in a small firm she started with a partner, five years ago. Her oldest two kids are in college (Jack at Hendrix College and Ben at University of Texas – Dallas). Her daughter is a high school senior, and W&M doesn’t run into many W&M folks in Austin, so it was really fun to meet **Stephanie Webb ’93** in Target. (Stephanie spotted Julie’s W&M sweatshirt.)

**Leslie Ann Lunsford Dunn** was promoted to associate professor at Georgia State University-Perimeter College. She was awarded an Affordable Learning Grant to write free course material that will be used at all universities in the University System of Georgia. Leslie Ann was asked to roll out a special corporate education program at State Farm for adult learners, which SACS (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools) auditors have accredited. On the community side, she was named principal horn of the Alpharetta Symphony. A couple of those concerts were played with her husband and son, both professional French horn players. Their town. Be sure to look them up!

**Stephanie Goila Padgett and Tim Padgett** and family left Columbia, Missouri, after 11 years and moved to Dallas last year as empty nesters. Tim took a new job with Zillow as part of the team launching Zillow Closing Group, created to support Zillow Offers. Stephanie is a channel marketing manager at Capital One. They look forward to connecting with Tribe faithful in town.

They had their 15th get-together (pre-COVID-19) of a group of ’89-’91 KDs in Berkeley Springs, West Virginia. The crew included **Colin Ruh ’89, M.B.A. ’94** and JoAnn Adrales Ruh ’89, who have a son at UVA and one at W&M (Ethan Ruh ’22); **Alan Veeck ’89** and his wife, **Michelle Furman Veeck ’89**, who have two W&M grads (Emily Veeck ’18 and Charlie Veeck ’20); **Kristin Palm Jones; Jenni-fer-Ashley Lane Hillman; and Hollis Clapp ’91.** Missing were Meg Madoce-Jones Bissing-er and Jodie Jones Senter ’89. The past few years have included kids, which is a bit crazy since the nine of them have produced 27 children!

**Vicki Womack Moore** moved to Frankfurt, Germany, six years ago. Until recently, she has enjoyed traveling around Europe and she is desperately trying to become fluent in German. Through the end of 2019, she worked as the European training manager for Jaguar Land Rover. In 2020, Vicki shifted to independent consulting in learning and development, as well as coaching for personal change. Her book, “Life Beyond Should,” will publish in May 2021. It explores the impact of fulfilling everyone’s goals but our own and shares stories and strategies from people who have overcome personal blocks to create their own unique path to an exceptional life.

Lee Livingston ’90,
J.D. ’93 practices personal injury and medical malpractice law and has received many awards for his work, including U.S. News Best Lawyers in America: Lawyer of the Year, 2012 Medical Malpractice and 2015, 2017 and 2019 Personal Injury; Virginia Super Lawyers Top 100: Personal Injury, Medical Malpractice 2020; Southern Trial Lawyers Association: Professor W. McKinley Smiley, Jr. Lighthouse Award 2019.

Lee served as president of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association in 2017-18 and chaired the Virginia State Bar Litigation Section and the Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Board. He has taught trial evidence and trial advocacy at the UVA School of Law since 2002. Lee lives in Charlottesville with his wife, Kris Looney Livingston M.Ed. ’92, and two children. He enjoys hiking in the Blue Ridge Mountains and traveling in his spare time.

Jonathan “Jon” Layton is living and lawyering in Delaware. He recently saw Jon Gregory in D.C. as part of an annual get-together to watch playoff football. Last year, Jon and other W&M folks got together in Delaware to watch NFL games, including Stevie Terranova ’92, M.A. ’93 and Lou Najera ’91. Jon and Jon intend to keep getting together every year until their college stories finally grow stale … or they forget them altogether.

Jeff Mollo ’90, M.B.A. ’20 just finished his MBA at the Raymond A. Mason School of Business at W&M (congrats!) and is still teaching chemistry at W&M.

Elizabeth Almond McGregor lives in Manhattan Beach, California, with two sons (15 and 13). Though she and her husband, Doug, traveled a lot for work pre-COVID-19, they enjoy staying put and look forward to the return of in-person middle and high school. Elizabeth has worked at JLL for 18 years — most of that time in the San Francisco office, but more recently in Los Angeles. When not working, she enjoys running, design and construction projects (recovered architect), and traveling.

Linda Peiper Warren this year married James Cavello in their backyard in Virginia. She manages her company (Launch! Consulting) from home and keeps in regular touch through Facebook with Carolyn Bailey, Elizabeth Ely Tolman, Dara Levy Woerdeman ’90, M.S. ’91 and John Reilly.


Jay Busbee is still adventuring in the world of sports for Yahoo. Meanwhile his daughter, Riley Busbee ’21, is graduating from W&M this year. I’m sure some of you can relate to his musing, “Viewing the College, the delis and tuition bills through the eyes of a parent has been quite the illuminating experience.”

Ken Sizer has a sweet personal blog (marshmallowfamily.blogspot.com) where he covers big swings, chicken coops, homeschooling adventures, farming, wood splitting and much more. He is still working for SAS, now at home.

Dave Gould M.B.A. ’90 and Ellen Winstead Gould live in Nashville, Tennessee, and own a regional media company, Main Street Media of Tennessee. The pair are adding a five-day-per-week e-edition newspaper to their 12-newspaper chain that will report on news local to the Nashville market.

1991

Class Reporter
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I am writing this column on inauguration Day 2021. At a time when we honor so many traditions in our democracy, I was thinking a lot about our alma mater and the many alumni and alumnae who have served our country, whether in the military or in government at all levels. Thank you to our classmates who answered the call to be part of the fabric of our democracy.

I did not get many updates or emails from D.C., Jon — this means you should drop me an email.

Bill Meyers reached out to let me know he opened his own law firm in St. Louis at the beginning of 2020. His firm includes criminal defense and estate planning/probate. He continues to write freelance about whiskey and other spirits, and has been maintaining his sanity through Zoom tastings with master distillers and other enthusiasts from coast to coast. His daughter Maddie is a sophomore at St. Louis University.

I am eager to learn whatever news you wish to share with our classmates; please write. I hope you and yours will be safe and well. Check this space for a fuller report in September!

See more at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes

1993

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1994

Class Reporter
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TGI21 — thank goodness it’s 2021! I don’t want to give too much power to things in the past, but I think we can all agree that 2020 was a tough time and I pray we’re starting the path of recovery with health and wellness in our near, warm future.

Guess what, peeps? I got a real update; thank you Ducie Le for sharing!

In early December, alumni from Reves international dorm, across 4 time zones and 6 countries, gathered for a virtual reunion. Ducie and Ann Marie Davis ’93 hosted a slew of residents from the early to mid ’90s. The participants were: Noriko Ashida Sadamori ’95 (from Tokyo), Ken Beare ’93 (from Camp Arifjan, Kuwait), Phillip Chang ’95 (from Cleveland), Koki Hataye ’94 (from Tokyo), Terris Ko ’95 (from Taipei, Taiwan), Chai-Shian Kua ’94 (from Chicago), Ho-Seung Lee ’95 (from Vienna), Arslan Malik ’95 (from Washington, M.B.A. ’94 (from Granger, Indiana), Glenn Nofsing- er ’95 (from Richmond, Virginia), Brooke Spelman ’94 (from Washington, D.C.) and Daniel Williams ’93, M.A. ’94 (from Montreal).

The Class of ’94 has been seriously productive over the last reporting period. Sarah Bigham published “Kind Chemist Wife: Musings at 3 a.m.” — available at Amazon — which I hope helps bring relief and understanding for people navigating chronic pain. Brian Hen- ry released “Permanent State” (available on Amazon in February) which is a collection of poetry that looks to call for critical acceptance of dichotomy in our lives.

