

# BY WAY OF BUCKNELL

"THE ORANGE AND THE BLUE"
Orange-tinted trees on a bluebird fall day give us all a reason to 'ray.

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# **PATHWAYS**



# FROM BUCKNELL CLASS

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# WHARTON PROFESSOR

# by KATIE WILLIARD

Donald Keim '75 teaches complex concepts of finance and economics as the John Neff Professor of Finance (now emeritus) at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania.

His 40-year career was sparked by a pivotal class at Bucknell –

Cost Accounting with Professor Scott Cowen, management. "He opened up my eyes to how economics can be used in different ways," Keim says.

Cowen (who went on to become president of Tulane University) also introduced Keim to the idea of pursuing higher degrees, which led Keim to earn his Ph.D. in finance and economics from the University of Chicago. There, he conducted research and studied with Nobel laureates Merton Miller; Myron Scholes, his mentor; and Eugene Fama, his dissertation adviser.

Keim went on to become known for his own notable research on investments, trading and trends; and carried on the legacy of the educators who directed him by teaching and advising more than 5,000 undergrad, MBA and Ph.D. students at Wharton and at INSEAD in France over the years. "If I hadn't taken that cost accounting course, I may never have gotten interested in research and gone on to Chicago," he says. "I wouldn't be where I am today."







# FROM BUCKNELL

# **PRICEWATERHOUSE COOPERS**

## by BROOKE THAMES

Natalia Mancero '24 has a

with her Bucknell education: become a certified public accountant (CPA) at one of the "Big Four" firms.

"What's exciting about the Freeman College of Management is how well it prepares you for the Uniform CPA Examination," says Mancero, an accounting major from Upper Saddle River, N.J.

But earning a top score is only the first step. To land a job at one of the largest accounting firms in the United States, Mancero will need real-world experience. So in her sophomore year at Bucknell, she went hunting for just that.

With help from Bucknell's Center for Career Advancement, Mancero began "applying for every internship I could find at New York City firms," she says.

One of those applications went to Mancero was accepted into the company's highly competitive Start Internship program. Working alongside other undergraduates, she spent the summer advising nonprofits while getting her foot in the door at her dream company.

"It's amazing to get a real taste of the work is like this early on."

what the work is like this early on," Mancero says. "It's an opportunity

# **GATEWAY**

#### **LETTERS**

# A Storm-soaked 'Odyssey'

MY HUSBAND of 53 years, Clifford James Nuttall III, '70, M'74, and I are "Agnes survivors," as well as survivors of Hurricane Charley in 2004 and Irma in 2017 in Florida, where we've resided since 2001.

In 1972, we rented a mobile home in the Bucknell View trailer park across the Susquehanna River from Lewisburg. We asked our insurance agent if we needed flood insurance, but he said floods usually occur only once every 100 years, so we didn't need it.

Unfortunately, soon after, Hurricane Agnes dumped almost 20 inches of rain in a week. One night, we heard the siren blow as a warning for people to evacuate the flood zone. We loaded our two small cars with the cat and important papers, leaving behind wedding pictures and my wedding dress and veil hanging from a ceiling light, our stereo, TV, books and a glass-topped wooden table. Driving across the bridge, we arrived at the home of Mary and John Dohmann M'50, good

friends who lived on South 16th Street in Linntown, where we had been urgently invited. The Butch Fisher family, owners of a butcher shop, came, too. We stayed there for six weeks, eating wonderful steaks and drinking high-end adult beverages, celebrating our third wedding anniversary in style. Occasionally, during the next week, we drove up the hill by the Bucknell infirmary to look over the cliff at the flooded river and our upside-down trailer. Others were in similar disarray. Later, former students told me that they knew which was our trailer because, as members of the National Guard patrolling in boats, they found copies of the Odyssey test floating on the water, exams on a book I taught at Lewisburg Area High School. Later, we received our tetanus shots and were allowed to forage in the mud-filled, sharp metal-fragmented trailer; we found someone had stolen the TV, the stereo and the glass tabletop. Our good china was still unbroken in the high

cabinets in the kitchen, cushioned by mud between each dish. We found a mud-covered \$5 bill and our browned clothes. We ended up throwing away most of the clothes, too spoiled to save.

The federal government granted us a Small Business Administration (SBA) loan of \$5,000 to replace what we had lost and a furnished Housing and Urban Development (HUD) trailer placed on the exact site where we had lost the rented one. Every time it rained, I walked from our trailer to check the river, even though we owned next to nothing. With the SBA funds, as long as we replaced what we had lost, we did not have to repay the loan. Six months later, with the money we had saved from our teaching jobs over the course of three years, we put down a down payment on a lot high on a hill in Turbot Hills, Milton, and built a new bilevel home.

LINDA LAWRENCE NUTTALL '69 Naples, Fla.

# **BACK FROM BAGHDAD**

I'M SO EXCITED to see the article about Matthew Bogdanos '80 [Summer 2022]! He visited my city of Ocala, Fla., several years ago to talk about the looting of the Baghdad Museum at our own Appleton Museum of Art. I got to meet him and exchange memories of our alma mater 20 years apart. Thank you for the excellent update on his marvelous and important career!

'ray Bucknell!

**DOLORES "TONI" SCHAEFER JAMES '60**Ocala, Fla.

# **A NIFTY IDEA**

**I JUST FINISHED READING** the Summer '22 issue. As always, it was interesting, uplifting and informative. Great work!

The profile of student **Jack Casturo '24** mentions a personal project of his: the "flashing LED 'Thank You' display for a car's rearview mirror." I've always wanted something like this: a sign on the back window of my car to thank courteous drivers. I'd love to be a beta tester for Jack's design! He's welcome to email me anytime.

**ELIZA SMITH STEINMEIER '98** 

Baltimore

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Bucky the Bison is imagined as a non-fungible token. Illustration by Phil Foster

# FROM THE EDITOR



Matt Hughes Interim Editor

# **Bringing You the Best**

**AT BUCKNELL**, we expect the best. When I temporarily took the helm of this magazine six months ago, with that expectation in mind, I set two goals.

The first was to try my utmost to live up to the high standard established by the most recent editors, Sherri Kimmel and Gigi Marino, as well as the corresponding high expectations of our readers, who share an abiding passion for this University. The second was to find a new editor who not only had the technical prowess, writing verve and eye for design needed to carry a magazine as good as this one from preliminary planning to your mailbox and inbox, but who would also pour as much love and care into that process as I have.

Frankly, anxieties might be a better word than goals; they definitely kept me up at night. The affinity so many of you feel for this place is one I share, and when I care about something as much as I care about Bucknell, I don't do anything halfway. Everyone whose name is listed on the masthead to the right of this column shares that commitment, working very hard to capture just a fraction of the dynamic and diverse spirit of

this special place.

I'm pleased to tell you today that I'm sleeping much easier. Beginning with the Winter 2023 issue, this magazine will be helmed by Katrin "Katie" Neitz, our new editor and associate director of editorial strategy.

Katie brings to Bucknell Magazine more than 20 years experience working on both mass market and college magazines. For 17 of those years she worked for publisher Rodale, where she was an editor for Men's Health, Women's Health and Runner's World. Most recently, she served as editor-in-chief of the Lafayette College alumni magazine, and contributed to their quarterly admissions magazine.

Katie was the unanimous choice in a field that included editors currently working for some of the top colleges and universities in the world, in addition to applicants with similarly strong private-sector experience. I have no doubt that we found the best.

It has been one of the highlights of my career to give my best to this publication. But I am even more excited to see where Katie will take it next. I'll be reading along with you.

# **BUCKNELL**

magazine

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# **AGNES RECALLED**

THE ARTICLE AND PICTURES about Tropical Storm Agnes in the Spring 2022 issue were grim reminders of my having witnessed the flooding firsthand. [Professor] Bill Cooper, the economics department chair, had given me a summer job funded by a National Science Foundation grant. My off-campus apartment was on St. Anthony Street, very near the Susquehanna River. As Agnes roared into Lewisburg in the overnight hours, I realized this was not just any storm - the buckets of rain seemed endless. So much so, I was awake most of the night cautiously monitoring the deluge. The open area behind my apartment was filling up extremely fast, and by morning it was clear that immediate evacuation was in order. Market Street was under 10 feet of water, and the only way out to higher ground on the Bucknell hill was via someone's improvised boat taxi with an outboard motor. Imagine floating the length of

Market Street and seeing the tops of parked cars totally submerged by flood water!

My then girlfriend, Sheri Cappell Morant '73, was also in Lewisburg that summer doing research for [Professor] Alan Leshner in the psych department. Sheri and I sought refuge at the mostly empty Sigma Chi house for several days until the flooding subsided. Food and drink was a bit catch-as-catch-can during that time, but I do recall finding coffee in the house kitchen. And who do I remember helping me search for that first morning cup of Joe? None other than University President Charlie Watts, who was out and about the campus conducting a personal assessment of Agnes' wrath. The next time I was that close to President Watts was a year later when he shook my hand and gave me my diploma at graduation.

**THOM MILLER '73** 

Ladera Ranch, Calif.

# Condoleezza Rice Addresses 'The State of American Democracy'

# The Bucknell Forum returns

by MIKE FERLAZZO

JUST TWO DAYS after the 21st anniversary of 9/11, Condoleezza Rice — the national security advisor to President George W. Bush when the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, took place — appeared via Zoom in a Weis Center for the Performing Arts discussion with her friend and former Stanford University colleague, President John Bravman, to kick off the return of the Bucknell Forum speaker series.

Rice, now the Tad and Dianne Taube Director of the Hoover Institution, the Denning Professor in Global Business and the Economy at the Stanford Graduate School of Business, and a professor of political science at Stanford University, told a captivated audience how those attacks changed American national security for good. The hourlong discussion also touched on her time in office, the nation's political polarization, Russia's threat to the U.S. and education reform.

The first female African American secretary of state and first woman to serve as national security advisor, Rice opened the program saying "the state of American democracy is not as we would like it to be." She then cited three elements that cause her concern.

"One is that Americans, of many stripes, don't see themselves any longer in our institutions," she said.

Rice expressed a second concern that many Americans now find "the American dream" beyond reach. She cited the lack of quality education for the nation's poorest children as a root cause of that deterioration. Rice called the nation's polarization, or "increased tribalism," her third concern.

"There's a tendency to go to our corners — to hang out metaphorically, particularly on social media — with those who think like us, those who say what makes us comfortable," she said. "[We have] difficulty engaging with those who think differently, and when we do, we seem to get into yelling matches rather than recognize there can be different sides to an issue."



▲ President John Bravman appeared onstage at the Weis Center for a virtual discussion with his former Stanford colleague Condoleezza Rice.

Ultimately, Rice said she remains optimistic about the country's ability to resolve its current political differences. "I do believe our institutions are pretty strong," she said. "They survived the Civil War, and they survived January 6."

Rice was the first of five nationally renowned speakers who will discuss "The State of American Democracy" in this year's Bucknell Forum — a speaker series that since 2007 has featured national leaders, scholars and commentators examining various issues from multidisciplinary and diverse viewpoints. Remaining speakers will appear in person on the following dates:

- Jake Tapper, journalist, author, cartoonist and lead Washington anchor for CNN, on Wednesday, Nov. 30.
- John Kasich, former Republican governor of Ohio, and David Axelrod, former senior adviser to President Barack Obama, both senior political commentators at CNN, on Tuesday, Feb. 28.
- Barbara F. Walter '86, author of the New York Times bestseller How Civil Wars Start (and How to Stop Them), on Tuesday, April 4.

Ticketing information bucknell.edu/forum

# NEWS TICKER

#### **LEADING TALENT**

**Bucknell** welcomed veteran human resources and diversity, equity and inclusion leader Nicole Whitehead as its new vice president for human resources. following a nationwide search. Whitehead, who began Aug. 8, formerly held leadership roles with a wide range of educational institutions, including junior and community colleges, a public university and a private women's college.

#### **STAGING ACTIVISM**

**Professor Elena** Machado Sáez, English, will spend the academic year at the **National Humanities** Center in the North Carolina Research Triangle studying how Latinx playwrights approach activism through theatre. She is one of just 33 scholars chosen for the fellowship from an applicant pool of nearly 600.

## SERVING THE WORLD Three Class of 2022

graduates have taken

their passion for service and community-building abroad as Fulbright Award winners. Serving as English-language teaching assistants, Genevieve Block '22 is working in Bucaramanga, Colombia; Lily Shorney '22 in Chrudim, Czech Republic; and Giuliana Ferrara '22 in Ghent,

Belgium.

Photo: April Bartholomew

# burg and Beyond

In Lewisburg and far afield, Bucknell's students and staff make a positive and palpable difference.



▲ Front: Robert J. Brungraber G'05, Ben Brungraber P'05 Rear: Patrick McNierney '83, Brian Hassinger '82, Randy Cassidy '82, Miranda McGinnis, Jim Muffly '82

Lewisburg, Pa. In fall 1980, Lewisburg

Mayor Lewis
Hendricks visited
Professor Dick
McGinnis' civil
engineering class. The
borough was looking
to revitalize the area
around Limestone
Run, better known
downtown as Bull Run,
and Hendricks asked
students for help.

Randy Cassidy '82 proposed an idea: a pedestrian footbridge crossing the creek at Cherry Alley that could withstand the force of future floods.

"I thought we would build a model, put some strain gauges on it, write a report and move on with life," Cassidy says. His senior design professor, **Robert J. Brungraber G'05**, had other plans. "The heck with that," he told him. "We're gonna build it."

#### **What They Did**

Eighteen months later, Cassidy was inside that footbridge — a covered, wooden span of 46.5 feet — as it made its way on a flatbed up University Avenue to Market Street, where two cranes waited to lift it into place. By his side was project partner **Brian Hassinger '82**, while their advisers sat atop the roof, ensuring the bridge cleared the telephone wires along the way. Lewisburg residents lined the snow-covered sidewalks to watch the spectacle.

#### **What Came Next**

Forty years and several floods later, the bridge still spans the creek, connecting the Bull Run neighborhood and the downtown shopping district. It has also kept the bridgebuilders connected to Lewisburg.

In April, Hassinger, Cassidy, Jim Muffly '82, Patrick McNierney '83 and other alumni held a reunion with McGinnis' widow, Miranda, as well as with Brungraber and his son Robert L. "Ben" Brungraber P'05, both civil engineering professors who oversaw construction.

► From left: Hanna Holmes '23, Eleanor Geno '23 and Sarah Preston '25 They performed maintenance and replaced a sign that recognizes the builders and local hero Gordon A. Hufnagle, to whom the bridge is dedicated.

"It continues to bring us together," Cassidy says.

– Matt Hughes

Robert J. Brungraber died on June 27. His obituary is on page 59.



# South Williamsport, Pa.

On the bank of the Susquehanna River in South Williamsport, Pa., lies a nearly 230-acre plot with a history tracing back centuries — from the Indigenous people who first settled the land to the birding expeditions of environmentalist Robert Porter Allen, who rescued entire species from extinction in the 1940s. Today, Sylvan

Dell is Bucknell's newest site for student exploration and discovery, thanks to a collaboration between local partners and the Bucknell Center for Sustainability & the Environment (BCSE).

#### **What They Do**

Since spring 2021, students have pursued historical, environmental and civilinterest projects on Sylvan Dell's wetlands and former farmstead. They've charted the site's environmental features, crafted proposals for a regenerative agricultural farm and hosted a public "bio blitz" to identify local animal species.

This past summer, Eleanor Geno '23 began investigating the history of an Indigenous village that may have once existed where a nearby oil

terminal now sits.

"The presence of this village was well documented during the oil farm's construction in the 1950s, yet little else is known about it," says Geno, a history and environmental studies double-major. She's working with local historical societies and state agencies to recover the site's history.

#### **What They Love**

While Sylvan Dell is one of the largest remaining floodplain wetlands on the Susquehanna's west branch, the marsh is now only a fraction of its original size. In addition to helping restore the wetland, the partnership is "providing research opportunities for students and faculty across Bucknell's three colleges," says BCSE program director Shaunna Barnhart. "And it's a great opportunity to collaborate with local partners based on shared values."