Further, Brent Holiday offered some encouragement to the W&M Board of Visitors (Virginia Gazette, Sept. 9, 2020), regarding their planned memorial to honor the enslaved people who helped construct our college.

Brent’s passionate plea is “to create a memorial design that is truly worthy of those it honors and serves as a touchstone for countless future generations.” Thank you for the fight, Brent!

Moving north from the ’Burg, Greg Wallig, in
Northern Virginia, is helping bean counters operate with an environmental conscience. Between managing one of Grant Thornton’s largest markets and running triathlons, Greg opened the firm’s first zero-waste office with energy-efficient features, gender-neutral restrooms and sustainable design to promote collaboration (Virginia Business, Sept. 1, 2020). Thank you for the fight, Greg!

To close out this update, here is a report from Motor City, Detroit, where Sejal Chokshi Pietrzak leads DealerSocket — a leading software platform for the automotive industry designed to maximize sales and efficiency at dealerships. Sejal’s interview in Automotive News (Nov. 9, 2020) shares some challenges presented during the pandemic and how to garner success through adversity. Specifically, “it’s so important to be willing to change and adapt and be flexible” — the one thing in life that is inevitable is change. Sejal, thank you for the fight!

Sorry, not sorry. Long post and no updates from Homecoming 2019! I do have 19 more reports to share which should take me right up to our 30th Reunion. Till next time, be well. Stay safe!

See more at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes

1995

Class Reporter
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Well, we didn’t quite get the Homecoming we wanted for our big reunion year — but here’s to celebrating together at our 30th in 2025! Despite the past year, our class has continued to do well:

Attorney Christopher H. Smith was appointed to the conference of Freight Counsel at HunterMaclean, a business law firm in Georgia. The Conference of Freight Counsel is an association of attorneys in private and in-house practice in the United States, Mexico and Canada representing motor, rail, ocean and air freight carriers, brokers and forwarders in cargo claim and freight charge disputes.

Curt Bradford recently published “Off the Beaten Track,” which chronicles his search for Sasquatch and his new life out West.

Tony Pham had a profile featured in the Chesterfield Observer in September 2020 when he was appointed as an interim head of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The article highlighted his early life and move from Vietnam through his career, showing his leadership skills.

Erica Neubert Campbell was profiled in the Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal regarding her role as executive director of Pinky Swear Foundation, which provides support, both financial and emotional, to children with cancer and their families. And finally, but an important thing to note:

Lisa Romano Turner and Kevin Turner were recently added to the Bell Society at W&M for giving for 25 consecutive years — that’s at least one gift a year since their graduation!

See more at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes

1996

Class Reporter
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Here’s what has sustained my family and me during the pandemic: board games (we recommend the new family-friendly edition of Cards Against Humanity), books (I’m on my third reading of the Harry Potter series, this time with my son, and I just finished Brit Bennett’s remarkable book “The Vanishing Half”), and TV (we binged “The Good Place” and are all about

“The Mandalorian” and “WandaVision”). And chat, churros and the music from the mix tapes I made in the ’90s that my daughter converted into iTunes playlists for me. I’d love to hear what has kept you going over the past year.

The COVID-19 pandemic has catalyzed career changes for several of our classmates:

Dr. Mevlute B. Hocaglu wrote that she’s a postdoc at King’s College in London, where she’s involved in “a Medical Research Council-funded study of rapid evaluation of palliative care response to the pandemic.” Mev is working to “emphasize the role, relevance and importance of palliative care in the pandemic.” She noted that she is forever grateful for “my times at W&M where I learned to critically think.”

Stephanie Goode Kelly reported that she launched her own coaching and consulting business during the pandemic: “I help start-up entrepreneurs get online and profitable in their first year in business without the need for venture capital.”

Adapting her work to the virtual environment was a necessity for Rebecca Finifter Wrotty. “I’ve spent a year moving from a school-based therapy practice to a teletherapy program to continue to help my clients cope with life stressors during a pandemic,” Rebecca wrote. Also an entrepreneur, Rebecca owns A Better You with Rebecca, where she provides wellness, beauty and home-care items. Recently she added juvenile products to her product line.

After 15 years of working at the Vigo County Public Library in Terre Haute, Indiana, Kerri Cunningham England transitioned to a position at Indiana State University (also in Terre Haute), as information tools support mobile learning. Well outside of her new role will be “helping professors and instructors modify and convert their course materials for hybrid and online teaching.

I’m excited about working in academics again and finding such a great niche for research and instruction during the pandemic and preparing for the post-pandemic world.”

Maya Larson and her husband decided that their two-bedroom condo in Arlington, Virginia, was “just a little too cozy for pandemic working and living,” so they moved to a bigger place in Fairfax. “The new location is great, and most importantly, our cat loves the new space,” Maya noted. Maya also embraced a new career opportunity, taking on the role of president of Colleague Consulting, which she described as “a small management consulting firm in the D.C. area specializing in training, organizational development and leadership coaching. Last December, Maya attended William & Mary’s virtual Yule Log Ceremony with former Ludwell hallmates Tricia Sniffin Ritchie, Dania Gorriz and Katie Allston.

Tricia Sniffin Ritchie reported that she and her husband, Branden Ritchie, live in Alexandria, Virginia. After working on Capitol Hill for 17 years, Branden became director of government affairs and oversight at the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Tricia serves as development officer for ACT, the community foundation of Alexandria. They have two children, ages 15 and 12.

Congratulations to forensic pathologist Dr. Marianne Hame, who received the 2020 Ward Burdick Award for Distinguished Service to Pathology from the American Society for Clinical Pathology. Marianne is the owner of Jersey Shore Forensics, a private pathology consultation firm that handles reviews of criminal and civil cases, exhumations and testimony in cold cases. She also studies autopsy techniques and jurisprudence surrounding violent death during pregnancy.

She served as the forensic advisor for the first season of the popular NPR podcast “Serial,” and co-created “Death Under Glass,” an exhibit of microscopic images of human post-mortem histology.

I am always amazed to learn about the accomplishments of our classmates. Keep that news coming! And stay healthy and safe!

See more at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes

1997

Class Reporter
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I hope your 2021 is off to a good start and that this year will be kinder and gentler to us all. As I sit down to write this column, we’re only several weeks into the new year, so I’m encouraged that much can happen between now and when we go to print — especially after the year we’ve just had. But one thing we can all be proud of: The pandemic didn’t put a damper on our achievements.

Cndr. Craig Carroll, D.O., is a neurologist in the Navy Reserves. He was recalled (voluntarily) to active duty as part of the initial COVID-19 response team deployed to New York City from April through June. Craig says: “It was quite an interesting experience as I was functioning well outside of my comfort level practicing as an intensive care physician to supplement the overburdened staff.
at Kings County Hospital in Brooklyn. I was one of the physician team leaders and our mission/purpose was to help establish, coordinate and staff an ad hoc 24-bed ICU to help with the overburdened hospital resources in managing critically ill COVID-19 patients. Though it was very difficult and challenging as you can imagine, it was one of the most rewarding experiences I have ever had, especially in my military career. Despite the challenges involved with us being so quickly deployed and asked to seamlessly integrate our staff into a civilian hospital, it worked quite well and we were able to make a significant difference in the COVID-19 crisis assisting not just with routine intensive care management, but administration of novel COVID-19 therapies as well. It was very rewarding and I am very appreciative of my education from William & Mary to allow me to be in a position that I could assist with this crisis in that way.”

A November article in the Springfield, Massachusetts, Sunday Republican profiled Danielle Williams as she was on the cusp of becoming the first Black woman to be sworn in as a district court judge in Western Massachusetts. She was nominated by Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker and unanimously confirmed by the Governor’s Council. She’d previously served as the Springfield District Court assistant clerk-magistrate. Danielle is also actively involved in Links, Inc., an international women’s coalition of community volunteers. As president of the Great-Er Springfield chapter, she’s spearheaded youth summits, encouraged girls to pursue careers in the sciences and organized career drives for low-income children.

Congratulations to Peyton Knight, who was recently promoted to chief executive officer at Membership Marketing Partners, LLC.

Be sure to check out Jill Twiss’ new children’s picture book titled “Everyone Gets a Say.” It was released before the presidential election to help kids understand the importance of voting and making their voice heard. If you have news of your own that you’d like to share, we’d love to hear it. Please shoot me an email and I’d be happy to include your update in our next column. Stay healthy and hopeful, everyone!

See more at magazine.
wm.edu/class-notes

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1999

Class Reporter
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Hello, Class of ’99!

After waiting nearly five years, Drew Polly and his wife, Angela, officially received notice that their daughter Journey Rose Polly was finalized and approved. Journey and her sister, Breleigh, both recently turned 5, and the Pollys have had a great time raising them in their homeschool pre-kindergarten during the pandemic.

The Culpeper Branch of the NAACP has elected the Rev. Dr. Uzziilah Anthony Harris as its president for the 2021-2022 term. Dr. Harris previously served as vice president of the organization. A North Carolina native and resident of Culpeper, Dr. Harris is an educator, certified life coach and ordained minister. He is currently a teacher and coach at Floyd T. Binns Middle School in Culpeper. He is the author of three books, including “Trial by Fire: Deliberation Over the Soul of a Nation.” The Richmond Times-Dispatch shared that Randy Bracy was re-elected to the Florida State Senate. He was originally elected to the state legislature in 2012 and served as a representative for four years before becoming a state senator. Rebecca Glassman Sheridan and Patrick Sheridan welcomed their third child, Madeleine Margaret, in August 2020. She is adored by her two older brothers, Sebastian and Hayden.

That’s all for now. Stay healthy and send me your updates! Tribe Pride! —Meredith

See more at magazine.
wm.edu/class-notes

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2000

Class Reporter
MINDY (MACHERETH) MARIS
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Eric Chen relocated to Morgantown, North Carolina, to start a new job with Carolinas HealthCare System Blue Ridge.

Thiri Thant Mon wrote that freshman dormmates of Monroe Third and their extended circle of Class of ’00 friends have managed to keep in touch over the years, many traveling yearly back to the ‘Burg for Homecoming. Last year, given the cancellation of in-person Homecoming celebrations, they connected over Zoom drinks, which was great for Thiri, who is currently based in Myanmar, and Carly Strausberg, who is currently based in New Zealand. Thiri continued, “We are a little older, but in many ways still the same kids who met 24 years ago!”

Megan Dowdell Nabb moved to Charlottesville, Virginia, with her husband and daughters. She is so happy to be back on the East Coast after 18 years in the Midwest.

Jen Psaki was named White House press secretary by President Joe Biden. She previously served as White House communications director from 2015 to 2017. In her role as White House press secretary, she is one of the most high-profile communications roles for the Biden administration. This is the first time that all such positions have been held by women.

(See story on page 24.)

Kristin-Yvonne Roberts Rozier ‘00, M.S. ‘01 was named a recipient of a Black and Veatch Building a World of Difference Fellowship, one of engineering’s most prestigious honors. She is one of only two Iowa State University researchers to be named in the most recent awarding period. Kristin-Yvonne’s Laboratory for Temporal Logic focuses on advances in automated reasoning techniques — algorithms and tools that filter what people want versus what people don’t want. The undergraduate population in her lab historically has been 50% female, with a disproportionate number of students from underrepresented groups, including racial minorities, LGBTQ+ and economically disadvantaged backgrounds.

When Sara Schaefer turned 40, she celebrated by taking family members on one-on-one trips. Sara’s book, “Grand: A Memoir,” was inspired by the last trip, a whitewater rafting trip through the Grand Canyon with her sister. In this memoir, as Sara confronts one of her biggest fears, she reflects on the challenges her family faced and the death of her mother.

See more at magazine.
wm.edu/class-notes

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2001

Class Reporter
JACLYN SMITH
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Hello, Class of 2001! My name is Jaclyn Smith and I am thrilled to serve as the new class reporter. I would like to thank Kerri Johnson for her service as our class reporter for two decades. She has done a wonderful job and I look forward to grabbing the baton and keeping up the pace.

When I was on campus, you would most likely see me in Adair or Tyler as a kinesiology and marketing major, on the sidelines cheering on the Tribe as a member of the Co-Ed Cheerleading Squad, or hanging out with my sorority sisters in Chi Omega. Nowadays you will recognize my name as a Class Ambassador and Greek Ambassador helping raise funds to support our beloved university. I can be seen at all of the home football games still cheering on the Tribe and tailgating with family and friends. It is always great to be back on campus!

Hopefully we can all gather in-person for our 20th reunion this year at Homecoming (save the dates for Oct. 7-10, 2021) and show our Tribe pride! I hope you all are doing well. Please send me updates on your personal and/or professional life at WM2001ClassReporter@gmail.com so we can share the news with our class members.

Go Tribe!

See more at magazine.
wm.edu/class-notes

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2002

Class Reporter
LEAH WOOD NELSON
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One of the cool perks of this class reporter gig is that I get announcements when our classmates appear in local and national publications. Recently, I was pleased to see my old UCAB pal, Doreen Rader Fay, featured in a Washington Post piece on work-life balance during the pandemic. Doreen and her husband had high
praise for their employers’ policies allowing them to balance their job responsibilities with caring for their three adorable children.

Our very own W&M Alumni Magazine profiled two classmates helping in the fight against COVID-19 — Maj. George M. “Chip” Autry V and his wife, Kerry Rafferty Autry. As an Army Reserve officer, Chip was involved in the initial planning for delivery of the first vaccines approved to fight the virus. According to the article titled “The Cavalry Has Arrived,” Chip is “part of a team of about 100 military service members and civilians working out of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services…heads” in quarters and partnering with companies such as FedEx, UPS, and McKesson and federal agencies including the Department of Veteran Affairs on the vaccine distribution.” While Chip served in the vaccine effort, his wife, Kerry, a school nurse pursuing graduate studies toward becoming a midwife and nurse practitioner, volunteered in a drive-through testing effort for three months in the early days of the pandemic. Thanks for all of you that have done this.

Kelley Fanto Deetz spoke to the Middle Peninsula African-American Genealogical and Historical Society last fall about her book, “Bound to the Fire: How Virginia’s Enslaved Cooks Helped Invent American Cuisine.” This news comes courtesy of the Southside Sentinel in Urbanna, Virginia.

Lastly, I was updated that David Reese has been elevated to partnership at the law firm Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP. Congrats, David! Of course, if you have updates, you have to wait until the news service sends them to me. I’d love to hear from you for the next column!

See more at magazine. wm.edu/class-notes

2003
Class Reporter
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Happy first moments of your 40s! You don’t look a day over 38. I missed the last round of updates, somehow, in the upheaval that was 2020. I do hope by reading this you are healthy and filled with expectations for all that’s ahead. I’ve had four kids on The Zoom School, bless us everyone. It’s been a rough and wild season.

Big Congratulations to Jamie Oskin, who announced that he and his wife, Elise, welcomed their first child, Jordan Liev, in December. Thanks for letting us know so that we can celebrate with you Jamie!