– Brooke Thames



hotos: Emily Paine

# Photos: Courtesy of Lainey Lavelle '22

# DISCOVERING THEIR STORIES

Students trace their Bucknell journey through new digital portfolio initiative

#### by BROOKE THAMES

**THERE'S ONLY SO MUCH** of a college education that a resume can capture. Sometimes, a student's most transformative experiences can't be summarized in a single bullet point.

Perhaps no one knows this better than Bucknellians, which is why the University has introduced a new way for students to chart their four years of knowledge, exploration and growth. Launched last academic year, the Pathways program encourages students to thoughtfully integrate their curricular and co-curricular experiences through the creation of a digital portfolio.

Equipped with a range of tools for writing, displaying photos, embedding documents and more, this highly customizable personal site allows for vivid mapping of the college journey – from Orientation to graduation. But the Pathways portfolio is more than an amalgamation of a student's accomplishments in the classroom – it's an exercise in self-discovery.

"We often say that we want students to

meditate on their Bucknell experience, but then we find ourselves asking, 'Well, where do they do that?' " says Joseph Tranquillo, associate provost for transformative teaching & learning. "This initiative aims to provide a place where students can do that in a meaningful way."

As students reflect on their involvement in residence halls, clubs, study abroad programs and beyond, they gain a clearer understanding of their own values, goals, strengths and weaknesses – and how it all relates to their academic and professional trajectory.

"The process of creating a personal narrative is instrumental in threading personal and academic lessons in a coherent way," says Tranquillo. "So even if this portfolio isn't necessarily something you'd present at a job interview – the way an artist or an engineer might – you've still done the intellectual work to communicate effectively about what you've learned here."

To provide a range of entry points for student participation, the University is

working to integrate Pathways into a variety of programs, curricula and resources across campus. After completing this year's Common Reading book, George Takei's *They Called Us Enemy*, all first-year students were invited to translate their takeaways into a piece of interpretive work to be added to their digital portfolio. The Center for Career Advancement is also developing a half-credit course centering the portfolio as a powerful tool.

For education major **Lainey Lavelle '22**, the portfolio proved instrumental.

"As I was interviewing for teaching positions, it was great to go back and access everything I did and learned through the student-teaching placement I had while at Bucknell," says Lavelle. "I actually gave my interviewers a QR code to my portfolio so they were able to see what I'd accomplished. That not only set me apart but also gave me a leg up because they could see how much I've prepared for a career in teaching."





◀ Lainey Lavelle '22's
Pathways portfolio
showcases her past work
as a student teacher at
Baugher Elementary
School in Milton, Pa.

"I actually gave my interviewers a QR code to my portfolio so they were able to see what I'd accomplished."

LAINEY LAVELLE '22

# Q&A



Stephen Appiah-Padi

# BRINGING THE WORLD TO BUCKNELL

by BROOKE THAMES

As director of Bucknell's Office of Global & Offcampus Education, Stephen Appiah-Padi understands the importance of mapping a travel plan, because "if you don't know where you're going, you'll never get there." That's the idea behind Bucknell's new Internationalization Lab, a committee of faculty and staff working to chart a coordinated, futuristic path toward achieving Bucknell's vision of becoming a more global institution. Appiah-Padi is one of the passionate committee members leading the charge.

# Q: HOW DO YOU DEFINE GLOBAL EDUCATION AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT THAT BUCKNELL STUDENTS BE READY TO LIVE AND WORK AS "GLOBAL CITIZENS"?

Global education is teaching and learning that focuses on the complex interrelationships between various people, traditions, cultures, civilizations and religions – as well as geographic entities that have informed and continue to inform our understanding of the world we live in.

Globalization as an economic phenomenon has played a large part in breaking down past barriers between nations. The world is becoming more connected every day; yet with the destruction of old barriers, new ones arise - mainly because of inequities in the system of globalization. It would be a great disservice to not focus on teaching students about the complexities

of modern-day intranational and international relations or to not equip them with the skills to function within those dynamics.

There's no better way to do this than by working with our own diverse student, faculty and staff populations on campus, and tailoring our academic and administrative practices to reflect the kind of knowledge, skills and perspectives that will serve our students as they enter the world post-Bucknell. Global education is now an educational imperative, not a choice.

# Q: HOW WILL THE INTERNATIONALIZATION LAB FURTHER BUCKNELL'S ASPIRATION OF BECOMING MORE GLOBAL IN ITS OPERATIONS ACROSS CAMPUS?

The major goal is to enhance teaching and learning in the context of our globalized world so that our students are better prepared to live and work as global citizens. Under the auidance of the American Council on Education - and with a cohort of 13 other institutions - the Internationalization Lab will launch a two-year process of self-reflection and analysis to develop action plans for academic and administrative policies and practices. Overall, we're seeking to move closer to our aspiration to bring Bucknell to the world, and the world to Bucknell.

# Q: WHAT WILL THE TWO-YEAR SELF-REFLECTION EXAMINE?

We'll be taking a detailed look at our efforts to make education more international, many of which are currently unseen or siloed. Conducting a University-wide review and analysis will enable us to bring these efforts to light, articulate an institutional vision for

international education and devise a globalization strategy oriented toward that vision.

# Q: AT THE END OF THE PROCESS, WHICH DISCIPLINES, INSTITUTES AND PROGRAMS WILL SEE NEW OR INCREASED GLOBALIZATION INITIATIVES?

Because students cultivate knowledge and skills through all of their experiences on campus, the initiative will affect all facets of the institution - from academics and experiential learning opportunities to administrative operations. Creating the optimal environment for students to grow into global citizens requires us to collectively channel our focus into making Bucknell more international.

So far, the Internationalization Lab committee has met with various administrative and academic departments, engaged faculty through the Teaching & Learning Center's Faculty
Learning Series, held
focus groups with
international students,
and deployed a survey to
students, faculty and
staff.

## Q: HOW DO YOU HOPE YOUR WORK WILL IMPACT STUDENTS?

As the committee engages with students and learns from their experiences, we hope to develop actionable steps to address the challenges of ensuring a global experience for students at Bucknell - for instance, the development of policies that allow full access to study abroad and a campus environment that better supports international students. Best of all, we hope that the initiative will transform the University into a truly globalized environment for teaching and learning that prepares our graduates for the world that awaits.



# **How to Excel**

18 students jump-start their first year in new College of Engineering summer program

by KATIE WILLIARD



when Morgan Powell '26 first made the robot's finger move. On the table in front of her, a 3D-

printed piece attached to an actuator - a flexible mechanical device that can be inflated to change the shape of something - bent like a finger. "It functions through air sent from a pump, which is manipulated using an Arduino," Powell says, using the brand name for a small, single-board microcontroller. "Compared to some of the other models that have been designed, this one is a bit thicker and doesn't curve as much. We're going to make it thinner and add more chambers to increase the curvature and improve its strength."

Within just weeks, Powell and three of her peers would accomplish their goal of creating a handlike soft robotic device that could lift a weighted cup - research aimed at improving the lives of those who rely on prosthetic limbs.

Watching Powell explain her team's design and effortlessly manipulate the digital model she built using Fusion 360 software, one could easily mistake her for a rising junior or senior doing summer research. But the Weyers Cave, Va., native and 17 other first-year students from across the country had never studied in a college lab before. Instead, they were jumping headfirst into life as Bucknell engineers through the Engineering EXCELerator

They designed robots, built

▲ Students work on the development of finger-like components for a robotic hand. Clockwise from left: KJ Portillo '26, Morgan Powell '26, Erol Aydin '26 and Raijoan Carter '26.

chemically driven cars, created and tested new home air filtration methods, examined water quality parameters to determine recreational safety, and explored how virtual reality can be used to expand the classroom.

The Engineering EXCELerator program kick-starts the classroom experience for first-year students, inviting them to dive into team-based design projects, train on makerspace tools and take introductory coursework before the start of their first semester. Funded by the generosity of donor partners and open to students from all backgrounds, the endowed program offers a foundational engineering experience at no cost to students.

Erin Jablonski, associate dean of engineering, led the development of the program in 2021 with a clear vision of providing early exposure to engineering concepts. "The program helps students build academic and social capital and sets them on a trajectory for success," she says. "And

because the students are from a wide variety of geographical locations, high school environments, intended majors and prior experiences with design and prototyping, the program doesn't do just one thing or fill one need. It is meant to bring a broad pool of great students together to work toward common goals."

#### A Hands-on Head Start

Students work on projects with faculty advisers, putting the design and prototyping skills they acquire as part of the **EXCELerator** program into practice. For Joshua Raeter '26, who was part of the cohort working with Professors Deborah Sills and Carley Gwin on a water-filtration system, EXCELerator offered a first look at the application of material he'd learned in his Princeton, N.J., high school. "I was taught a lot of theoretical and technical information in lectures," he says. "But now, I'm seeing it all applied in a lab. I'm going to focus on environmental engineering, so this project is



teaching me skills that I'll use in my major."

In addition to the project work, participants build their physics and calculus knowledge with classroom instruction, and learn the lay of the land on campus and in the engineering facilities.

"It's really obvious that the whole point of this program is to make sure we're well prepared for fall semester," says Powell. "We're getting certified on the technology, taking classes, learning the campus and making friends. It's helping us develop a really solid foundation so that we're completely comfortable here."

For Omuhle Ndhlovu '26, having the extra time to adjust to life as a Bucknell engineer was doubly beneficial. Hailing from Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, Ndhlovu was able to not only gain familiarity with the campus and resources in the College of Engineering through the program, but also to adjust to a wholly unfamiliar culture, since she arrived on campus early to take part. "It's important for me, socially, to get to be here," she says. "I'm learning all about the cultural dynamics. It's been very eye-opening and helpful."

In just its second year, the EXCELerator program has already influenced some students' decision to say "yes" to Bucknell. Powell was strongly swayed to accept her offer of admission by the outreach she received about the program. "The number of professors that invited me here was wonderful," she says. "They made promises and fulfilled them. Before even starting my first semester, I'm here in this great environment; learning, making connections and being an engineer."

Coming to Bucknell from Los Angeles, Jonathan Cabrera '26 saw how the program filled the gaps. "My school didn't have the most resources, and EXCELerator made it possible for me to learn what I couldn't in high school," he says. "I'll be more comfortable when the semester starts because I have the same foundation as many of my peers."

# **Empowering Future Engineers** The program's goal is to do more than level the playing field.

The cross-disciplinary group

Alex Dalton '26 (right) and Gardy Philogene '26 build a car powered by chemical reactions.

work provides students with a deeper understanding of the ways in which the fields of engineering intersect, and the technical and academic preparation improves retention within the engineering program.

Jablonski saw last year's participants - many of whom share Cabrera's experience - quickly become leaders in and out of the classroom. With two years of success serving as a foundation, she has high hopes for the ways the program will continue empowering new Bucknellians.

Jonathan Cabrera '26 (center) tests the waters of Bull Run with the help of Melanie Gamboa '24 (right) and fellow EXCELerator participant Angel Paucar '26.

"My hope for the future is to sustain this program so that at least 10% of each incoming engineering class is recruited to join the EXCELerator cohort," she says. "These students are well-equipped and prepared for Engineering 100, physics and calculus; have the time management skills to succeed in their courses; and are comfortable on campus. It all combines to give them a sense of accomplishment and belonging that makes them a great resource for their peers."





**FROM SOLVING** product-design challenges for real-world businesses to making headway on a problem that has vexed mathematicians for decades, Bucknell students spent the summer expanding their knowledge through hands-on projects. Here's a look at just a small fraction of their fascinating work. - Brooke Thames

# **BLOWN AWAY**

**UNDER THE GUIDANCE** of mechanical engineering professors Nate Siegel and Craig Beal, four Bucknell engineers devised methods to test an innovative wind turbine designed by a Pennsylvaniabased energy company. Unlike traditional pinwheel-shaped turbines, this novel tower-like generator rotates on a vertical axis, allowing it to respond to wind from any direction and withstand higher wind speeds. The project continues this fall with efficiency-measuring experiments using turbine models and data-collection devices built by student researchers.

# CHASING THE SALESMAN

**COMPUTER SCIENCE** majors teamed up with Professor Samuel Gutekunst. computer science and mathematics, to take on one of the most famous algorithmic puzzles in history: the Circulant Traveling Salesman Problem, Given a list of cities and the distances between them, what is the shortest possible route that visits each city exactly once and returns to the starting point? It's one of the most intensively studied problems in computational optimization and, with funding from a National Science Foundation Grant, students made promising breakthroughs in their quest for an answer.

# The Makings of a Movement

INTRIGUED by the intersection of personal beliefs and politics, religious studies and political science double-major Paris Gallagher '23 dove into studying how the ideas of fringe communities can shape the mainstream political landscape. Her research - overseen by Professor John Penniman, religious studies - focused on the QAnon phenomenon, specifically the group's presence on social media and reputation within religious denominations in the United States.

# **CREATIVE COLLABORATION**

**EACH WEEK.** 10 student interns at the **Bucknell Small Business Development** Center worked with corporate partners to craft creative solutions for commercial challenges. These Bucknellian consultants helped develop a data-tracking system for an exercise aid, construct a device for testing fabric elasticity and advise a fast-casual food chain on a new approach to marketing - touting its clean and convenient bathrooms.

# **Bucknell Welcomes Two'99 Alumni** to Board of Trustees

## by KATIE WILLIARD

TWO GRADUATES who crossed the Commencement stage in 1999 have returned to Bucknell as members of the Board of Trustees, Made up of alumni. parents and friends of the University, the board guides the strategic direction of Bucknell through shared leadership expertise.

The new appointees, Martin Gilliard '99 and Laurie Schmidt '99, began five-year terms in July. Each brings significant leadership experiences to the role, where they will work to align the University's key initiatives with its strategic goals.

At Bucknell, Gilliard double-majored in business management and studio art and was on the men's basketball team. He went on to receive executive education at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management and serves as the senior director and head of Meta Store - Reality Labs for tech giant Meta, formerly known as Facebook.

Schmidt joins the board with nearly 20 years of experience with Goldman Sachs Asset Management, where she is a partner. She received a bachelor's of science in business administration with a focus on

accounting and began her career at PricewaterhouseCoopers. Schmidt also serves on the board for the Cornelia Connelly Center, a New York City nonprofit supporting under-resourced girls from middle school through college and beyond.

At the spring Board of Trustees meeting, President John Bravman also thanked three outgoing board members, Michael Flowers '76, Steve Holmes '79, P'06, P'08 and David Maurrasse. "Their significant contributions to the board and generosity to this University will be felt by generations to come," Bravman said.



Our curious questions about nature, history, human behavior and more are the essence of Bucknellians' everyday work. Why do leaves change color in the fall? Professor Chris Martine, biology, has the answer.



**Professor Chris Martine** David Burpee Chair in Plant Genetics & Research, Director of the Manning Herbarium

# WHY DO LEAVES CHANGE COLOR?

IT'S ALL ABOUT the ability for plants to read and respond to their environment. As the days get shorter and temperatures get cooler, deciduous trees (the ones that drop their leaves) respond by slowly shutting things down for the winter. One key step is "retiring" their leaves for the year and reclaiming whatever resources are in them. As those elements are recovered, the green pigment plants use to absorb light for photosynthesis (chlorophyll) is drained from the leaves.

When all of that green disappears, yellow and orange pigments that were largely hidden by the chlorophyll are revealed. Red and purple pigments also accumulate, especially when autumn days are bright and cool. The result is a beautiful, multi-colored show before the leaves fall to the ground.

Of course, not every woody plant goes through this process. Many trees and shrubs are evergreen and don't shut down their leaves in the fall. This can be a risky habit because leaves require water to sustain them, and when water is frozen during winter, it is not available for uptake. Evergreen leaves — like the leaves of rhododendrons or the needles of conifers — tend to be resistant to drying out, employing thick "skins" and waxy coverings to protect whatever water they can acquire during the colder months.





▲ MJ Kuczura '24 is the youngest player to serve as captain in Bison men's soccer history.

# **Looking Upfield**

by ANDREW FAUGHT

WHEN MJ KUCZURA '24 first bumped a soccer ball around the playing fields of New Hope, Pa., at age 4, the professional game was mostly an afterthought among American sports fans.

But Kuczura found something meaningful in the sport: joy.

"When you're on the field, you don't have to worry about anything except what's going on in front of you," says the economics major, whose mother played competitively at Temple University. "You get out there, clear your mind and have some fun with your buddies."

It's an attitude that contributed to Kuczura's selection as captain of the Bison men's team his sophomore year making him the youngest player to serve in the role. While the 2021 team endured hardships the squad experienced coaching turnover and the arrival of a dozen new players, en route to a withering 4-10-3 final record - Kuczura remained fixated on the big picture.

"My goal was to keep everyone together, to keep everyone focused," he says. "The team knew what they had to do. It was definitely a big responsibility, and I had a lot of fun doing it."

He kept players motivated,

not by emotional locker room pep talks, "but by checking in on them off the field, hitting them up with a text message or going to lunch together. I wanted to make sure everyone was good."

Kuczura, a defender who plays right back, was optimistic about the 2022 campaign, which started in August. The team "gelled" after last year's adversity, he notes, and it will be bolstered by new recruits and transfers.

"We've got some promising first-year players coming in, and we're really looking forward to meeting them and getting to work," Kuczura adds.

For his part, the lithe 6-foot, 155-pound Kuczura will be back on the pitch doing what he does best - crossing the ball (making medium- to long-range passes) and attacking opponents. Head coach Dave Brandt has challenged soccer conventions, asking defenders like Kuczura to work offensive elements into their duties.

Mostly, Kuczura runs. Last season, he played all 90 minutes of regulation five times, putting to work his intense conditioning regimen. Defenders, he says, are some of the fittest players on the field.

Kuczura trains six days a week during the season with numerous 30-minute sessions of "hardcore running" in addition to weight training and ball handling exercises.

Kuczura, who was recruited

to play soccer at Bucknell after playing with two youth teams in Scotland, and for the FC Delco academy club from 2011 to 2016, plans to hang up his cleats after college. He spent the summer taking a remote class in microeconomics through the London School of **Economics and Political** Science, and he's considering a financial career.

Soccer, meanwhile, is surging in popularity. Last year, the game supplanted hockey to become the fourth most popular sport in the United States, according to Gallup, and players are quickly gaining celebrity status. Kuczura was even recognized by a fan while grabbing a bite to eat at Chipotle in Lewisburg.

"It's just crazy to see how big the game has gotten," he says. "When we played Penn State, they had tons of fans there. Our game with UNC was livestreamed on the ACC Network. Back in the day, that stuff didn't happen. It's great to see."

# **INSTANT**

# **PROUDEST ACCOMPLISH-**

"Being elected captain my sophomore year."

## RUNNING. **RUNNING AND MORE** RUNNING

"When I was younger, I'd go, go, go, and get burned out. I pick my moments and catch my breath. You definitely work the entire time."

#### **EVOLUTION OF THE SPORT**

"I play a 'modern right.' Twenty years ago, defenders weren't attacking or guarding up the field."

#### STRIKING A **BALANCE**

"There's a perfect balance of academics and soccer. I wanted to challenge myself, and Bucknell is definitely the place to do it."



# **NEW JERSEY NINJA**

by MATT HUGHES

**SOME KIDS** want to be basketball players when they grow up. Others dream of Super Bowls or Olympic gold medal glory. For as long as he can remember, Tyler Behrle '23 has wanted to be a ninja.

This spring, he got his shot.

On June 13, Behrle made his debut on American Ninja Warrior, the reality competition show in which contestants try to conquer a punishing obstacle course that tests strength and balance in equal measure. The episode, filmed in March in San Antonio, Texas, showed him completing the first four obstacles of the program's larger-than-life course before falling on the Piston Plunge - a performance good enough to earn him a return in the Los Angeles semifinal.

Behrle missed the cut on his second go-round in a segment that didn't make the final broadcast, but was still grateful for the opportunity. In fact, stepping onto the Ninja set felt long overdue to the sociology and economics double-major from North Caldwell, N.J. He was selected to appear last season but had to cancel due to COVID-related travel restrictions - but Behrle has been getting ready for a lot longer than that.

It started on a backyard jungle gym,

where a 12-year-old Behrle would run up the slide, pretending to scale the program's signature 14-foot Warped Wall, and traverse the chains of his swingset in imitation of obstacles like Cliffhanger and the Unstable Bridges.

By the summer before high school, Behrle had upgraded. With the help of his father, he built a proper obstacle course in the yard — one that would eventually include an actual Warped Wall – along with homemade versions of the Salmon Ladder and Quintuple Steps.

In the suburbs of northern New Jersey, a ninja had begun his training.

"I would come home from high school, and if it was a nice day, I'd spend three to four hours on the ninja course, and then I would do my homework," Behrle recalls.

Behrle's preparation soon moved beyond the backyard to so-called "ninja gyms," training centers with their own versions of American Ninja Warrior obstacles, and he only got better from there. He began competing with, and now works for, the National Ninja League, an organization that hosts amateur ninja contests for athletes of a variety of ages and skill levels. In 2017, he won the league's national youth division championship.

▲ Tyler Behrle '23 takes the 'American Ninja Warrior' stage.

At age 14, he also hosted his own backyard ninja competition fundraiser for Ninja for a Cure, a nonprofit founded by three-time American Ninja Warrior contestant Henry Ferrarin that raises money for the Breast Cancer Research Foundation. Behrle has since raised more than \$15,000 over four total Ninja for a Cure events.

At Bucknell, he still balances homework and ninja training. In preparation for the show, he alternated weeknights devoted to schoolwork and workouts, with much of his physical prep happening on the climbing wall in Gerhard Fieldhouse. As his classmates and professors learned about what he was doing, Behrle found a supportive community to cheer

So now that he's made it to the big stage, what's next for Bucknell's one and only ninja?

"I've been thinking about that a lot," Behrle says. "I do not think I will be applying again next year because I don't want to spend the last semester of my senior year focusing on getting my weight right or how many pull-ups I can do. But after that? If I get a job near a ninja gym, I still love the sport and I will totally be going to that ninja gym twice a week or more. And I would definitely consider doing this again in the future."

# Bucknellian **Brickmasters**

Bucknell parents design a Rooke Chapel LEGO kit for their graduate

by BROOKE THAMES



hen Abby Strayer '22 looks back on her college graduation, she'll have more than cards once

stuffed with cash, the memory of a fancy dinner or a souvenir from a celebratory summer trip to spark fond memories of that special day. Thanks to her imaginative parents, she'll own a handcrafted tribute to her college years - a model of Bucknell's Rooke Chapel, constructed entirely of LEGO bricks.

Using architectural blueprints sourced from the University, Tim Strayer P'22 designed a build-it-yourself kit of the iconic campus building. "My wife and I wanted to present a graduation gift that was both interesting and meaningful," he says.

The couple was inspired by their family's years-long affinity for tinkering with the construction toys. It's a hobby that began when Tim and his wife, Carmen Pancerella P'22, coached their daughter's middle school team through the FIRST LEGO League Challenge, in which young students build and program a LEGO robot to

complete a series of tasks. From there, the Strayers endeavored to become amateur Brickmasters, transforming their basement into a LEGO lab, where they've assembled everything from a 900-piece retro diner to a 3,000-piece treehouse.

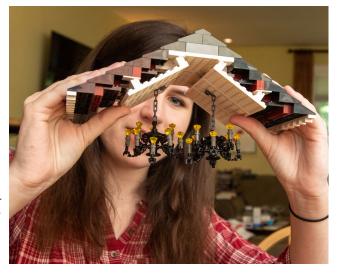
The homemade Rooke Chapel's main sanctuary and adjoining meditation space comprise 3,512 pieces, making it among the largest LEGO sets Abby has ever worked on - and the most personal. As one of Bucknell's Rooke Chapel Ringers, the history and theatre double-major spent Thursday nights on campus in the sanctuary, practicing with the handbell choir.

"This couldn't have been a more heartfelt present," says Abby, who returned home to West Newton, Mass., after graduating in May. "When I was in the beginning stages of building it, I could already see the hours it took to plot it all out, one brick at a time."

## Brick by Brick

A computer scientist by profession, Tim used computeraided design software to construct his LEGO Rooke





▲ Tim Strayer P'22 sourced custom and hard to find bricks from around the world, including chandeliers and a pair of croissants to represent filagree work on the chapel's front portico.

Chapel brick by brick in digital space. But ensuring it would stand on its own in reality meant he had to build it himself, and sourcing the parts and pieces "is not as simple as going down to the store - not for a highly architectural project like this," Tim says.

"There's a whole community of buyers and sellers I turned to in order to acquire very specific or uncommon pieces," he explains. "Since the community is worldwide, a lot of the pieces ship from Canada, Germany and Scandinavia."

Those unique pieces included a pair of croissants ordered from Germany, which Tim used as the ornamental filigree on the chapel's front portico. Assembled from 25 pieces, the door was the most

difficult aspect of the structure to conceptualize, with Tim going through four iterations before settling on the most true-to-life design. The next most challenging feature was the spire, which required perfectly sized flat tiles to mimic the steep slope.

## The Perfect Piece

To ensure that all of the intricate details of the model are visible, the building's facade and roof components detach, revealing the pews, pulpits and altars that furnish the interior - along with a special surprise: In the main sanctuary's chancel is a troupe of Minifigures playing handbells, each one representing a real Rooke Chapel Ringer (Abby, Ryan Bremer '22, Jon Riker '22 and handbell choir director Rob Riker '88, M'91, P'22).

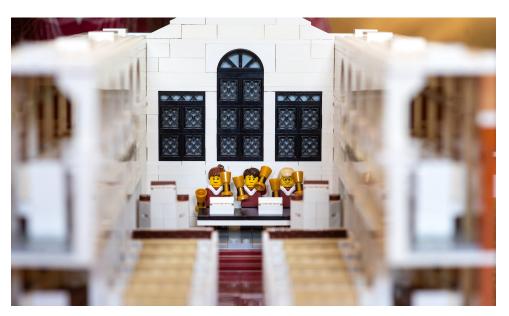


▲ Bucknell's Facilities division provided building schematics to help Tim Strayer P'22 (right) create a 3,512 piece, one-of-a-kind replica of Rooke Chapel in LEGO bricks, a graduation gift for daughter Abby '22 (left). "My wife and I wanted to present a graduation gift that was both interesting and meaningful," Tim says.

Once complete, Tim disassembled the structure and packaged the pieces into a boxed kit that he presented to his daughter when they returned home following Commencement.

"It speaks perfectly to my time at Bucknell, but also to all the years we've spent working with LEGO together as a family," says Abby, who spent the summer reconstructing the chapel, using a 762-page manual her father created. "I'm lucky to have parents who would think so outside the box for me."

**→** Build your own version with step-by-step instructions magazine.bucknell.edu



A personal touch are the Minifigures representing Abby and other members of the Rooke Chapel Ringers handbell choir.



# In It for the Laughs

by KATIE WILLIARD



When **Matt Nelsen '10** started his job at a utility in San Francisco, he had no intention of pursuing his interest in comedy as anything more than a hobby. Twelve years later, the former engineer is a filmmaker, combining his analytical nature with the freedom he finds in creating smart, comedic entertainment.

# When was your passion for comedy born?

I did a little performing in high school, but auditioning for the improv group We Brake for Nobody when I got to Bucknell is what really propelled my interest.

# How did you make the leap into filmmaking from engineering?

Right out of college, I moved to San Francisco to work as an engineer. I did a few comedy shows around the city and that led me to a new improv theatre. I started doing more shows and teaching classes, and when the theatre's founder moved to Chicago, I took it over with two other people.

Eventually it got to be too much, and there was this fork in the road where I had to choose between a very solid union engineering job — with consistent pay and pension and everything - and the comedy route, which is obviously very different.

I went with comedy, all in. I quit my job, stepped away from the theatre and moved to New York.

# Do you consider yourself more creative or analytical?

Well, there's an understandable expectation that I would be more analytical, and that definitely comes through. But as I've gotten more resources, I've become more free,

comedywise, so I guess I'm a mix of both at this point. There are, of course, many great analytical comedy performers.

# Who are some comedy greats vou admire?

My grandfather and family introduced me to all the '60s and '70s comedy stars. Peter Sellers and Steve Martin; Bill Murray, Chevy Chase, Gilda Radner those SNL greats. I'm also a huge Gene Wilder fan.

At Bucknell, I watched a ton of sketch comedies like Mr. Show and also got really into Clone High. Punch Drunk Love stands out too; Adam Sandler with Paul Thomas Anderson. You see this broad, very talented comedy performer and a great director creating something that perfectly meshed their abilities.

# What projects do you have in the works?

It's really a mashup - some individual projects and scripts I wrote. I spend about half my time working on a YouTube channel called Climate Town. It has a pretty big following [385,000 subscribers at the time of this writing] and we make videos that cover climate topics from a comedic angle. I'm also working on my second feature-length comedy. We have a script and producers attached to it, and we're trying to arrange financing to shoot later this summer.

# Climate Town sounds like a mashup of your engineering background and filmmaking.

It really is. I came to this place where I felt the desire to mix engineering into my comedy work somehow. Climate Town has done that. A friend I met doing comedy in New York started the channel, then I came on a little later to help it grow. He went to Columbia for his master's in climate science, and so our interests and expertise align. It's grown into a full-blown company, and is a direct mashup of engineering and comedy.

# It's certainly an interesting combination.

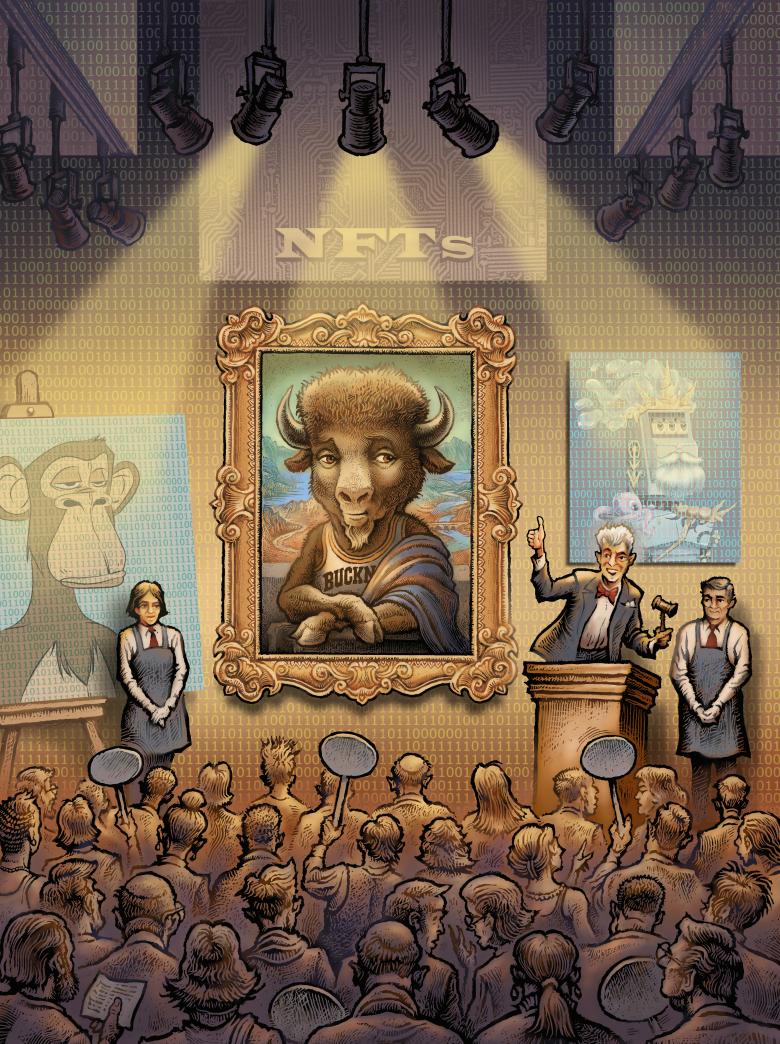
It feels like things have come full circle and I'm satisfied. Life is just a balance of interests, and I've followed the winding path that connects the different things I want to learn more about. Now it feels like it's all coming together; coalescing and ever-evolving.

# When can we expect to see your next film premiere?

If all goes as planned, we'll begin shooting the feature in September and release it next year — maybe in early 2023. There are a lot of variables there.