The Trentonian newspaper out of Trenton, New Jersey, announced that Notre Dame High School inducted Ed Moran ’03, M.P.P. ’05, M.B.A. ’11 into its Hall of Fame. Ed ran cross country and track for three years at Notre Dame High School and went on to receive his B.B.A., MBA and Master of Public Policy from William & Mary.

Jason Sharples released his first book, “The World that Fear Made: Slave Revolts and Conspiracy Scares in Early America,” published by the University of Pennsylvania Press. Jason is an associate professor of American history at Florida Atlantic University. After W&M, he received his M.A. and Ph.D. from Princeton University. Prior to his tenured position at Florida Atlantic, Jason was an assistant professor at The Catholic University of America.

If you’re reading this, you’re proving that people read this, so send me an update. Even if it’s the shows you’re watching, or the food you’re eating. Or even the food you wish you were eating. Whatever. Send it. They’ll print it. Go Tribe!

See more at magazine. wm.edu/class-notes

2004
Class Reporter
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Even though you are reading this column when spring is almost at the doorstep of summer, I am writing this column on the eve of Biden’s inauguration. During every election/inauguration, I usually reflect on my memories of past elections. I remember being in the voting “machine” with my mom when she went to vote in the 1984 election. For the 1988 election, our elementary had a mock election. Most of the “little ones” voted for George H.W. Bush. In 1992, we voted for the young Bill Clinton. In the first election I was eligible to vote “for real,” I had missed my state’s deadline for absentee voting (the infamous 2000 election). During the past 21 years of my voting life, we have been on a roller coaster of ups and downs, and I am looking forward to more thrills and adventure. I am grateful enough about me and my memories, let us get on with the real reason why you are reading this column!

After over a decade of reading our class columns and hesitating over sending an update, Sophia Wiedeman Glock thought, “If I love reading about other people, why would I be embarrassed to send my own updates?” So here is Sophia’s update. Sophia received her M.F.A from the School of Visual Arts, New York City, in 2006. Upon graduation, she freelanced as a graphic designer, illustrator and comic artist. In 2010, Sophia became a production assistant and then a production associate at Penguin Random House. On April 26, 2014, Sophia married Judge Glock ‘04, M.A. ‘09 in Vienna, Virginia. In attendance at the wedding were Christina Frey ’05, Georgia Dodson, Helena Mulik ’03, Nathan Shurte, Anne Mills, Andrew Copland ’03, Iris Page, Moneira Rahman Chi ’04, M.A.Ed. ’05, Tatiana Peck, Shannon “Miki” Guillot Pennington, Evan McCreedy, Michelle Olson, Jessica Filippi ’03, Meghan Hardy and Ben Jaworski. Sophia and Judge had a daughter, Josephine Rose Glock, in October, 2017, and a son, Judge Xavier Glock, in February 2020. In addition to her prolific authorship of many published comics, cartoons and books, Sophia has a graphic memoir, titled “Passport,” coming out in fall 2021 from Little Brown Young Readers; and Judge has a book coming out this spring titled “The Dead Pledge” (the first chemistry products for Thermo Fisher Scientific. Tim resides in Clear Brook, Virginia.

Word limit is up! -Owen

See more at magazine. wm.edu/class-notes

2005
Class Reporter
PATIENCE BURKE
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This past year, Krystal Clark became the director of employee learning and organizational effectiveness in Vanderbilt University Human Resources and also was named chair of the National Panhellenic Conference’s Access and Equity Advisory Committee. Krystal’s spare time has manifested in her establishing Equip to Thrive LLC, where she provides personal and professional development opportunities for “invented and imperfect people.”

Now, this is a lot. To make these accomplishments easier to remember,
I've created this handy mnemonic: Did Evan Leave Oranges Every Verifiable Underground Holiday Retreat? Course Not! Penelope Could Actually Eat Annual Containers Each Thursday.

There. Better.

Robert Dean Willey (finally) married his wife, Lindsay Kersh, on Sept. 18, right outside the newly renovated Alumni House. Their nuptials originally were planned for last May, but you know ... new venue and all ... probably just got overbooked.

Co-founder of the Virginia Beer Company, Robby proudly shared that they were able to keep 100% of their staff on payroll this past year despite — or perhaps because of — all that 2020 brought to bear. Raise a glass to that!

Margaret Theobald Pountney lives in Washington, D.C., with her husband, Adam, and their two small kiddos, Tommy and Avalon. Margaret works in national security — big yarn factor these days — and is fortunate to live in a neighborly, COVID-19 safety-minded community. There, parents enjoy outdoor, porch-front happy hours and masked playdates for the kids, a tranquil experience interrupted only occasionally by mask-muffled shouts of “Personal space!”

Stephanie Marie Arendt went from William & Mary to New York City, and currently works as an associate director of marketing and communications for the National Committee. Their nuptials originally were in the D.C. area. They currently live in Northern Virginia, where their main hobby is going to the beach.

Andrew Welch's novel, "Field Blends," was published in 2020. The story was inspired by experiences had and friends made at William & Mary, and in particular the life of Jen Bosanko '09, who died of cancer in early 2015. "Field Blends" has been favorably reviewed by a writer at Forbes and USA Today, as well as by a sitting U.S. senator and former congresswoman. It's published by Köehler Books in Virginia Beach, and available through Apple, Google and Amazon (Kindle and print). Find out more at fieldblendsbook.com.

Jackie Adair, Alice Freidhouse, and Dr. Stephanie Pearson McLeod and Courtney Hunter McCusker opted to share this update together.

Meeting as freshmen through the women's rugby team, the four quickly became a unit, and after 17 years of friendship are still (metaphorically, if not physically) inseparable.

Following graduation, Jackie lived in Washington, D.C., and Miami before moving to Philadelphia in 2013. She currently works as a store director for J.Crew and most recently managed balancing regional market impact with increased fulfillment demand resulting from the pandemic closure. She lives with her partner, Brian Quinones-Berry, and is an active, loving godmother and auntie to the children mentioned below.

In 2008, Alice married Brandon Emerson, and after a short stint in Fredericksburg, Virginia, they moved to Philadelphia. She earned an M.A. in museum communication in 2012 from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, and currently works as an associate director of marketing and communications for Temple University, managing marketing and communications for the fundraising arm of the Lewis Katz School of Medicine and Temple University Health System. Together they have two children — son Connor, born in 2014, and daughter Jane, born in 2016. Stephanie Marie Buxton married Forrest Lucien Cacace on Nov. 14, 2020. Beth Block married Gregory Foose on June 27, 2020, in Pittsburgh, in an outdoor ceremony. Brian Block ’10, was the only other W&M alumnus among the small group of family and friends present.

Nicole Bost Sandridge and Eric Sandridge ’08, M.S.B.A. ’21 welcomed their third child, Boyd, in March. Eric will graduate from W&M’s M.S.B.A. program this month. Chris Harrison and his wife, Fern Baldwin, just celebrated their fifth anniversary on Dec. 31 and are expecting their first child (a boy) at the end of April.
2009

Class Reporter
ANDREW FOILES
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Hello Class of 2009!
Thank you to those of you who shared your wonderful pieces of news with me and for spreading some joy right now when we all need it. This has been a rough year to get through that even sea shanty Tik Tok couldn’t fix, and like many of you, I am glad to welcome 2021 and the promise of bigger and better things on the horizon.

Be sure to send me any updates and life-milestones you are celebrating so they can be featured here in the online Class Notes. Your class needs to hear from you, whether it is a new job, a wedding, a new family member or something outside of the norm. It is all important and worth sharing! Just send them to me at afoiles@gmail.com

Make sure you keep your information updated with William & Mary so you can take part in the amazing virtual events being planned.

Erick M. Shannahana
Murillas and Phillip S.
Murillas were married on July 18, 2020, in a small, COVID-safe ceremony in Arlington, Virginia.