As far as *Climate Town*, we put out new videos once a month. So that's an easy way to see my work and learn a little bit while you laugh. Hopefully.





# The Grand

# **COME ONE, COME ALL**

to the great NFT auction, but what's really for sale? Are non-fungible tokens the harbinger of a new decentralized economy or a flash-in-the-pan financial fad? A boon for creators or a pox for the planet?

BUCKNELLIANS ARE SHAPING THE DEBATE.

by Matt Zencey

illustrations by Phil Foster



rtist Mike "Beeple" Winkelmann sold one for \$69 million. Twitter founder Jack Dorsey made \$2.9 million by selling one made from his first-ever tweet. Rapper Snoop Dogg sold one as the virtual "house next door" to him in an online community known as the "Snoopverse." The price: \$450,000.

The National Basketball Association sells ones that feature highlight-reel plays. Major League Baseball sells them as a digitally enhanced version of the traditional baseball card. Musicians build fan clubs around ownership of them.

We're talking about the economic phenomena known as non-fungible tokens, or NFTs, and they're causing serious buzz — so much so that *The Collins English Dictionary* anointed "NFT" as its Word of the Year in 2021. Anything that can be created in a digital format - an image, a video, a sound clip, a 3D virtual reality session — can be made into an NFT. These unique digital collections of ones-and-zeroes use blockchain technology to store information as discrete, unalterable sets of data and stash them throughout the vast reaches of cyberspace. NFTs appear poised to revolutionize the worlds of art, music, finance and even the internet itself.

At least that's the claim made by many early adopters of NFTs, who eagerly embrace the blockchain technology and cryptocurrency required to create, sell and distribute them. But skeptics question whether the proliferation of NFTs, and the eye-popping cryptocurrency sale prices that some command, are merely a speculative bubble driven by irrational hype – a modern version of the Dutch tulip craze of the 1630s.

## REVOLUTIONARY ART ... OR RANK SPECULATION?

Kamiar Maleki '01 is an NFT enthusiast. A collector who organizes international art fairs, he sees NFTs as a bold new form of digital art. He organized what's believed to be the first residency for NFT artists in 2021, an event called "Present the Future," with British rapper Tinie Tempah, digital artist Vector Meldrew and painter Sassan Behnam-Bakhtiar. "It was a great collaboration between three fields — music, art and digital art," he says.

NFTs are economically attractive to artists because, Maleki says, they can be structured to provide a royalty on any future resale of the work and let artists set terms for licensing of other economic uses.

They also offer great potential in the world of music, says Matthew Mehaffey '97, a musician, conductor and professor at the University of Minnesota. None but a few superstars currently earn significant income from streaming services that play their music, and going on tour can be an exhausting way for lesser-known musicians to generate a little more income. NFTs, Mehaffey says, "can help musicians put more revenue from their intellectual property into their pockets." Those NFTs might capture a special moment onstage or backstage, or provide a digitally enhanced, collectible "card" with links to special information about the

musicians, or create a digital version of a fan's ticket to an event, with a link to video of the performance. By selling NFTs, musicians can identify who their listeners are (which is not possible on streaming services like Spotify) and directly market other revenue-producing experiences to them. Mehaffey is hoping to help musicians realize that opportunity with his new venture, SuperFan NFT Studios, a consulting business that will offer a marketplace for NFTs.

Computer science major Cuong Nguyen '23 also sees opportunity in NFTs. Nguyen is developing his own augmented-reality software, AUGART, that can enhance three dimensional works of art, such as sculptures and performance pieces. An app will allow viewers to access the enhanced experience through their smartphone cameras. His platform will let artists sell the augmented reality works as NFTs (and earn Nguyen a commission on the transaction). Though still in the early stages, Nguyen says he hopes his project will become a way "for artists to showcase their work to the public and for people to have a new art experience." At Bucknell's BizPitch competition in April, Nguyen's project won the Innovation Award and a \$1,000 prize.

While futuristic platforms like Nguyen's and NFT works like those produced during Maleki's residency are generating praise and, in many cases, profit (the residency art sold out within 15 minutes), Maleki says "it's not so much about the monetary aspect. It's about supporting talent in the digital art world." He loves the sense of community that NFTs are fostering among artists and collectors, though he recognizes that "many buyers are in it for financial gain."

And that's the essential problem, according to skeptics. Looking at NFTs, they see a feverish form of speculation driven by cryptocurrency mania and astounding, worldwide levels of economic inequality. They see an elite class



with way too much money looking for eye-catching ways to show off.

Bucknell Professor Karen McGrath, finance, notes that the NFT market is inextricably tied to cryptocurrency - it's required to not only buy NFTs but also to create them, verify ownership of them on the blockchain and sell them. And she doesn't see that changing. Until early 2022, crypto markets had been booming, producing billions in profits to many savvy or lucky investors who spent a nice chunk of their crypto gains on high-priced

That was a boon for artists, but McGrath says it's a sign NFTs have likely hit bubble territory. For these rich buyers, "there's a lot of FOMO [fear of missing out]. It makes for a lot of questionable purchases. At some point, we might look back on this and go 'Oh, my God, what were we thinking?" Professor Luiz Felipe Perrone, computer science, shares that suspicion, saying NFTs are fueling "a speculation-based market that doesn't produce any social good." Validating those warnings, the value of leading cryptocurrencies had plunged drastically by mid-2022, dragging down the once-astronomical value of many NFTs and prompting questions about any value they had to begin with.

## □□□ THE VALUE OF "ART"

So, how could a collection of ones and zeros be worth \$69 million in the first place? Especially when anyone can easily make a digital copy of the work for their own use? Is there any inherent value to NFTs? Are they even art, or just sophisticated proof that you own a unique destination in cyberspace?

The answers depend on who you ask.

Economists would say that the market value of something is determined by what a willing buyer pays a willing seller. Finance professor McGrath is struck by the astronomical prices, when what the buyer gets for their money is basically just bragging rights. "What's valuable," she says, "is the ability to say, 'I am the one that owns this thing." (And, by implication, saying: "You don't!")

Doubters note that much of the current value is driven by the ego of wealthy NFT buyers. Economics major Sal Iovino '24, writing in the Dec. 1 issue of The Bucknellian, noted that NFTs have no inherent value and asked whether their high-priced popularity indicates that the modern economy has devolved into a "virtual playground" for ultra-rich speculators. The reaction, he says, was civil but spirited. Some had no idea what NFTs are, but he also heard from fellow students who've already plunged into crypto investing, hoping to make a million dollars before they graduate.

Whatever the "value" of an NFT is, it can be very volatile. Freeman College of Management professor Eric Santanen notes that Jack Dorsey's original tweet - the NFT of which sold for \$2.9 million — is still on Twitter, where "anyone can make their own copy." When the NFT of that tweet went back on the market, Santanen says, the auction was canceled because the high bid was only \$14,000.

In the art world, NFTs are a "highly contentious" subject, according to Richard Rinehart, director of Bucknell's Samek Art Museum. His Facebook feed is full

# SPEAKING THE LINGO

NFTs and cryptocurrencies have ushered a raft of new vocabulary into everyday conversations.

NON-FUNGIBLE TOKEN (NFT): A unique digital asset, typically secured by blockchain technology, that cannot be changed or duplicated. The NFT can itself be a digital "object" or it can signify ownership or verify authenticity of a separate digital file (such as a song, video or image) or actual physical object. Typically requires cryptocurrency to create and buy or sell.

CRYPTOCURRENCY: A digital currency issued by a private entity rather than a government, using technology that can allow users to keep their identity and transactions confidential. The value of any cryptocurrency (there are some 19,000, most notably Bitcoin and Ethereum) may fluctuate wildly.

BLOCKCHAIN: A decentralized internet security technology that treats digital data as unchangeable "blocks" that are distributed throughout cyberspace. Validators are typically paid in cryptocurrency for authenticating the information in these blocks. Sometimes called "an unalterable, distributed digital ledger or database."

PROOF OF WORK: The predominant type of blockchain security, where validators known as "miners" use huge computational networks to solve complex problems, which allows them to generate the next set of validated blockchain data and earn a reward paid in cryptocurrency.

PROOF OF STAKE: An alternative blockchain validation technique. Potential validators "stake," or put on deposit, an amount of cryptocurrency. The more cryptocurrency they stake, the more likely they will be randomly selected to validate a transaction and earn a cryptocurrency reward. Misbehaving validators will forfeit their stake, which incentivizes good behavior.

WEB3: An emerging version of the internet in which users conduct activity using blockchain security instead of entrusting their information to social media companies, cloud storage providers and other powerful intermediaries.



of comments on them from colleagues in the art world, including artists and curators. "Half hate everything about NFTs and disavow them," he says, "and half are leaning in hard, going full NFT."

Rinehart says that digital art in general is changing the valuation game in some ways. Because it can be reproduced infinitely without loss of quality, "it can explode the notion that art is valuable because there's only one. The value can come more from artistic merit, rather than scarcity." McGrath says NFTs can shift some economic power toward artists because they can sell NFTs directly,



bypassing the traditional gatekeepers who decide what is "art" and influence how valuable it is.

The Samek Museum doesn't have any NFTs yet, but it does have what Rinehart calls "works of born-digital art." One of them, he says, is a digital music version of The Star Spangled Banner that has been slowed down so much it takes four years to play through only once.

So, are NFTs a new artistic medium, like photography once was? Or simply a new artistic technique, like onepoint linear perspective? Or something in between?

Art collector Maleki says NFTs themselves are art, though he agrees that owning NFTs is a more "abstract enjoyment process" compared to physical artworks, which are displayed in abundance on the walls of his home. Rinehart, however, contends that an NFT "is only a complicated deed pointing to artwork." Musician and NFT entrepreneur Mehaffey says NFTs are both and more.

Whatever NFTs are, the questions surrounding them and the answers that result — may well produce profound changes in economies and societies across the globe.

# **□□□** THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTION

As NFT creators, buyers and skeptics grapple with questions of value and validity, environmentalists are alarmed for other reasons. The blockchain technology required for NFTs uses huge amounts of electricity. By some estimates, the Bitcoin blockchain by itself consumes as much electricity as a country the size of Argentina. A Yale study reported that old power plants that had been closed because they ran on high-polluting fossil fuels are being restarted to meet the escalating demand for "mining" the cryptocurrency that's offered for performing blockchain tasks.

All that electricity is needed because the blockchain that currently supports Bitcoin and NFTs runs on a technology called "proof of work." Verifying transactions requires solving complex mathematical challenges, which can be done only with vast arrays of computers run by energy-hungry crypto "miners" operating 24/7. There's a race to see who can solve the challenge the fastest and thereby collect a share of the verification fee, which is paid in cryptocurrency.

Samek Museum director Rinehart, like many of his peers, recognizes the problematic nature of the environmental footprint left by NFTs. He knows artists who refuse to create them because they say, "I can't make my little piece of money at the expense of the planet." His own view of NFTs is more nuanced. "If artists can marry art-making with the ability to make money," he says, "that's a good thing. I can't knock it too hard."

Brilliant minds are already pursuing a greener way of running the blockchain, though. The cryptocurrency that currently dominates NFT transactions, Ethereum, recently converted to a different validation technique, called "proof of stake." Users become validators by "staking" their own cryptocurrency — putting it on deposit, so that it's not available for other use and subject to forfeiture if they are caught trying to game or hack the validation system. The more they stake, the more likely they'll be chosen by the chain's validation algorithms and get paid in crypto for performing that service. Nguyen, the aspiring digital entrepreneur, says, "In the near future, everything will be using that more energy-friendly authentication method." By some estimates, converting to proof of stake may cut blockchain electricity use by 99%. Nonetheless, that remaining 1% is part of a gigantic number that grows larger every day - one that could still strain a world on the edge of climate crisis.

#### ■■ MORE THAN A PRETTY PICTURE

NFTs are blossoming in the worlds of art, online gaming, fan clubs and virtual reality "metaverses" like Snoop Dogg's — but will they reach much farther?

Mehaffey, the entrepreneurial musician and professor, expects his first commercial success with NFTs will come in a very different field: the liquor industry. He's helping a new distillery whose whiskey is still aging and not yet ready for sale. The distillery plans to sell NFTs that entitle the holder to acquire the whiskey after the three-year aging process is complete and collect royalties when it is resold. His client will produce early income, and complicated laws governing the traditional liquor trade will not apply to the arrangement.

It's an example of how the blockchain can foster the potentially revolutionary innovation that boosters call "decentralized finance," or "DeFi." They say DeFi is a shining example of what the new generation of internet technology, known as Web 3.0 or Web3, can deliver. (Web 1.0 was the early internet, offering limited, complicated electronic interactions and mostly static, read-only content. Web 2.0 is today's pan-global interactive network, connecting billions of users, largely through tech companies that earn billions of dollars from exploiting users' data.)

Web3 evangelists say its "permissionless" blockchain technology will execute transactions and handle information in a way that's open and easily accessible to any user, without need for the big tech companies and software that scoops up your data so they can monetize it. You'll own your data and information. You'll hold the digital keys to it, not some third-party trustee who may or may not be trustworthy (especially in how they exploit your

data). You'll create and control your accounts - no one can freeze or suspend them.

DeFi enthusiasts believe Web3 will allow easy, efficient and secure financial transactions, in a process as simple as using email or your phone or texting. Businesses may find it especially useful for making and enforcing contracts and authenticating claims that boost the value of a product, such as "sustainably produced" or "not from sweatshop labor."

A new set of Web3 technological intermediaries may well emerge, but the hope is they will lack the power of today's tech giants. If users are unhappy with their service in Web3, they'll easily be able to take their business elsewhere.

Economics major Yuki Yao '25 had an internship this summer in his hometown of Tokyo with a Web3 startup. Yao expects blockchain-based internet applications will be especially useful in places where social trust in intermediaries (like banks, accountants and lawyers) is lacking because the blockchain provides another secure way to verify transactions.

Management professor Santanen isn't sure that NFTs will have staying power, but he thinks the underlying blockchain technology definitely has potential. In today's economy, he says, "we use third-party intermediaries to establish trust, and the blockchain has the potential to disrupt that."

If Web3 and DeFi are going to take off, though, there are some challenges to work out.

After the NFT marketplace OpenSea did an internal review showing that 80% of NFTs listed there were plagiarized, counterfeit or spam, attorney and investor Michael Goldstein '81 was not surprised. A special adviser to an NFT venture called Veriken, he says the early phase of NFTs has been heavy on financial speculation, and "you were bound to get lots of scammers." He sees a need for better counterfeit detection and transparency around prices and fees.

During his one small foray into crypto investing, he says he was shocked at how big a bite the fees took.

"I'm hopeful the next phase will focus on what NFTs are really useful for," Goldstein says. Among the things his venture, Veriken, is working on is a "licensing wizard" that will help collectors and creators protect the intellectual property embodied in NFTs as the tokens change hands.

## **□□□INEVITABLE EXTINCTION?**

In a letter recently sent to Congress, 26 computer scientists, software engineers and other experts disputed the hype around this brave new technology. "Blockchain technologies facilitate few, if

any, real-economy uses," the skeptics said in their "Letter in Support of Responsible Fintech Policy." These "risky, flawed and unproven digital financial instruments" are not "in any way suited to solving the financial problems facing ordinary Americans" and the underlying technology "will remain forever unsuitable as a foundation for large-scale economic activity."

Attorney Goldstein's colleague at Veriken, CEO Chris Clason, is realistic about the security and environmental challenges for this new technology, but he's also optimistic about surmounting them. Proof of stake will become the blockchain standard, cutting the wasteful energy use, Clason predicts, and the security issues will get worked out. "I think Web3 will get there, and all the snake oil salesmen will find somewhere else to go."

While Web3 and the blockchain are still evolving in important ways, NFTs are a hot thing in the art world, at least for now. One benefit they bring, says museum director Rinehart, is offering a more reliable way to document the authenticity of works. "Blockchain and NFTs have got to be more secure than the paper documents we've been relying on for centuries."

But those digital works of art also rely on rapidly evolving technology and complicated equipment, which Rinehart says raises an important question: Will these works, which are ultimately only ones and zeros somewhere in cyberspace, survive for posterity? Over time, high-tech equipment fails or becomes obsolete; software rapidly changes and can become unusable if not simply abandoned.