Katie McCown DelDotto
and her husband, Nick DelDotto, welcomed their second child, Virginia Belle DelDotto, on Dec. 31, 2020. She joins her older brother, James.

Brianna Bates
was featured in the Tri Delta “33 Under 33 List” highlighting her work as the head of academic compliance on the Legal & Compliance Team at Coursera.

Brian Mahoney
and Ashley Sobrinski welcomed their first child, Robert “Bertie” Brian Sobrinski Mahoney, on Nov. 18, 2020, at 8:13 p.m., weighing in at 9 pounds, 2 ounces and measuring 21.5 inches, at Pennsylvania Hospital. Brian, Ashley and Bertie live in Haddonfield, New Jersey. Go Tribe!

See more at magazine.
wmu.edu/class-notes

2010

Class Reporter
KARYN BRUGGEMAN
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Hi everyone! I hope by the time you’re reading this some warmer weather has arrived, making it easier to get outdoors again, and (knock on wood) COVID-19 vaccination rates have been high enough that folks can more easily connect with friends and family.

I recently wrote this in February, here’s what’s new.

Ryan Dunn recently moved from Washington, D.C., to Nairobi, Kenya, with his wife, Lauren, and daughter, Sophia. Ryan flagged that he’d love to connect with any members of the Tribe in Kenya, so if you’re in the area and interested in connecting, you can reach him at dunnrp@gmail.com.

Ryan Uyehara
joined the Biden administration in early February as a special assistant to the assistant secretary of defense for health affairs. He returned to DoD as a civilian. He returns to DoD as a civilian. He returns to DoD as a civilian. He returns to DoD as a civilian.

Horia "Casey"
Carito Karp and his wife, Madeleine Carreño Karp ‘13, got married at the Norfolk Botanical Gardens on Sept. 1, 2019, and had a good showing from the WAM-fam, capped off by the DJ playing “Our Alma Mater” at the end of the night.

Wren Building, and Kelly recently brightened her home office walls with a print of the painting.

Generally speaking, the W&M friends I remain close with have been nothing short of a lifesaver throughout the pandemic. A handful of us started a Slack group in March 2020 that’s still going strong, and I know we’re looking forward to ditching Zoom and reuniting in-person as soon as it’s safe. It’s been great to reconnect in person, too, with Robert Ressler and his wife, who moved to Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 2020. Robert and I lived in the divesy “Old Sailing House” on the corner of Jamestown and Rolfe Road our senior year. I can hardly report we both live in nicer apartments now.

Don’t be shy about horacio and madeleine also had an amazing honeymoon in Italy. Since the pandemic hit, Horacio’s been biking regularly, hitting 1,000 miles in November. Horacio also wanted to encourage others to get involved in W&M’s alumni affinity and identity groups. He’s involved in the LatinX alumni network, which is relatively new and is always looking for new alumni to get involved and support Latinx initiatives at the college.

Last, but in no way least, major shoutout to Kelly Bodie, who submitted the type of whimsical content I crave! Kelly said Megan O’Connor ‘09 made a wonderful painting of the Wren Building, and Kelly recently brightened her home office walls with a print of the painting.

Personally, after graduating from the public policy master’s program at the Harvard Kennedy School in 2020, I’ve remained in the Boston area and started a new job working remotely for the Nowak Metro Finance Lab based at the Harvard Kennedy School in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

I know we’re looking forward to ditching Zoom and reuniting in-person as soon as it’s safe. It’s been great to reconnect in person, too, with Robert Ressler and his wife, who moved to Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 2020. Robert and I lived in the divesy “Old Sailing House” on the corner of Jamestown and Rolfe Road our senior year. I can hardly report we both live in nicer apartments now.

Don’t be shy about
sending updates! Especially those who have never written in before — let us know what you’re up to. I hope everyone stays healthy and hope to hear from you soon! — Karyn

See more at magazine. wm.edu/class-notes

2011

Class Reporter

KATE FOILES
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My name is Kate Foiles and I am excited to be serving as your new class reporter. My time on campus was spent rehearsing and performing in Ewell and PBK, hanging out on the red couches at Kappa Alpha Theta, and singing in or watching Wren 10s every Wednesday. I live in the Blacksburg, Virginia, area with my husband, Andy Foiles ’09, our son Teddy, and golden retriever Lincoln, where I work as a middle school choir director.

I encourage you to get involved as you are able with your alma mater, starting with sharing your life updates, photos, and any other celebrations or news so the rest of your class can read along and celebrate with you. Feel free to send any and all updates to me at katefoiles@gmail.com. Go Tribe!

See more at magazine. wm.edu/class-notes

2012

Class Reporter

MADELEINE BRADSHAW ROWLEY
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I hope you’re all having a wonderful 2021 so far! I wish I could predict the future to know whether to say “now that COVID-19 looks like it’s fading into the distance,” but for now I’ll hope that maybe next time I can write something along those lines.

We’re all settled here in Jerusalem and the other night, we finally had our neighbor, a well-known Nazi hunter (yes, you read that right) named Efraim Zuroff over for dinner. Because we aren’t Jewish and thus don’t keep kosher, we ordered a kosher pizza and shared a bottle of kosher wine. For those who might not know, “kosher” is a way of preparing food according to the dietary laws set forth in Judaism. Many Jews in Jerusalem follow these dietary laws — the main rule being (in very simple terms) that you can’t eat meat and dairy together. So Efraim, for example, would never eat a cheeseburger because it breaks the main kosher law.

I asked him about this during dinner and said, “Do you ever wonder what a cheeseburger would taste like?” Efraim, who is in his early 70s, responded without hesitation, “No, because I’ve never had one, so I don’t know what it’s like to live without it.”

That’s old saying, “you don’t know what you don’t know.” I’ve eaten many cheeseburgers (In-N-Out is the best), so I crave them and miss eating them all the time.

Efraim’s response got me thinking about all the things we don’t know about because we haven’t experienced them. Six months ago, I didn’t know what it was like to live overseas in a foreign country. But now, I do.

Many of my college friends are becoming parents for the first time, when a year ago they likely had no idea what to expect. We didn’t know what it meant to be William & Mary graduates until we graduated and entered into the workforce.

On the other hand, there are some things I’ll never fully know or understand because I’ll never experience it myself. For example, I’m Catholic, so I’ll never understand what it’s like to be Jewish, but I can continue to be curious by asking Efraim and other Israeli questions to better understand their religion and culture. If there’s anything I’ve learned while living in Israel, it’s that staying curious and asking questions is the key to understanding others and opening up new doors.

Everyone has their own story that we can learn from if we just ask first, so stay curious out there!

“The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing. One cannot help but be in awe when he contemplates the mysteries of eternity, of life, of the marvelous structure of reality.” — Albert Einstein

Colin Foltz-Davis started medical school at George Washington University last year. He will be in the graduating class of 2022.

Sarah Kyle McClenren and her husband, Eric, welcomed their second daughter, Anna Rosemary, on Sept. 1, 2020.

Adrian Bravo is a tenure-track assistant professor in the psychological sciences department at William & Mary as of last year. He and his wife, Georgina Rackham Bravo, had their third child, Maxwell Wilson Bravo, in December 2019.

Kylee Ponder Schilling ’12, M.A.Ed. ’13 and her husband, Ryan, had their first child, a second daughter, Cal Crews Schilling, on May 14, 2020. His proud first-time grandparents are William & Mary graduates John Schilling ’78, J.D. ’81 and Robin Wamsley Schilling ’78.

Becca Gildea is engaged to marry Andrew Freihite as of January 2021.

Jessy Segal is engaged to marry Ian Magaz as of September 2020.