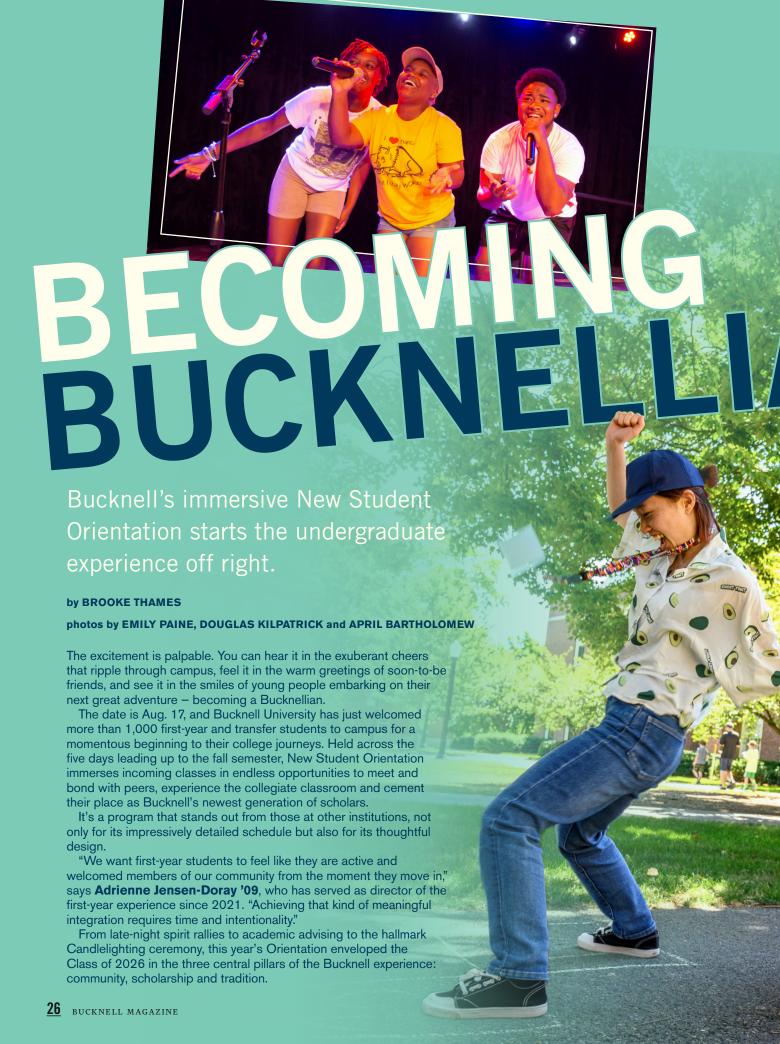
"Does anyone remember HyperCard?" Rinehart asks, referring to an Apple software popular in the 1990s. "There was oodles of content on it from artists, scientists, researchers, teachers. It was a whole universe. All that information's gone. HyperCard was really big, and now it's all gone."

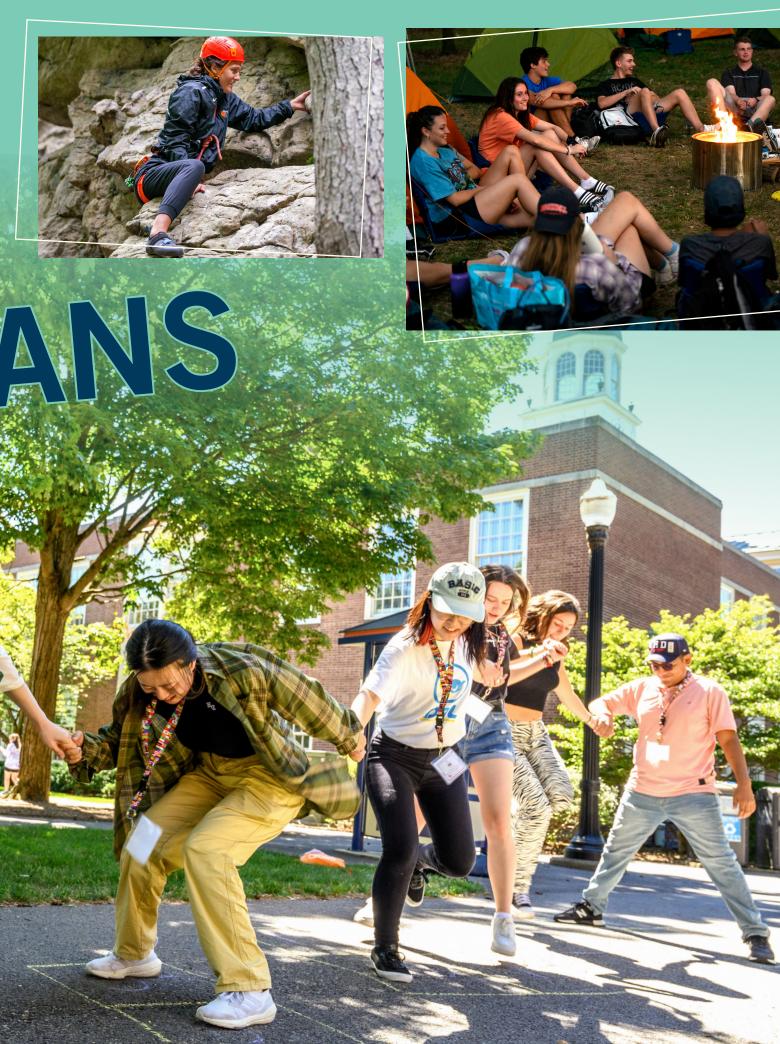
Preservation is just one of many challenges posed

as NFTs, blockchain and Web3 continue to evolve and work their way deeper into daily life. As entrepreneurs and investors drive these

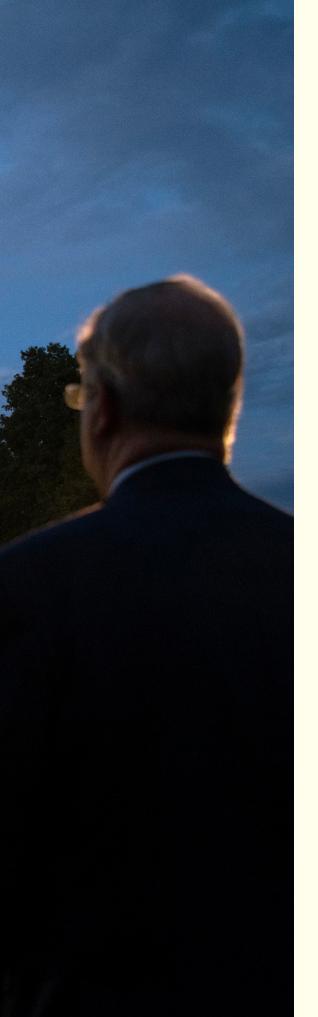
new technologies, there will be benefits and costs, winners and losers, changes good and bad, in both the economy and society as a whole. The debate about the pluses and minuses of this technological ferment and how it should be managed will be vigorous, and Bucknellians will continue to shape the future that results - whatever it may be.

> If you're wondering: Bucknell gladly accepts donations in the form of cryptocurrency. As always, the value of a gift is determined by the donor in accordance with relevant tax law.













# Tradition bookends the Bucknell Orientation experience, connecting each new class to the generations of Bucknellians who have gone before.

It manifests in events such as the Matriculation ceremony, held at the conclusion of the students' first day on campus. Symbolizing the transition from admitted applicants to enrolled students, members of the class processed along a lighted pathway through the Christy Mathewson Gates – a trek they'll mirror when they exit the same gates at Commencement.

"Hearing the alma mater play as we walked through was just so surreal," says Hailey Drapcho '26, a literary studies and classics & ancient Mediterranean studies double-major from Pittsburgh. "It's a moment we've been waiting so long for, and I can tell right now that it's something I'm going to look back on in four years."

There to help mark the Class of 2026's official welcome into the Bucknell community were University leaders, including President John Brayman, Provost Elisabeth Mermann-Jozwiak, Religious & Spiritual Life Director Kurt Nelson, and Assistant Vice President & Dean of Admissions **Kevin Mathes '07** – who shared a speech highlighting the class' impressive accomplishments and unique attributes (P. 30).



and forever, they're Bucknellians.

For the second consecutive year, Bucknell University welcomed its largest incoming class in history, with 1,039 new students in the Class of 2026. They come from 37 states, the District of Columbia and 24 countries and administrative regions, and carry an impressive average high school GPA of 3.63.

stand above the rest. It's through their stories of adventure, perseverance, service, passion and more that their Bucknell spirit shines.

Here's a collection of some of the extraordinary experiences they bring to the incoming class.

illustration by Gwen Keraval



At the heart of Orientation is the "hope that, by the end, each student is reaffirmed in their decision to become a Bucknellian," says Jensen-Doray.

"What makes that hope a reality is teamwork - from Facilities and Dining to Student Health, Public Safety and our passionate student Orientation leaders." That level of coordination is why there's no shortage of ways for Bucknell's newest students to explore, learn and build relationships through events that run from sunup to past midnight.

A high-energy icebreaker at Christy Mathewson-Memorial Stadium helps introduce members of the class to one another, while another event groups students by residence hall to compete in an Olympic-style series of competitions.

Led by enthusiastic teams of Orientation Assistants, the newest Bucknellians venture into Downtown Lewisburg for an exclusive

shopping experience at the Bucknell bookstore, as well as an afternoon of discovering local shops, eateries and iconic landmarks in the town they now call home.

Between signing up for clubs and grabbing selfies with Bucky, students also meet with academic advisers, learn about global education opportunities and gather with faculty and staff to discuss the summer's Common Reading book. This year's selection was George Takei's memoir They Called Us Enemy.

For students like Nikita Bityutskiy '26 - an engineering major from Silver Spring, Md. – it was the perfect first impression of student life and scholarship at Bucknell.

"Settling in at college is obviously a lot to navigate, but it's cool to finally experience it all and to see how many people are here to encourage us as we take this next step in our lives," he says. "Knowing there's a huge support system set up for us from the jump makes me feel confident."

That sense of confidence was bolstered when the Class of 2026 gathered on the last night of Orientation for the Convocation ceremony, the final event before the semester began on Monday, Aug. 22. In his address, President Bravman urged the class not to view fear as a roadblock to success but as a challenge to rise above: "The biggest obstacle is our doubt ... Have faith that the world can indeed change. Have faith in yourself and know that, with the education you will receive here, there will be few people more prepared or more capable to change the world than you."











Zoia Horn (right) and Assistant Reference Librarian Patricia Rom (left) were interviewed by a grand jury in connection with the Harrisburg Seven case. Horn refused to testify for the prosecution in the trial that followed.

# **EOUTLAW**

50 years ago, a Bucknell librarian took a stand for academic freedom. She spent 20 days in jail.

by JOHN TIBBETTS

Zoia Horn, a former chief reference librarian at Bucknell, was guided out of a federal courtroom into a small room across the hall. A guard placed her in handcuffs chained to a restraint around her waist. Horn stoically observed the procedure. She had prepared herself for this moment, but it seemed unreal, a "nightmare in slow motion," as she recalled in her memoir.

She was led to the underground garage of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania in Harrisburg and placed in a car. It was 1972, and the Vietnam War raged across the Pacific. Horn had refused to testify in a nationally publicized case against seven peace activists, and now one university.

In June 1972, Tropical Storm Agnes wreaked massive destruction across central and eastern Pennsylvania, killing three people in Lewisburg and causing extensive flood damage in the borough and on the Bucknell campus. But another crisis earlier that year had already rocked Bucknell and Lewisburg. For 10 weeks from February to April 1972, six Roman Catholic peace activists and a journalist faced trial in Harrisburg for allegedly conspiring to blow up heating tunnels under Washington, D.C., and kidnap presidential adviser Henry Kissinger. The defendants became known as the Harrisburg Seven, and the prosecution's case was based primarily on testimony from an FBI informer installed at Bucknell.

On the witness stand, Horn tried to explain to Judge R. Dixon Herman why she could not testify. She began by objecting to government surveillance in the Bucknell library and classrooms.

She said, "I cannot in my conscience lend myself to this black charade —"

Judge Herman interrupted: "Just hold on a minute, we can't have anything like this -"

Horn continued, "Spying in libraries and schools is something I protest."

With that, Judge Herman declared her in contempt of court and sent her to jail until she reconsidered. "Take her away!"

She would not reconsider before the trial's end, and spent the next 20 days in a cell. As the first U.S. librarian imprisoned as a matter of conscience, Horn was a trailblazing advocate for privacy and intellectual freedom. She kept up her fight into the 21st century, decades after she left Bucknell.

"Those were principles she lived for," says Carrie Pirmann, social sciences librarian at Bucknell. "Challenges to intellectual freedom continue every day. We live in a country that stands on freedom of thought, and we have the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, which guarantee freedom of expression. But in some areas of the country, in some school districts and public libraries, people may not have the privacy or the ability to access important information that they need."

### The Informer

The Harrisburg Seven trial attracted the cream of the American press corps to the hilltop courthouse towering over the Susquehanna River. The trial was part of a comprehensive battle by federal law enforcement against anti-war groups. During the late 1960s and early 1970s, scores of grand juries and nearly a dozen criminal trials commenced against activists opposed to the Vietnam War. J. Edgar Hoover, the longtime director of the FBI, regarded even peaceful protest leaders as national security threats. The FBI used wiretaps, surveillance, informers and agent provocateurs to cast wide nets in gaining evidence for prosecutions.

The FBI recruited a felon named Boyd F. Douglas Jr., serving time for fraud at the Lewisburg Federal Penitentiary, as one such informer. For years, the University had cooperated with a penitentiary program to rehabilitate prisoners awaiting release through an established work/study program. Douglas – who made the 3-mile trek from the prison to Bucknell and back on his bike - took classes and was

assigned a part-time job pasting labels in books at Bertrand Library.

At age 30, Douglas had spent his youth in the shadows. Before his prison sentence, he belonged to the "hobo milieu, single-room occupancy hotels, bus-station habitues, transients," wrote author William O'Rourke in a 1972 book about the Harrisburg Seven trial. Douglas was a con man and thief, skilled at gaining the trust of others until the law caught up to him. Now he had an opportunity to gain early release from prison and start his life over by cooperating with the FBI.

"SPYING in libraries and schools is something I protest."

Zoia Horn

His first step as an informant was to gain the confidence of a fellow inmate in the Lewisburg prison, Father Philip Berrigan, a Roman Catholic priest, poet, pacifist and intellectual star of the anti-war left. Approaching Berrigan after a prison church service, Douglas mentioned his Bucknell work/study arrangement and offered to smuggle letters between Berrigan and his friends in the anti-war movement beyond the prison walls.

Berrigan was serving a six-year sentence as a leader of the "Catonsville Nine," a group of nuns and priests convicted for a peaceful demonstration in which they burned Selective Service records in the parking lot of the Catonsville, Md., draft board in May 1968. The act earned Berrigan a charge for defacing public property. He had planned to be the first American priest jailed as a political prisoner, believing his clerical training had prepared him for incarceration, but found prison harsher and more isolating than he had imagined. It was a relief to gain an ally on the cellblock - Douglas, a fellow Catholic - who could walk in and out of prison each day with handwritten notes

copied into his school notebooks.

What Berrigan did not know was that Douglas photocopied those correspondence and gave them to the FBI.

Outside the prison walls, Douglas won favor with some Bucknell students by lying about his incarceration, telling them he was in prison for anti-war activities. Douglas organized or attended suppers, picnics and other events among peace activists, often embellishing to the FBI what he heard at those events. One of them took place in Horn's home.

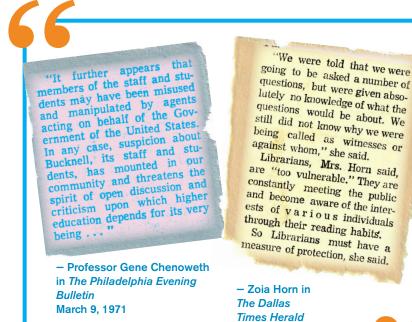
Activist nuns and priests visiting Berrigan in prison would often stop afterward in Lewisburg. On one occasion, Douglas asked Horn if she would host two nuns and two priests close to Berrigan after they had conferred with him at the penitentiary. The gathering gave interested students and faculty the opportunity to meet Berrigan's fellow peace activists, and the two nuns stayed overnight with Horn. "I was delighted to have them," Horn wrote, "[I] served food to them and the students and faculty who came to meet them, and I fell asleep on the carpet."

As a provocateur, Douglas unsuccessfully encouraged peace activists to abandon nonviolent protests and commit violent acts. He lied that he had been a demolitions expert in the army and offered his skills in the anti-war cause, although it later turned out that his knowledge was limited to reading demolitions manuals.

Douglas' behavior did not add up for Horn. "In time," she wrote, "I wondered how it was that an inmate from the penitentiary could have an apartment in town, where he had liquor, and freedom to go to occasional evening parties."

### The Defender of Privacy

More than a year before the Harrisburg Seven trial commenced, Horn was gazing out the window of her home on Water Street in Lewisburg. In the distance, she could see the wide Susquehanna River. She noticed two men in dark, formal business clothes approaching her door. It was Monday, Jan. 11, 1971, and they were FBI agents serving her a subpoena that required her to appear before a federal grand jury in Harrisburg the following day. The case was named United States v. John Doe. The FBI agents offered no further



information. Three other people from Bucknell – two students and another librarian — were also subpoenaed that morning. Horn cooperated.

In her memoir, she recalled the prosecutor's questions in front of the grand jury: "'What happened at this place, at that time?' the prosecutor asked. 'Who was there? What was said? Who said it? What was being discussed?' I felt nasty, ugly and alone ... watching myself being turned into an informer on neighbors and friends."

Bucknell faculty expressed outrage at the surveillance program on campus, passing a resolution that the FBI's spying could "threaten the special and privileged character of the studentteacher relationship" and academic freedom. Horn argued that the character of the library-patron relationship is just as special and privileged and threatened by surveillance, and that librarians should be given the same academic freedom protection as faculty. The concept of academic freedom is crucial to the mission of academe. It is intended to allow scholars and some other members of the academy to be free to teach or communicate ideas or facts without fear of repression, job loss or imprisonment.

In June 1971, Horn left Bucknell and moved to California, where she had accepted another job and married her second husband. Nine months later,

she received a subpoena to return to Pennsylvania for testimony in the Harrisburg Seven trial.

June 23, 1971

This time she refused to cooperate, and was jailed for contempt.

At trial, prosecutors exhibited contraband letters between Berrigan and the nun Sister Elizabeth McAlister, his younger lover and a co-defendant in the Harrisburg Seven trial. (Berrigan and McAlister later left their religious orders and married.) The activist couple discussed an increasing disenchantment with pacifism as a strategy to stop the Vietnam War, and they wrote about the relative merits and risks of two radical steps floated by fellow activists that could attract public attention to their cause. One was to kidnap Kissinger, and the other was to bomb heating pipes in tunnels below Washington, D.C.

But the prosecution's case depended primarily on Douglas, whose testimony proved erratic and unconvincing. After the jury told Judge Herman they were deadlocked on major charges, he declared a mistrial. Horn was released from jail after 20 days, and the government did not try the case again. As for Douglas, he disappeared into the federal witness protection program.

The American Library Association (ALA) would not endorse Horn's refusal to testify, although it did commend her "commitment ... in defense of intellectual freedom."

The FBI, under pressure from Congress, abandoned its program of library surveillance in the mid-1980s. In the 2000s, however, new surveillance programs in libraries were allowed under the Patriot Act that Congress passed following the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

Fighting back, Horn was an outspoken member of the ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom. Since 2002, the Intellectual Freedom Committee of the California Library Association has annually bestowed the Zoia Horn Intellectual Freedom Award. "For decades, she urged the American Library Association to do more to help protect librarians — including public and school librarians — and their patrons from censorship and threats to privacy," says Pirmann.

But Horn believed that her refusal to testify in the Harrisburg Seven trial derailed her career. She was not explicitly blackballed, but she never worked in a high-level librarian position again. She died in 2014.

Horn was decades ahead of her time in the battle for privacy and against censorship in libraries, and her work had an impact that she did not live to see. In 2019, the ALA made its strongest statement about protecting the privacy and freedom of library users, declaring that surveillance and monitoring produce a "chilling effect on users' selection, access to and use of library resources."

"Horn became known as an advocate of intellectual freedom and the freedom to read without censorship," says Isabella O'Neill, head of Special Collections and University archivist at Bertrand Library. "She advocated for your freedom to read and write and make your own judgments without dictating the information that you may or may not have access to." But O'Neill says she feels the country is back-sliding from Horn's era. "I view all libraries as a social good, and the trend we see now toward more censorship, particularly in school libraries, is appalling."

"The privacy that Horn advocated for was not just for libraries at the university level," says Pirmann. "She was advocating for all libraries and all library users."

The fight, as O'Neill and Pirmann attest, goes on.





# **Serving the** Whole Student, **Today and Tomorrow**

THE BEGINNING of the fall semester has always been one of my favorite times of the academic year. There's a special joy and sense of promise in seeing students so visibly happy to be together on campus, whether they're returning or coming to Bucknell for the first time.

The thrill of welcoming the newest class of Bucknellians and the incredible energy they bring to our community never gets old for me, even after four decades in academia. Our youngest students embody our hopes and dreams — as individuals, as an institution and as a society. The Class of 2026, our largest incoming class yet, spent years working to

get here, and they're ready to make the most of the opportunity.

Bucknell put years of work into getting them here, too - the August arrival of the new class is the endpoint of a lengthy recruitment, application, admission and enrollment process. Our Admissions team begins communicating with prospective students as early as ninth grade to raise their awareness of Bucknell and help them discern whether we might be a good fit for their talents, interests and goals. Even as competition for students has increased among our peer institutions, we've been extremely successful, because we are

strategic, forward-thinking and highly intentional about our future.

That mindset, which extends beyond admissions to include all areas of Bucknell, has always been the key to our success. Generations of faculty, staff, administrators and volunteers took great care to prepare the University to meet the needs of students not yet born − those we see on campus today. As the current stewards of a 176-year-old leader in the liberal arts, it's up to us to ensure that Bucknell will be ready for the students of tomorrow.

That responsibility can seem daunting, but our current strategic plan, The Plan for Bucknell 2025, guides our efforts. Bucknell has recently renewed its commitment to achieving the plan's ambitious goals, with a special focus on providing students with the best possible residential and living-learning experience.

We're proud of the education and opportunities we offer students, both in and out of the classroom - but we want to do even more to ensure that we are an exceptional residential campus. That means making sure that we're supporting the whole student - not just academically, but also physically, mentally and emotionally - starting when they enroll and continuing right up through Commencement.

Recent enhancements will help us meet that goal. For example, our pandemic

experience underscored that outdoor recreation is extremely valuable for student well-being, so we've invested more in that area as well as athletics. Housing, too, is a focal point – we renovated Vedder Hall and Fran's House; we are replacing the Mods with new apartment-style residences; and a new study of our facilities will help ensure our residence halls meet student needs. Our faculty and staff are making an extra effort to help students connect with their peers and University resources. And in response to the increasing national demand for student mental health services, we expanded our full-time counseling staff to 10. It's all part of making sure students feel truly at home throughout their time on campus so that they are set up to succeed at Bucknell - and beyond.

There are many other examples of how we're deepening our commitment to the 24/7 residential experience, and we'll continue to seek even more ways to make sure we exceed the expectations of students and families. I look forward to continuing our work together as a community to serve today's Bucknellians while preparing to welcome many classes to come.

John C. Bravman President



### **EMERITI** NICOLE CONNOR TAYLOR '01

nicole connor1979@ yahoo.com

**AMY MEDELL POE'89** amyb.poe@gmail.com

HAROLD "HAL" BERKOWITZ '48 passed away Dec. 9, 2020, in Boynton Beach, Fla. He loved Bucknell and was a loyal Bucknellian. While a student, Hal was an active member of Sigma Alpha Mu and served as president of the student Hillel. He thoroughly enjoyed attending his 70th Reunion in June 2018 with two of his children as escorts. During Reunion Weekend, Hal visited with a few familiar faces and regaled his kids with many wonderful stories of school dances, football games and classes.

After Bucknell, he attended New York University's College of Dentistry. In 1950 Hal married Gloria, whom he met on the best blind date he ever had. After a two-year stint in the Navy Dental Corps, he practiced dentistry for more than 30 years, and later came out of retirement to work for Corning Pharmaceutical as director of dental operations and then at Dental Products Testing.

Hal was married for 65 years to his wife, who predeceased him by four years. They raised three children and have many grandchildren. He was an avid gardener, talented painter and wonderful cook, remaining sharp as

a tack until his passing. - N.C.T.

### 1948

JEFF BROWN '79, son of your Class Reporter JOANN GOLIGHTLY BROWN '48, who passed away May 24, writes, "I am submitting [my mother's] last column with news she saved for this issue. Mom loved writing this column for her school and classmates. She would often pick up the phone to call classmates just to get some info for the next column. I would consider myself lucky if I inherited just a fraction of her enthusiasm and love for Bucknell.

"Mom heard from **PEGGY ROWE HARRI-**SON in Rochester, N.Y. She wrote that life is slowly aetting back to normal in her building, but they still wear masks whenever they are out of their rooms.

"LORRAINE PERTSCH **CORBIN** sent a beautiful photographic collage of her family and the natural beauty of the Chattanooga, Tenn., area where she lives. Mom also received a card from her Millburn. N.J., friend and classmate FLORENCE "KANDY" KREITLER DAVIS. Her family joined her for her birthday last June at her apartment in Blacksburg. Va., and Kandy said she is still getting around, but not quite like she used to. Keep on moving, Kandy!

"Finally, I would like to say that Mom got to Bucknell in April for Scholarship Day. We spent the weekend with my sister, JILL BROWN

WATERS '82, and her husband, JACK '79, and daughter JENNY '21, going all over campus and the town reminiscing and planning our next visit. I am so thankful that we went one last time for her. She so loved Bucknell and Lewisburg that we buried her in her orange and blue jacket with orange and blue necklaces. 'ray Bucknell, Mom."

### 1950 **HOLLY HINCHMAN REIGNER '96** hehreigner1@gmail.com

1951 **FAITH BRADLEY KING** faithbking@sbcglobal. net

### 1952 **CAROLYN KNIES ERDLE**

liberty384@comcast.net

I had a long letter from **JUNE BURNS BOVÈ** noting that her husband, JOHN LOUIS BOVÈ '49, M'52, passed away March 3 at age 93. June and John were married in 1957 and moved to Ridgewood, N.J., in 1959. He is survived by daughters Adele and Catherine and two grandchildren. We are sorry for your loss, June, and know how proud you were of him.

June did note that in 2011 she was named a Fellow of the Costume Society of America. Many congratulations.

That is all the news to pass on. In Colorado, we were praying for a little of your eastern rain. We were having much too

much wind and no moisture to speak of. - C.K.F.

### 1953 **CHRISTINE HILL KILLOUGH** chkillough@gmail.com

**JOHN MANBECK** manbeckj7@yahoo.com

**DONALD DEWEES** died March 9. Predeceased by son David in 1959 and brother John in 1998, he is survived by his wife, Martha, of 67 years, three children, three grandchildren and a great-grandchild. After college, Don spent 18 months with the Army in Germany, followed by an outstanding investment career in Wilmington, Del., of 55 years. He received countless awards for his business and investment acumen, including Barron's Top 100 Advisor ranking. Don was a philanthropist and especially loved the arts. His legacy lives on at the Biggs Museum of American Art in Dover, Del., and the Delaware Art Museum. He dedicated a lifetime of service and financial resources to individuals and many worthy nonprofit organizations and boards such as the Delaware Art Museum, where he served five terms on the board, and the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Don and Martha developed a nationally renowned art collection of illustrator artists, including Andrew Wyeth and N.C. Wyeth. Don and his family wintered in Bonita

Springs, Fla., and spent summer weekends in North Bethany Beach, Del. BETTE MACDONALD

**BECKER** and her husband moved to Montrose, Colo., in 2009. Her husband died in 2013, and in January 2022, she moved in with daughter Jennifer and her family. Her son and family also live nearby. Last spring, Bette traveled with her daughter and son-in-law to Phoenix to a Major League Baseball game when her son-inlaw's father was honored for his work with the major leagues. She celebrated her 91st birthday the day she received the spring issue of Bucknell Magazine.

Perhaps VIVIAN **ABRONSKI LEPARD** is the youngest of us. Her family who lives near her in Florida celebrated her 90th birthday with her May 24. Are any of you younger?

**MAURY MUFSON** has written a book, The Early Development: Marshall University Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine and its Department of Medicine: 1981-2021. It traces his life primarily from his undergraduate days at Bucknell through his professorship at the University of Illinois College of Medicine to his unparalleled success as the founding chair of the Department of Medicine of the Marshall University School of Medicine in Huntington, W.Va. Retired since 2002, his biography details his transition to adventures in academia such as setting rules: "He who controls the minutes controls the meeting." As his tenure progressed, he







Memories of the Women's March on Washington as well as her childhood in Northern Virginia inspired Virginia Zimmerman to write Pink.

# Pink: A Women's March Story

by EVELINE CHAO

**VIRGINIA ZIMMERMAN** describes herself as "really crowd-phobic." Yet on Jan. 21, 2017, she not only joined an extremely big crowd — the largest single-day protest in U.S. history — she also parked in another state and walked 7 miles to get there.

Now, Zimmerman has captured the experience of the Women's March on Washington in her new children's book, *Pink: A Women's March Story.* Illustrated by Mary Newell DePalma, it captures the sights and sounds of that day — the honking cars, the energy of the crowd and notable figures like Gloria Steinem speaking in the distance. And of course, the knit pink hats, worn by nearly everyone, including the narrator Lina, a little girl who looks out on the crowd from atop her father's shoulders and feels like "one little stitch in a great big beautiful hat."

Zimmerman, now a professor of English at Bucknell, grew up in Northern Virginia, "in the shadow of government," and even as a young child was aware of marches, protests and civic action in nearby D.C. Moreover, her mother was a volunteer poll worker who participated in groups like the League of Women Voters. As a result, Zimmerman grew up with the idea that "you have a voice and a role to play with civic responsibility and protest."

Nonetheless, it was a challenge to take the "adult content behind the need for the book" and translate it to something relatable for 4- to 8-year-olds. Zimmerman chose to emphasize "the notion of strength in numbers, and that girls are amazing and valuable — and no one should say otherwise."

Zimmerman never set out to become a children's book author. But teaching classes on Victorian literature and children's literature from the 19th century to the present, she had frequent conversations with students about themes like memory and childhood. The ideas sparked by those conversations eventually turned into *The Rosemary Spell*, a young adult novel from 2015 that "blends Shakespeare and magic in [an] enthralling story," as *Publishers Weekly* puts it. (Another children's book of hers, *La finestra del temps*, was published in Barcelona in 2012.)

Zimmerman says she hopes her latest work will inspire readers to be confident in their ability to effect change. "Even if, as an individual, you feel small or that you can't make a difference, coming together with other people who share your concerns is a way to make a really big difference."

Pink: A Women's March Story by Virginia Zimmerman (Running Press Kids, 2022)

### **ALUMNI BOOKS**

Don Cole '53
Evolution of the Chicken

(self-published, 2022)

Washington-based abstract painter Cole chooses the chicken as a vehicle "to express my social, psychological and ethical responses to the world we live in" in this book of original artwork. The paperbound book expresses his feelings in black and white sketches followed by colorful pages with captions such as Assault, Chicken Guernica and Crossing the Road, among others.

Leo V. Kanawada Jr. '63
George Clinton: An American
Founding Father and American
Independence (self-published, 2022)
Kanawada, an education major who
went on to a master's and Ph.D. in
history and a 30-year career in teaching,
provides an enlightening snapshot of
the early political life of George Clinton,
the governor of New York during the
Revolutionary War and fourth vice
president of the United States. His case
study sheds new light on Clinton's
decision on the question of
independence.

Alan R. Davis '68

Technopoetical Musings from the Metaverse (self-published, 2022)

Davis was a mathematics major at Bucknell who had a career in teaching, culminating as a professor of computer science and mathematics, but he also credits Bucknell for providing the foundation for his second life as a writer. His latest collection of poetry implores the reader to "use your imagination and your intellect" and travel into "a metaverse much older than that now associated with virtual reality."