Meghan Tammen Ducharme-Barth and Nicholas Ducharme-Barth ’13 welcomed their first child, a baby boy named Theodor Ducharme-Barth, in June 2020. They are hopeful he will be a member of the William & Mary Class of 2043!

See more at magazine. wm.edu/class-notes

2013

Class Reporter

LAURA BROND DziUBAN
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Hello, Class of 2013!

Thank you to everyone who sent in updates. I hope you all enjoy reading about the exciting lives of our classmates as much as I do! Please keep sharing your good news with me at lkbrond@email.wm.edu. Wishing you all the best!

Thorton Ray recently transitioned out of active duty in the U.S. Army and moved with his wife to Fredericksburg, Virginia. He is now working as a manager with The Tant ager with Grant Thornton.

Julia Powers graduated in May 2020 from a dual Master of Social Work/Master of Divinity program at the University of North Carolina School of Social Work and the Duke Divinity School. She has obtained licensure to practice as a clinical social worker in North Carolina and now works as a psychotherapist specializing in trauma, LGBTQ+ concerns, and religious and spiritual concerns.

Sam Reichman completed her Master of Professional Studies in Branding at the School of Visual Arts in August 2020.

Cindy Kroeger is graduating with her Master of Business Administration from the University of North Carolina Kenan-Flagler Business School this month.

Charles Monas tra and Tiffany Tanakit were married on Nov. 7, 2020, in Indianapolis.

John David Kenney graduated last year from Eastern Mennonite Seminary with a Master of Divinity focusing on congregational leadership. He and his wife moved in July 2020 as he is now working as a pastor of West Union Mennonite Church in Parnell, Iowa. In further good news, John David and his wife welcomed their first child on Sept. 17, a son named John-Levi Immanuel Kenney.

Avery Newton and Kevin Deisz Newton also welcomed a son in September: Henry Kevin Newton, born on Sept. 26. All three Newtons are doing well, are healthy and are (mostly) getting enough sleep.

Megan Zimmelman Gibson ’13, M.A. ’14 and her husband, Will Gibson ’15, welcomed their second daughter, Gemma, on Sept. 30. Gemma was born at Fairfax Hospital in Virginia and was delivered by a fellow W&M alumnus, Dr. Scott Forrest ’90. Gemma joins big sister Avery’s thriving tribe as two of the Tribe’s littlest fans!

Finally, congratulations to our peers whose important work has made the news!

According to the Rappahannock Morning News, published on Nov. 11, 2020, Hannah Scru ggls and other genealogy reference assistants at the Robert F. Smith Explore Your Family History Center, part of the Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C., gave a presentation at the monthly meeting of the Middle Peninsula African American Genealogical and Historical Society on methods of researching African American family history beyond 1870 into the era of slavery.

Style Weekly Magazine, published in Richmond, Virginia, named Hannah Miller one of the top 40 individuals under 40 who are contributing to make the city a better place in their Oct. 29, 2020, issue. Hannah was noted for her work at the Virginia Repertory Theatre in developing plays that address human trafficking, accessible theater programs for individuals under 40 who are blind and vision-impaired and sensory-friendly programs for children on the autism spectrum.
2015

Class Reporter
CHRIS PAPAS
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Hey, Class of 2015! Some updates on all the great things you’re making happen out in the world:

**Lizzie Salita** and her husband, Michael, welcomed their son, Charles “Chip” Alexander Salita, on Aug. 12, 2020. He comes from a proud lineage of W&M alumni: His grandparents are Andy Salita ’86 and Lisa Calos Salita ’87. Congrats!

**Mick Sloan** co-authored a new book, “How to Thrive in the Virtual Workspace,” with Robert Glazer. It’s due for release on June 1. Be sure to pick it up — even once COVID-19 is gone, remote work is here to stay.

**Finally, KC Malone and Cassie Berman ’14** are working on a music project called “Welcome to the Cise Parade.” KC writes, “The Cise Pavilion is a collaborative sound-scape album featuring artists from D.C. and worldwide, including TOB, Zelly Vibes, Grandemarshall, Maps Glover, Babak Parcham and Ripp Flamez to name a few. It’s an exploration of the concept of “cise,” the word people from D.C. use to talk about hype. D.C. natives are different. We are doing this project to give back to our hometown.” Can’t wait to hear it!

See more at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes

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2016

Class Reporter
EMILY NYE
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Hello Class of 2016, I hope that everyone is staying safe and well through these incredibly challenging times. In light of everything going on, I hope this edition of Class Notes can offer some positive news from members of our graduating class:

**Nate Chen** received his Formula DRIFT PRO2 license this year after winning the USDrift Shootout at the Battle on the Bay on Oct. 24, 2020.

**Catherine Korinzo** left her job as a news producer in Charleston, South Carolina, and joined the FBI as an intelligence analyst. After graduating from the FBI Academy in Quantico, she moved to Georgia and is now working in the Atlanta Division.

**Lauren A. Arreaza** is now living in York, Pennsylvania, having started her OB/GYN residency after graduating from medical school in May. Deborah Kin was recently named a second-year Doctor of Physical Therapy student at Virginia Commonwealth University.

**Danny Clark and Megan Chaplin Clark ’17** welcomed their daughter, Molly Chaplin Clark, into the world July 13, 2020.

**Finally, Claire Etheridge** and **Henry Phillips ’14** got married on Aug. 14, 2020, in a small family-only ceremony at the Williamsburg Inn. They are both double legacies and enjoyed celebrating with their parents: **David Etheridge ’82, Marlene Pastore Etheridge ’82, and Daniel Phillips ’86** and **Kathryn Penney Wicks ’86**. Some of the highlights of their wedding weekend were taking photos outside the Wren Building (scaffolding and all) and a carriage ride around Colonial Williamsburg.

Thank you to everyone for your updates! Best wishes until next time.

See more at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes

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2017

Class Reporter
CAPRIELLE D’ULISSE
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Hello, Class of 2017! I hope everyone is having a safe and healthy 2021. Thanks to everyone who sent me their updates! There’s so much worth celebrating among our classmates, so I’ll get right to it:

**Justin Canakis** was recently named the 2021 recipient of the Mason W. Presley Medal from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. This is the highest award for a student at PCOM.

**Nicholas Cipolla ’17, M.A.Ed. ’19 and Samantha Chalker** wed on Nov. 14, 2020, in Bedford, Virginia. Some Tribe alumni were featured in the wedding party: **Joshua Tubb** was the best man, **Susannah Haury** was maid of honor and **Brian Sheehy** was the flower man.

**Devon DeYoung** married **Sean Reilly ’16** on July 18, 2020.

**Thompson Hangen** and his wife welcomed their son, Harrison Hangen, on Sept. 11, 2020.

**Donna Kinney** married **Nathan Hernandez** on Oct. 24 in Norfolk, Virginia. **Clara Kobler ’18**, **Pheobe Brannock ’18**, **Hollie Soave ’18**, **Dong Jiang ’16**, **Andy Berklin ’19**, **Bruce Wenger ’19**, **Connor Clark ’16**, **Victoria Rice ’15** and **Allison Shomaker ’16** were in attendance.

**Gilbert Loiseau** started “Another 40 Hours,” an interview podcast where he chats with friends and colleagues to reflect on the diverse paths taken to reach their careers while exploring how they balance the traditional 40-hour work week with hobbies and passion projects. He hopes that these conversations inspire people to embrace the freedom that comes with becoming an adult, demonstrating that there are many unique paths to continue learning, growing and following passions both inside and outside of careers. The link to listen is in our online class notes.

**Michael Martoccì** is listed as one of 2021’s Forbes 30 Under 30 honorees for his work in retail & e-commerce. His company, SwagUp, has grown to 100 people, with several W&M alumni on the team.