# FACULTY AND STAFF BOOKS

B. Ann Tlusty (history emerita, editor)

Alcohol in the Early Modern World:

A Cultural History (Bloomsbury

Academic, 2021)

Combining recent work on the history of drink with innovative new research, this book examines how the profound religious, political and intellectual shifts that characterize the early modern period in Europe are inextricably linked to cultural uses of alcohol in Europe and the Atlantic world.

took a sabbatical to Sweden and later enjoyed travel to England and Australia. He was widely honored throughout his career. Maury and his wife are in a senior living building in Oak Park, III. They are pleased to have a lovely view of Chicago from their 11th-floor apartment.

**DON COLE** has

published a new book of his artwork. It is at once original, daring, provocative and political. It's also for the birds - specifically, The Evolution of the Chicken. An abstract artist, Don felt attracted to chickens by their interactions, so, he drew and painted them "to express my social, psychological and ethical responses to the world we live in." The book expresses his feelings in black-and-white sketches followed by colorful pages titled "Being Chicken Being Human" with captions such as Assault, Chicken Guernica, Hostility, Self Restraint, Laying an Egg, Foul Play and Crossing the Road. Copies of the book are available from Cole at 25718 Wax Orchid Road SW, Vashon, WA 98070.

ART LLOYD wanted to remind us that our 70th Reunion is coming up in June 2023. Please mark it on your calendars. - C.H.K. and J.M.

### 1954 **BONNIE MACKIE ASPINWALL**

bmaspinwall@gmail.com

I'd like to think the reason I received no news to report is that you all are so busy. My guess is that's not the case. Do you have time to

email me a "hello" - just a friendly hello would be enough. Seeing your name in our magazine might stir Bucknell memories in other classmates and might motivate them to send us a hello, too. Can we start a hello campaign? Will you send me a hello, then see your name in our magazine? I hope so. - B.M.A.

### 1955 **ELEANOR MACKIE PIGMAN** empigman@gmail.com

**CNJN Community** Television continues to show FREDERICK OLESSI'S work. To find his films, check CNJN online or search for his name on Vimeo. His latest movie is Marguerite Yourcenar. Frederick wrote that he has completed the film Moses and is working on one about Paul Robeson. At 88, he is planning a film on Heloise and Abelard, then one about the Unknown Soldier throughout history to be called Unknown. Frederick also wrote that he hoped to see his granddaughter, Adrianne, marry next April in Spain on the same day, at the same hour and in the same church that Frederick married the late Salud (a Spanish exchange student at the University). Talk about honoring your grandparents and romance! - E.M.P.

### 1956 **JOSEPH EBERHART** jdocyardleye@aol.com

I had a note from NAOMI "NONIE" COWEN IRVING

about husband ROY'S passing after a 1 1/2-year battle with cancer. They were married for 65 years. Together they had a daughter and a son, both of whom attended Bucknell, SHERRY '80 and **CHRIS '86.** 

After majoring in electrical engineering, Roy worked at RCA in Camden, N.J. In 1964 they moved to Woodstock, N.Y., where he made chips for NASA. He was a Little League umpire and then a coach for his son's baseball team.

Roy and Nonie retired on Sebago Lake in Raymond, Maine, and more recently moved to a retirement community in Tophsam, Maine. They frequently got together with **GEORGE** and **KATHE** DEROSA DAMMAN. Joanne and JOHN JACOBY, POLLYANN **KELLER OWEN** and **JOHN** RASMUSSEN.

I have heard from dentist ROBERT "BUZZ" LYON that he is moving back to Texas, where he will be near a daughter who has taken a job in Austin. His new address is 2407 Vesuvius Court. Harker Heights, TX 76548. Buzz is a retired Army colonel. - I.F.

### 1957 **CAROLYN "CALLIE" MEYER** meyerwrite@comcast.net

**CAROL WANAMKER LENKER** caroldalelenker@gmail.

**CLAIRE COX PAYNE '58** describes the trip she and **MARTHA GREEN MEAD** took to Knoxville, Tenn., "We visited the beautiful

Alpha Epsilon chapter of Kappa Delta sorority on the University of Tennessee campus and were treated like royalty by the president and chair of inclusion. Compare our Bucknell pledge class of 14 to their expected fall class of 175. We had a cruise down the Tennessee River and found an old building where Martha's dad went to military high school. We saw the beautiful Bald River Falls. dined beside a mountain stream and watched wrens feed their babies nesting in a flower pot.

"At the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum, we learned about the writing of the Cherokee language, and then visited Fort Loudon, where the English fought the French. Friends and family entertained us, and it was a lovely reunion - even with just the two of

### **MARILYN EDGCUMBE GRANT** brings us up to date with her fascinating business, Dancerobics: "When JOHN '56 and I moved to Minnesota, I had a chance to study exercise science and join a modern dance group. In California during the health and fitness revolution in the '70s, a whole new world opened up for me. I did graduate work in kinesiology and dance at UCLA - the highlight being the dissection of a cadaver and seeing the orderliness of the human body. Still raising children in the '80s. I was able to combine homemaking with being the health and fitness director and executive director at our local Whittier, Calif.,

"In 1995, I created my own kinesiology business: group dance/exercise

YMCA.

trademarked as Dancerobics, personal training in clients' homes, and lectures and seminars on health topics. My newest medical certification is joint replacement fitness specialist - helping clients before and after knee, hip and shoulder replacement surgery. My career has evolved but not too far from the '50s. I still get to dance and laugh with best friends, just like we did in Larison Hall's 'Crackpot Corners.' '

Breaking news from Carolyn: In June, on the day before my 87th birthday, I married Robert Reck, an architectural photographer. What a joy! C.M. and C.W.L.

### 1958 **ROBERTA BAYER SCHLACKS** schlacksr@aol.com

My only submission for this issue came from BOB **EIFERT: "NANCY CHRISTIAN DAVIS** sadly reported that her husband, **REESE**, passed away April 10. He was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity and graduated first in his class from [Penn State] Dickinson Law School."

The Kappa 5 will get together this fall in Brevard, N.C., the town where I resided for 16 years. Brevard is in Transylvania County, which boasts 250 waterfalls. The gals with me will be **ELAINE LONGENECKER** WILSON, MERLE **HOLDEN WINSTEAD**, **CHARLOTTE GENTRY** SISLER '59 and WILLI **RILLING STAHURA '59.** R.B.S.

### 1959

ALAN REUBEL writes, "I thought a memory of beloved tennis coach Hank Peters was worth noting. We won the Middle Atlantic Conference. At the annual hamburger dinner at Hank and Peg's house, he announced we were challenged by Haverford, the previous year's winner. 'I denied it,' he said. 'Why,' someone asked. 'Because they'd have beat us,' he answered."

If you are interested in being the Class of 1959 Reporter or have news to share, please email Heidi Hormel, Class Notes editor, at hjh006@ bucknell.edu.

### 1960 **JACK EACHUS** deachus@bellsouth.net

JOHN BERGFELD wrote that wife Wilma received the Cleveland Clinic's John Phillips Founders Professional Staff Award. She joined the Cleveland Clinic in 1969 and is a professor of dermatology and pathology for the Cleveland Clinic Educational Foundation: a clinical associate professor of dermatology at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University, and the program director of the dermatopathology fellowship since 1975. "In addition I might add that living with her has been great. We always have had a family dinner prepared by Wilma - a great mother and grandmother - and a

companion hiking, skiing the backcountry and sailing. I can't get her to go hunting or play poker, though. How lucky can one guy be?"

John was the center and guard on the Bison football team and was also on the wrestling team. John and Wilma are famous for their work at Cleveland Clinic. John has operated on my knee as well as on NFL players. J.E.

### 1961 **JAN POWERS** jpowers0135@earthlink. net

### **BUD** and **SHIRLEY HARVEY SHEESLEY**

celebrated 60 years of marriage June 2. It all started when the boy who sat behind her in freshman English class turned out to become her husband. They married a year after graduating, and a week after the wedding, Bud was commissioned as second lieutenant in the Marines. Their son, Robert, was born on the Marine base in Barstow, Calif. Shirley founded a nursery school on the base, which assured Bobby of having playmates.

After serving their country, they moved to Haddonfield, N.J., while Bud got his MBA from the Wharton School. Son Christopher was born at UPenn hospital in 1967. Bud's first job was in electronics in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., while Shirley volunteered in the boys' activities and taught.

In 1974, they moved north where Bud worked for Brockway, a Fortune 500 company. Eventually he became senior vice

president and CFO. Company headquarters moved to Jacksonville, Fla., in 1985 - that led to their discovery of Ponte Vedra Beach. After Brockway was bought by KKR in 1988, Bud and a partner formed a company and bought one of the divisions, which they operated until they sold the business and retired in 1995.

Since retiring, the couple have enjoyed summers in Highlands, N.C., travel, cruising, golf and tennis, volunteering, the social scene and the good life in Sawgrass, Fla. For many years their favorite activity has been daily walks together on the beach.

As for their children, son Bob and his wife, Nicole, live in Maine with grandchildren Amelia and Luke. Chris is in Oregon with wife Genevieve and their children, Landon and Maxwell. The family gathered June 2 to help Shirley and Bud celebrate their 60th anniversary. J.P.

### 1962

The University thanks Steve Sugar for his service to the Class of 1962 and Bucknell Magazine. If you are interested in becoming the new Class of 1962 Reporter or have news to share, please email Heidi Hormel, Class Notes editor, at hjh006@ bucknell.edu.

### 1963 **PENNY WEST SURITZ** pennysuritz@gmail.com

**DONALD KNIGHT** passed away March 25. He was a

chemistry and physics major and a member of Delta Upsilon. Don earned a master's in industrial administration at Yale. In 1964 he married **ANITA SPIELBERGER** KNIGHT '64.

Don worked at Dow Chemical in Michigan, and after retirement, went on to Argonne National Laboratory in Illinois. The couple visited all 50 states and five continents. For 17 years, Don, a qualified scuba diver, and Anita spent a week on a Caribbean island. He is survived by Anita, daughter Karen, son Eric and seven grandchildren.

**PENNY WEST SURITZ'S** husband Michael Joseph died Jan. 4 in Arlington, Va. They were married in San Juan, Puerto Rico, in 1970, an early destination wedding/ elopement. Michael, a graduate of the University of South Carolina, had several interesting jobs that took him to Vietnam, Laos and the Middle East before joining IBM, where he spent the majority of his working years. For the past 16 years, the couple split time between Virginia and Ocean View, Del., where they enjoyed their little house and the beach, going back and forth every five or six weeks yearround. He is survived by his wife of 50 years and his beloved son, Adam Matthew. - P.W.S.

### 1964 **BETH WEHRLE SMITH** bethdonsm@gmail.com

**DONALD KNIGHT '63** of West Lake Hills, Texas, passed away March 25 from complications of leukemia. Originally from

Mount Vernon, N.Y., Don was a member of Delta Upsilon fraternity and a varsity wrestler who wrestled until he "pinned" **ANITA SPIELBERGER** KNIGHT. They were married Aug. 30, 1964 in Queens, N.Y. They lived in Connecticut, Michigan, South Carolina and Illinois and finally moved to Texas in 2004.

During retirement in Austin, Don was a volunteer with the Texas Hill Country Dow Alumni, Austin Friendship Force, Long Center for the Performing Arts and Meals on Wheels, as well as a generous supporter of his wife's various organizations.

**LINDA MERRION** MCNAMARA, writing from Whidbey Island, Wash., reported another loss. **CECILY "CISSY" BORELLI MARABELLA** died Nov. 28 of a heart attack while she was out running errands. Husband Louis preceded her in death in August 2021 of dementia. Cissy is survived by her three children, who were devastated by their mother's passing.

The Girls Living Adventuresome Moments Sassily (GLAMS) - MERRIE BARR **DENOVAN, BARB** LARSON EVANS, Linda and a non-Bucknell friend - have been traveling together once or twice a year for about 10 years. The first trip was a riverboat tour of the French wine country; the last trip (October 2021) was a week in Kauai, Hawaii. Linda writes, "We've been to Spain, New York City, Vancouver (British Columbia), Whidbey Island (where I live), Ocean City, N.J.

(where Barb lives), Palm Springs, Calif., Las Vegas, Napa wine country ... and maybe I've missed a few."

From **DEE SHERMAN** KASH: "After nearly three years, I finally got up the nerve to get on a plane and travel east to visit old friends. I started in Toms River, N.J., where JOHN and NANCY NICHOLSON YODER and their adorable dog, Sonny, made me feel at home. On my third day, we were joined by BOBBI **DUBIN BLISS** from Pennsylvania and **PHYLLIS HECKROTH** TRAGER and BONNIE **CULLEN RISKIN** from Connecticut. I truly thought everyone looked fabulous, especially considering that we have all reached or are nearing our 80th birthdays. At our potluck dinner, we went around the table and everyone shared their

news about children and grandchildren - 20 grandkids among the five of us. Later we each shared our aches, pains and ailments. (This, as most of you probably know, is known as an 'Organ Recital.')

"The next day I left for Connecticut and stayed with Phyllis at her new condo in Stamford. She fixed me some delicious home-cooked dinners. I had lunch with Bonnie and **ELIOT** and their two gorgeous cats. I can report that Eliot is as funny as he was 50 years ago.

"If it hadn't been for my delay taking off from JFK airport, which turned a six-hour flight into 8 1/2-hour one with a mask on, I would say I can't wait to go back. I will certainly cherish the warm memories of time spent with well-loved friends.

"The once-a-month Zoom meeting of the Tri-Deltas continues. Merrie has done a great job of organizing the group and pulling in members I hadn't seen since graduation. We were all saddened by the passing of Cissy, our beloved sorority sister. Unlike some people who walk away from college and never look back, Bucknell continues to be an important part of my life." - B.W.S.

### 1965 **LINDA HAIGH TOZIER** tozierl@verizon.net

I want to report on deaths of classmates: TED PIERCE passed away Nov. 25 and STEVE LAXTON Jan. 25. Steve received an MBA from

Drexel in 1967 and was an officer in the Navy for 23 years, including tours in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and Vietnam. After retiring, he moved to Philly to teach at the Navy ROTC program. In 1976, Steve supported the Bicentennial celebrations at the Philadelphia naval base. He also worked at the Shriners and Crozer medical centers. He and wife Mary fell in love at a 1986 Choral Arts Society concert. They married in 1989

**FORREST CHILTON** reports, "From June 3 to 5, there were 21 very happy Class of 1965 Bucknellians and spouses attending the first in-person Reunion since 2019. Humor, laughter, fun, comraderies, remembrances, hugs and just feeling good were the emotions felt by Forrest and

**VALERIE SILBERNAGEL** CHILTON; JOHN and **BEVERLY DIETZ COX**; DON and SARA "SALLY" BELL COOPERSON: Ginger and ANDY **DZURINKO**; BOB GATSKI; JACKIE HORNOR PLUMEZ; FRANK PANCZYSZYN: Dan and **BONNIE SMITH** LESLIE; GENE '67 and **BEVERLY SMITH** RYERSON; Janice and RICH TREFFLICH; Judy and GERRY WAGNER, and Phillip and BARBARA CREHAN WAIER.

"We had a great turnout on Friday at the Welcome Fest and Emeritus Social. On Saturday, we attended the Bostwick breakfast and lunch again on the lawn watching the 50th Reunion classes parade. About 50 alumni and families availed themselves at our class-sponsored Military Appreciation Event

# THE ELLEN CLARKE BERTRAND SOCIETY

Bucknell appreciates the many alumni, parents, friends and staff who have included the University in their estate, tax or financial planning. The gifts of Bertrand Society members strengthen every facet of the University.