**John da Silva Passos-Hoioos** began working towards a Master of Public Administration at the University of Illinois at Chicago in fall 2020 and started a new position with Envoy Global as an immigration data analyst.

**Jacob Young** is currently halfway through law school at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. Following his first year, he became a staff editor in the SMU Law Review Association and will be writing his comment this spring. Having worked for two federal district judges this past year, Jacob hopes to build on that experience by clerking for a federal judge following graduation. He’s looking to go into litigation and practice patent law upon graduating.

I’m enjoying hearing what you’re up to and the great things you’re doing! Please continue to share your news at cdulisse@email.wm.edu. Until next time!

See more at magazine.wm.edu/class-notes

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2018

Class Reporter
PHOEBE BRANNOCK
brannock.notes@gmail.com

A cold winter has ripened into another lush Virginia spring here in the Valley, and I am glad that I now have the benefit of mountain breezes sweeping the pollen from the air instead of swamp humidity trapping it at nose level. Despite the blossoming discomfort that a Williamsburg spring always brought, each year I miss seeing the brightly colored tulips around the sundial and the daffodils peaking around the corners of sandy-colored brick academic buildings.

Despite a bleak and frigid past December, Sarah
Anderson ’17, Hollie Soave and Elizabeth Pokol ’20 visited my little abode in Lexington. Chief among the topics of conversation was the beautiful fall wedding of Donna Kinney ’17 and just how lovely it was to watch her enter her next chapter of life. As always, I am so thankful for their friendship and the miles we track and texts we send to keep in touch. For those of you whom I didn’t get to see over my law school Christmas break, I hope to catch you on my next vacation from casebooks. For me, 2021 started off on a brilliant note. I completed my first legal clerkship, visited Texas for the first time, and on my way back to Virginia from the Lone Star State, I stopped in Chattanooga to catch up with Elizabeth again.

Tanner Holland and Madison Free Holland ’19 had 2021 start off equally auspiciously: They added a corgi pup named Piper to their family. Piper has her own Instagram account, and if you need a respite from the political tar pit that social media has become, I highly recommend you give @corgi-called_piper a follow.

Finally, I will close with my plea for more news from you all. Please let me know what you are doing! Perhaps some of you simply can’t wait to read life updates more freely about Sarah, Elizabeth and Hollie, who seem to appear in every column I write, but I am sure many of you have incredible news to share with me and would like your circle of friends represented in the magazine.

Thankfully, the wonderful editorial staff of the magazine help me out with keeping tabs on you folks. Anna Laws works with the FarmLink Project, a nonprofit which channels surplus crops to food banks in need of supplies. Anna recognized a need to keep up with the rapidly changing food cultures and shipping industries as well as the increased reliance on food banks during the pandemic, and this nonprofit grew out of it. If you happen to run into her, I hope you’ll congratulate her on a successful endeavor! For more content like the paragraph above, please send your news to brannock.notes@gmail.com.

Cheers,

PMB

See more at magazine. wm.edu/class-notes

2019

Class Reporter
Mona Sharaf
monasharaf.96@gmail.com
See more at magazine. wm.edu/class-notes

2020

Class Reporter
Debortz
deboertz@email.wm.edu

To my fellow members of the Class of 2020:

It has been a year now since our original graduation date, and what a year it has been! I, for one, have been living at home until I can move to Nashville, Tennessee, for work. I was fortunate to land a job as the marketing coordinator for MDSave, a health care startup working to increase access to affordable care. I can’t wait to try new foods, listen to live music and meet new people (including my coworkers!) soon, but for now, I’m enjoying plenty of quality time with my family in Richmond.

Even though the pandemic continues to dominate our lives, the resilience I’ve seen in each of you keeps me motivated and hopeful for brighter days ahead. And to all of you who have been working the frontlines, thank you. I’m proud to share your alma mater!

I can’t wait to reconnect in person, but until then, I’d love to hear what you’ve been up to! Please send me your professional and life updates at debortz@email.wm.edu so that all of us can celebrate with you; my hope is that these Class Notes can provide some good news amid these challenging times. And even if you don’t have news but just want to chat, please reach out!

I’m thrilled to be serving as your Class Reporter and I look forward to hearing from you! Stay safe.

Devon

See more at magazine. wm.edu/class-notes

Arts & Sciences

Graduate School Reporter
Dr. Jonathan R. Skuzu Ph.D. ’11
Eastern Michigan University
Dept. of Physics & Astronomy
240 Strong Hall
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
(734) 487-8797 (work)
jskuzu@emich.edu

Another summer is fast approaching and hopefully I’ll be able to make it to the ‘Burgh soon! Please send your stories my way.

Alexandra J. Finley
M.A. ’12, Ph.D. ’17 (history), assistant professor of history at the University of Pittsburgh, has co-authored “An Intimate Economy: Enslaved Women, Work, and America’s Domestic Slave Trade” (University of North Carolina Press, 2020).

Sterling N. Ransome Jr. ’86, M.A. ’88 (biology) has been elected by the American Academy of Family Physicians’ Congress of Delegates as its president-elect, as reported by the Gloucester-Mathews Gazette-Journal this past October. He is the physician practice director at Riverside Fishing & Family Practice in Delaville, Virginia, and an assistant clinical professor of family medicine and population health at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond.

Harmon L. “Monty” Cooper M.P.P. ’04, J.D. ’04, counsel at Crowell & Moring in Washington D.C., has been named chair of the American Bar Association Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources’ (ABA-SEER) Equity and Inclusion Taskforce, as reported by The News in Kingstree, South Carolina, this past November. ABA-SEER aims to enhance and promote diversity, equity and inclusion within the environmental bar.

Janine Yorimoto Boldt M.A. ’12, Ph.D. ’18 (American studies) began her two-year appointment as associate curator of American art at the Chazen Museum of Art in Madison, Wisconsin, as reported by Antiques & the Arts Weekly in Newtown, Connecticut, this past December. Janine is currently the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation postdoctoral curatorial fellow at the American Philosophical Society.

See more at magazine. wm.edu/class-notes

Mason School of Business

Graduate School Reporter
Angela Courtney ’08, M.B.A. ’17
angela_pcourtney@gmail.com
615-926-5192
LinkedIn: @angela_pcourtney

Fellow Mason Alums, Greetings! I’m looking forward to being your new Class Reporter. I’m hopeful that this can be a space that enables us to stay in touch and build new connections. I’m a two-time Tribe member, completing my undergraduate degree in ’08 and MBA in ’17. I live and support the Tribe in Nashville, Tennessee, as a management consultant focused on corporate strategy and organizational performance.

If you’re ever in the Nashville area I’d love to connect. Please send me any updates you have — professional achievements, job changes, new education accomplishments, marriages, births, anniversaries and other notable life events. My email address is angela_pcourtney@gmail.com, phone number is 615-926-5192 and LinkedIn profile is @angela_pcourtney. I look forward to hearing from you!

Go Tribe,

Angela

See more at magazine. wm.edu/class-notes
The Virginia Institute of Marine Science
Graduate School
Reporters
ELIZABETH HINCHEN MALLOY
M.A. ’96, PH.D. ’02
hincheny.elizabeth@epa.gov
JANET NESTLERODE M.A. ’96, PH.D. ’04
nestlerode.jane@epagov.gov
Ike Irby M.P.P. ’17,
Ph.D. ’17 joined the office of
Vice President Kamala
Harris as environmental
policy advisor in January.
Ike’s previous role was
senior policy advisor to
Harris in the U.S. Senate,
covering climate, environ-
ment, energy, transporta-
tion and infrastructure.
He also served as an intern
in the Office of Science and
Technology and Policy
during the second Obama
administration.

Laurence Libelo
Ph.D. ’95 recently moved
to EPA Office of Land and
Emergency Management
to be the chief of the Sci-
ence Policy Branch in the
Office of Superfund Re-
mediation and Technology
Innovation. He manages
an interdisciplinary group
of scientists, engineers
and policy experts over-
seeing and coordinating
technical and policy
aspects of how sediment,
soil and groundwater are
cleaned up at Superfund
sites. Prior to this he was
a senior environmental
engineer in the EPA Office
of Pollution Prevention
and Toxic Substances,
evaluating human and
ecology risks of chemicals
that are in or proposed for
commerce in the U.S. He
worked for about 17 years
on perfluoro chemical fate
and transport, exposure
and risk assessment.
Laurence is a pro-fessorial
lecturer in the chemistry
department of George
Washington Universi-
ty, where for the last
16 years he has taught
environmental chemistry
and chemical fate and
transport to undergradu-
ate and graduate students.
EPA service is a family
affair in the Libelo-Galla-
gher household. Aphantha
(Kitty) Gallagher Ph.D.
’95 is chief of the Ecol-
ogical Risk Assessment
Branch in the EPA Office
of Water, Office of Science
and Technology. Kitty and
Laurence are parents to
teenagers, too.

Jennie Gundersen
M.A. ’86, Ph.D. ’95
Jennie Gundersen
M.A. ’86, Ph.D. ’95
couldn’t stay landlocked
for long. After being
desiccated for a year with
EPA’s Office of Land and
Emergency Management
in the high desert of
Colorado, she returned
to the coast of Rhode
Island, joining EPA Office
of Research and Develop-
ment’s Atlantic Coastal
Environmental Sciences
Division (ACESD) in Nar-
ragansett as a research
chemist. Jennie will be
leading research on
method development and
standardization for micro-
and nanoplastics analysis
in sediments and water.
She will also be offering
advice on site best spots
to sample steamers and
lobsters! Jennie’s new co-
workers include VIMSers
Giancarlo Cicchetti
Ph.D. ’98, research ecol-
ologist, and Charlie Strobel,
research chemist.

EPA Office of Re-
search and Develop-
ment’s Bronze Medal
was recently awarded to
a team of scientists who
coordinated to execute
an international, multi-
agency field study in 2019
investigating the drivers
and impacts of widespread
bottom hypoxia and
harmful algal blooms in
Lake Erie. Team members
involving Janet Nestlerode
Ph.D. ’06, Richard
Kraus M.S. ’98, Janet
Nestlerode M.A. ’96,
Ph.D. ’04 and Elizabeth
Hinchen Malloy M.A.
’96, Ph.D. ’02. Some
project highlights can be
found at www.usgs.
gov/center-news/new-
sediment-profiling-
imaging-system-
developed-lake-erie-
www.grl.usgs/gnode/249.
Readers, your class
reporters, Scoop Hinchen
and Newshound Nestlerode
want you to update for
future columns.
Call in more “Quips” to
share with fellow alumni—
y’all know who you are!

See more at magazine.
wm.edu/class-notes

Virginia Institute
of Marine Science

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In Memoriam

Read Full Obituaries Online

Below, you can read the names of members of the William & Mary community whose passing was reported between Oct. 3, 2020, and Feb. 15, 2021. To read extended obituaries, please go online to our magazine website at magazine.wm.edu/in-memoriam.

Please send information to Alumni Records, P.O. Box 8795, Williamsburg, VA 23187, call (757) 221-1163 or email alumni.records@wm.edu.

UNDERGRADUATE ALUMNI


Jeanne T. Preston Rae ’45 of Virginia Beach, Virginia, died Feb. 5, 2021.


Dorothy Helen Shinn Francescon ’47 of Park City, Utah, died Dec. 7, 2020.


Nancy Laughlin Arzt ’48 of Columbia, South Carolina, died Dec. 6, 2020.


Dr. Donald “Don” Zentz Koons ’49 of San Mateo, California, died Aug. 3, 2020.


Boyd “Teeny” Curtis
Eugenia “Jeanie” Elinor Fay Clark ’55
Althea Margaret Iliff Wagman ’54
Anna “Annie” Louise of York-
Goodwin Turner burg, Pennsylvania,
Virginia, died Sept. 17,
Virginia, died Dec. 5,
Georgia, died Aug. 17,
New Mexico, died Oct. 12,
Virginia, died Sept. 25,


Joel Mann Williams Jr. ’62 of Albuquerque, New Mexico, died June 3, 2017.


Frederick “Fred” Burton Lowe ’63 of Virginia Beach, Virginia, died Dec. 21, 2020.


Bonnie Louise Reshefsky '67 of Virginia Beach, Virginia, died Nov. 4, 2020.

William “Bill” Reid Pollock '68 of Virginia Beach, Virginia, died Jan. 6, 2021.

Kathleen “Kathy” Friedman Bright '69 of Hingham, Massachusetts, died Oct. 1, 2020.


Kenneth Erwin Kueper Jr. '69 of Perry, Georgia, died Nov. 17, 2020.


Karen Gail Whitaker '70 of San Francisco, California, died March 4, 2019.


Paula Anne Postawski Gallalaty '72 of Cape May Point, New Jersey, died Jan. 26, 2021.


Conrad “Buck” Ten Eyck Lawrence Jr. '74 of Richmond, Virginia, died Jan. 9, 2021.


Thomas “Al” Alva Whitley '77 of San Diego, California, died Aug. 1, 2020.

George Robert King II '78 of Barnstable, Massachusetts, died Jan. 18, 2021.


Michael “Mike” Dean Jennings '89 of Elkridge, Maryland, died Dec. 11, 2020.


Michael “Mike” Graham Sams M.Ed. '69 of Williamsburg died Feb. 8, 2021.


Suzanne Marie Goudy Insley M.Ed. '69 of Manhattan, Kansas, died Aug. 28, 2019.


Harold Lavon Oliver C.A.S.E. ’72 of Bel Air, Maryland, died Nov. 16, 2020.


Betty Irene Rychen M.A. ’82 of League City, Texas, died April 2, 2020.


Dr. Gerald “Jerry” E. Kahler Ph.D. ’03 of Bastrop, Texas, died Dec. 9, 2020.


FORMER FACULTY


Dr. Anne Shelton Tyler Netick of Williamsburg died Dec. 7, 2020.

Ralph Reavis Sr. of Richmond, Virginia, died Feb. 2, 2021.


Shirley Few Ivie of Richmond, Virginia, died Feb. 5, 2021.

W&M STAFF


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“The impact William & Mary has had in my life is more than I ever could have imagined.”
— Janet McNulty Osborn ’85

"Why do I give?" As a student at William & Mary, I saw first-hand how an unexpected financial challenge can impact a fellow student’s ability to continue their education. Several years ago I established an emergency fund to help students — never guessing how important it would be during the pandemic.

For me, giving back is a profound way to be thankful for the lifelong connections I’ve made, and continue to make, through William & Mary. It gives me great joy to know that my support through my estate plans will have an even greater impact.

There is never a perfect time to take the first step in establishing your future legacy. But once you do, you will be amazed with how different you feel knowing you are on the path to helping others and changing lives.”

For assistance with your charitable gift plans, contact Kirsten A. Kellogg ’91, Ph.D., Assistant Vice President of Principal Gifts and Gift Planning, at (757) 221-1004 or kakellogg@wm.edu.

giving.wm.edu/giftplanning
A pivotal moment can change everything. Now is the time to go *All In*.

Help shape the future for W&M Athletics.

tribeathletics.com/ALLIN