### We welcome the following new members this year:

Mary Beard '84 Kurt Gebauer '73 James R. '66, M'68 and Susan M. Sanders'68 Miriam Starr '73 (1 anonymous)

### We celebrate the legacy gifts made by members no longer with us:

Lawrence S. Bloom '52 Carolyn Melick Derr '49 Ira T. Ellis Jr. '56 Dorothy Zebrowski Goodman '68 F. Ellis Harley '59

Terry J. Hibbard '71 Richard Layman '65 Ruth Castner Rusling '52 Leanne Freas Trout '50 Charles M. Vosburg '58

If you have a plan that qualifies you for membership or you would like additional information about the Bertrand Society, please contact the Office of Gift Planning at 570-577-3271 or giftplanning@bucknell.edu.

in the library, where we showed videos of the military services (Navy, Air Force, Marines, Space Force and Army) along with archival photos of the 1960s parades of ROTC cadets in the stadium and historical accounts of Bucknell student participation in the Civil War and World War I.

"The Class Dinner was Saturday evening in Hildreth-Mirza Hall (former DU house) with fine wine and drink, good food, toasts and singing. At the start of dinner, the University presented the Class of '65 with an award and trophy for the 2022 Reunion Class with the Most Spirit. Andy acted as keynote speaker giving all present a copy of his third book, Inspired. During dessert we played the seven tribute videos made by class members. Student Ambassador **GRACE GERCKEN '22** 

### gave a synopsis of Bucknell student life today.

**ELIZABETH SWANK** 

RICHER '00. senior development officer, made sure we received the best of everything at our dinner. Chris Watters, our contact from the Center for Alumni & Family Engagement for 55+2, was an extraordinary help for the two years of planning to pull off the best Reunion we could

have had

"On Sunday we had a great send-off brunch in Bostwick. Lastly, we went to Rooke Chapel to attend the memorial service for class members who passed away since our last Reunion and lit a candle for those in the Class of '65 - a fitting end to a weekend of fond memories." - L.H.T.

### 1966 **JACKIE PEARSON** WEIDENFELLER theweids@verizon.net

I feel like a "broken record" when, in nearly every post, I remind you to live each day to the fullest, appreciate the moments and be grateful for family and friends. Thankfully, I have been taking my own advice. On May 1, I lost my husband and best friend in the blink of an eye to a tragic bicycle accident. CHUCK '64 was in almost perfect health; we were enjoying our favorite activity together, and then suddenly he hit a bright yellow pole and was gone. The fact that we lived our lives as a "team" for nearly 60 years, savoring the moments with gratitude, is what sustains me. Chuck had spent his 80th birthday with all the family - essentially a celebration of his life while he was still here to appreciate it. He was a very positive and fun person who enjoyed each day with his family and friends, was proud of his accomplishments in the professional world and was a true patriot. As a Navy veteran, he is eligible for the Arlington National Cemetery's columbarium, and I will be able to join him there eventually. Meanwhile, I am surrounding myself with wonderful friends, old and new, and am trying, with the help of our two sons, JEFFREY '94 and Scott, to accomplish the frustrating work of settling an estate. While still in Naples, Fla., I went ahead with a planned visit to the Florida east coast to see JACK '65 and **KAREN HORNER** WOLFORD '65. Karen was

my "big sister" at Bucknell,

and because of a bad accident she suffered two years ago, we hadn't been able to be in touch much. I needed this visit, so in Chuck's place, I took my brother-in-law, BILL WEIDENFELLER '65, and we four enjoyed a very poignant reunion at the Wolfords' new home in Parkland, Fla. Upon returning to Maryland, I went on a scheduled bike trip in the Traverse City area of Michigan. With the support of six close friends, it was a success.

On a happier note, I had this exciting correspondence from classmate TOM DRESSER M'68: "I was able to attend our Bucknell 50th Reunion but have not been back since. I am still working full time at the VA hospital in Columbia, Mo., in the department of nuclear medicine. During the past year, I had the good fortune to be principal investigator for a phase III clinical trial for a drug to evaluate patients with carcinoma of the prostate, Ga68-PSMA-11. This new test is likely to replace current conventional imaging. Our work attracted the attention of the VA (tinyurl.com/ yprjbx5v).

"I feel very lucky to have had the career that I did. Apparently, I am a 'late bloomer.' For sure I am a long bloomer. This year I am going to my 60th high school reunion, and I expect to be in a small group of folks who are still working full time. It is very eniovable to feel that the clock is invisible, and I can either work or not. What this means to me is that I have found my 'purpose.' I heard Billy Joel talking about why he and other older singers were still

performing, and he said, 'This is what we do.' It's the same for me."

I think that is the key to enjoying our "golden years." Having a sense of purpose and interacting with others makes our days far more satisfying, whether it be in continuing to pursue a career, getting outdoors with others, participating in a book club or other group, sharing meals, traveling, attending reunions or anything else that pleases you. So, just go for it, and have some fun. - J.P.W.

### 1967

**PRESTON "PRET"** HADLEY '68 reports, "My wife, Lydia, discovered that her sister, Peg, knows FRANK and ELIZABETH "BETSY" JAMES SKIDMORE '66. As of this writing, Peg and Betsy were to meet for coffee in Durham, N.C., where they live. They met initially through church.

Pret continues, "I am stepping down as Class Reporter after three years. It's been a pleasure to renew acquaintances and hear about all the activities and fun."

The University thanks Pret for his service to the Class of 1967 and for Bucknell Magazine. If you are interested in becoming the new Class of 1967 Reporter or have news to share, please email Heidi Hormel, Class Notes editor, at hjh006@ bucknell.edu.

### 1968 **GEORGE VINCE** gvince@madriver.com

I received an informative and flattering update from DAVID AIKENHEAD: "In my regular review of Bucknell Magazine, I immediately go to your post for our Class of '68. Your writing style is engaging and informative. Your post about GINNY BECK KLUTE'S death was especially well done. I remember Ginny very well from our days together at Bucknell - she was always a class act in every way.

"Wife KATHY HANNON AIKENHEAD '69 and I are doing well, both still working and enjoying what we do - Kathy running a private charitable foundation and I continuing my law practice, focused largely on my private trustee work. Our son, BRIAN '01, a 2011 graduate of Loyola Law School in Los Angeles, works with me and that has been a pleasure for both of us.

"Kathy and I keep in touch with our best man, **BOB GIORDANO**, who remains in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., and who is well known as the community's Santa Claus, even through COVID, and for lighting the town's Christmas tree each year from atop a fire truck's extension ladder.

"Kathy and I have also enjoyed our periodic dinners with SUSAN PENECALE ZOLLA and my three-year Swartz hallmate, ALAN BILANIN. The pair reconnected at a Bucknell Reunion, after each had lost their first spouse, and have enjoyed a bicoastal marriage with

### **COMMUNITY BUILDER**

### C. Alan Walker has helped Pennsylvania towns revitalize their local economies

### by PATRICK BROADWATER

C. Alan Walker '66 has spent a lifetime working to preserve the ideals he first encountered in his childhood hometown.

Walker grew up in the small mining town of Bigler, home of the Bradford Coal Company his father started in 1935. As is common in rural Pennsylvania, the tight-knit community was full of neighbors who knew each other by name, shared common values and took a communal approach to raising children.

But like many mining villages, the town fell upon hard times when factories closed and industry left.

After graduating from Bucknell, getting a master's degree from Penn State and spending a few years working at DuPont, Walker returned to Bigler in the mid-'70s and took over what is now Bradford Energy. In an effort to maintain the sense of community he knew as a child, he set about helping to provide opportunities for children in the town. Among his biggest passions: being a leader in the Boy Scouts of America and spearheading a group to build a YMCA, giving the town its first indoor gymnasium in 1985.

Walker also helped to shape his alma mater, serving for 37 years on the Board of Trustees (1980-2017). With his wife, Judith, he established a scholarship in 1984 from royalties of the sale of a seam of coal that has since opened the doors of Bucknell to more than 200 students from Clearfield County.

On the professional front, Walker led numerous statewide boards and committees, including serving from 2004 to 2006 as president of the Pennsylvania Society, a group of prominent citizens to which he has belonged since 1970. His background and connections in the business world then led him to being chosen by Gov. Tom Corbett to head up the Pennsylvania Department



C. Alan Walker '66 received the Distinguished Citizen of the Commonwealth Award at the Pennsylvania Capitol in May.

of Community and Economic Development (DCED) in 2011. As secretary of DCED, he targeted attracting new industries while simultaneously focusing on helping distressed communities diversify their economies and reinvent themselves for the 21st century.

Recognizing his efforts to make a difference in communities, the Pennsylvania Society honored Walker in 2022 with its Distinguished Citizen of the Commonwealth Award. He was presented with the honor in May at the Capitol in Harrisburg, 20 years after his father was honored with the same award.

"It comes from my roots," Walker said. "The adults where I grew up really looked after kids and wanted them to have a better life, and that left a mark on me."

their blended families for a number of years. Alan runs the high-tech engineering firm he founded decades ago in Princeton, N.J., and Susan oversees the extensive real estate investments she and her first husband created in Los Angeles. I drive by one of her beachside hotels every day. I coached one of Susan's daughters along with our daughter in soccer 40 years ago.

"You represent our class extremely well, GEORGE [VINCE], both in your magazine posts and in your dinner comments at Reunions. On behalf of all of our classmates, I

thank you for the time and devotion that you have shown toward those tasks." Thanks, Dave. I look forward to reconnecting with you next year.

**SUSAN MITCHELL** SCOTT writes, "On Oct. 16, 2021, I married Ray Gray at Salem United Church of Christ in Doylestown, Pa. This is the third chance I've taken on love in my 75 years. Due to pandemic concerns, the ceremony was attended by a small contingent of family members and Ray's colleagues in the art of storytelling. We shared video vignettes with several Bucknell friends with whom I am connected via Facebook. I have elected not to make a name change this time around - just creates too much disruption, confusion and potential disconnection at this season of life.

"Ray and I were introduced by mutual friends after the deaths of our spouses in 2019. Among the things we share are a theological education from Princeton Seminary and a love of music. I sold my home in June 2021 and relocated to his place in Doylestown. I'm still singing and successfully auditioned for the Bucks County Choral Society.

"My brother and

sister-in-law have a sheep farm south of Vergennes, Vt., that they've been on since the early '70s. My brother, Don Mitchell, taught English for years at Middlebury College. Daughter Anais Mitchell's Vermont-grown musical Hadestown won a slew of Tony awards.

"In addition to my Vermont-based brother, youngest daughter Beth heads up the public library in Hinesburg, Vt., and youngest son Jacob works for the [Federal Aviation Administration] at the Burlington airport. They are both the offspring of my first marriage to JOHN ROYER '67, who died in

I followed up with Susan, especially concerning her Vermont connections, to learn that she and Ray will be visiting this summer and staying at an Airbnb just a mile away. I'll have more to report after their visit.

As you have probably figured out by now, it takes several months for the Class Notes to appear in the magazine after being created. I'm anxious to hear how many folks are considering attending our 55th Reunion in June 2023. - G.V.

### 1969 **PETER E. D'ORSI** pdcpa@ hopetechpartners.com

During the height of the COVID pandemic, JIM VARGA set up an East Coast-West Coast Zoom discussion group. With vaccines and a dip in cases, Jim and wife Olga finally emerged from their COVID cocoon and flew eastward from their home in Los Angeles to visit friends in Maine. After they got their fill of lobster, they drove to Marblehead, Mass., to see BOB and JILL PFIFER MARTUZA and had dinner at the Eastern Yacht Club. Everyone agreed that in-person meetups are

### 1970 LYDIA HALLER DODD lydiadodd@yahoo.com

better than Zoom. - P.D.

**BOB PAZMINO** retired in 2018 as the Valeria Stone Professor of Christian Education, emeritus, **Andover Newton Seminary** at Yale Divinity School. Christian Education: Retrospects and Prospects by Bob and Octavio J. Esqueda is a compilation of scholarly articles he wrote in the Christian Education Journal between 1985 and 2020 and is available on Amazon. Bob and wife Wanda live in Plymouth, Mass

As I wrote these Class Notes, it was a week after Reunion, I wasn't able to attend but am hoping at least one of you who attended would be kind enough to write a report. We would all love to hear the details. - L.H.D.

Many things have changed, but the reason to Hire A Bison remains the same: Bucknell students are creative. innovative and driven.

Be a part of their career success by representing your organization at a Bucknell career or networking event, or posting an opportunity for current students.

Learn more about how you can help launch Bucknellians



1971 **LOU KISSLING** L\_KISSLING@msn.com

### LAWRENCE DIEHL,

heeding our need for news, writes, "I was a frat brother at Kappa Delta Rho. My only significant talent was as social chairman and booking the great Southside Road Band for most Homecoming weekends - great

"After graduating from Bucknell (majors: political science and Russian), I went to law school at the College of William & Mary (along with my KDR fraternity brother, BOB HALKOWICH). After graduating in 1974, I practiced family law in Virginia for over 47 years with various firms. I was the co-author in 1992 of Virginia Family Law and Practice, which is cited as the authority on family law in the state. Over the years I have written many of Virginia's statutes and laws on family law based on an extensive appellate practice. I received the Virginia State Bar Family Law Lifetime Achievement Award in 2000, was named to the Virginia Lawyers Hall of Fame in 2019 and was voted the No. 1 lawyer for all fields of law for Virginia by Super Lawyers in 2020. It's been a great career.

"I semi-retired from my law firm, Barnes & Diehl, in Richmond, Va., which is the largest law firm exclusively dedicated to family law in the state. I still do some appellate work and am involved in the legislative process.

"I have been married to wife Pamela for 38 years - no kids - but many Boston terriers over the years. After law school, I also played music on the side for over 30 years with an oldies/beach-music band called The Wildroots

(named after the old hair cream). We greased down like Sha Na Na and over the years opened for Bo Diddley, the Platters, the Drifters, the Shirelles, Johnny Rivers, the Tokens and many other oldies groups. We played at tons of festivals, concerts, class reunions and clubs from 1974 to around 2005. I played lead guitar and was on lead vocals.

"I love to garden and snorkel, and Pam and I have done over 45 trips to many of the Caribbean islands - mainly the Grenadines and Antigua. I live in the small town of Waverly, Va., and once a month many of our '71 and '72 KDR brothers have a Zoom call to keep in touch."

ADA FOCER, also replying to my appeal for news, writes, "It's now the norm for middle-aged people to remake themselves. That wasn't the case 20 years ago

when my career as a financial investigative reporter got derailed when the newspaper industry, under pressure from the internet, began downsizing. Happily for me, Boston University agreed to pay me to get a Ph.D. in religious studies focusing on religion and economy/ international relations (this was immediately post-9/11). I've retired from teaching but continue at the university as a research associate in the Center for Global Christianity and Mission, working on the international impact of the YMCA/YWCA.

"My son, a tech executive, lives in Boston. My daughter, an artist married to a musician, lives in Berkeley, Calif. (My late husband, JOHN "SPIDER" MARLIER '70, used to joke that they had two sides of the same brain.) My granddaughter, 3, is, alas, on that other coast. My friendship with JOAN **GERRITY** continues to be one of Bucknell's great gifts. I often stop to see her and her husband, a childhood friend of John's (they met at our wedding) in Rochester, N.Y., on my way to or from the Marlier family farm on Cheat Lake, W.Va. The years we spent together at Bucknell were hard ones for the country and many of us personally, but I continue to be grateful for the care we got from the faculty and administration, and the care we gave each other." - L.K.

### 1972 **ANNE SMITH BENBOW**

anne@benbow.net

### SCOTT GEBHARDT

writes, "Our son, Christian, is a sophomore at Stanford University, majoring in symbolic systems and computer science. My stepsons also make us proud. Phil earned his Ph.D. in special education and is senior director at the Meadows Center for Preventing Educational Risk and an assistant professor at the University of Texas at Austin. He and wife Kelley, a speech pathologist, have two daughters, 6 and 3. Middle son John is a Colgate grad, a senior director at Genesys and married last summer on Cape Cod, Mass. He and wife Syd, a field marketing manager at Salesforce, live in San Francisco. We continue to live the dream in Carmel, Calif. Wife Patty is very involved on several nonprofit boards while I struggle to maintain my single-digit handicap in the mecca for golf. Sorry to miss Reunion but best wishes to all."

STEVE "STIFF" PATTERSON was not able to make it to Reunion, but confirmed that life in Telluride, Colo., continues to be good, and that the group of Bucknellians who moved there more than 40 years ago continue to keep up through near-daily meetings at the post office. It is wonderful to think that not only have these friendships lasted for a half-century, but also that proximity gives them regular access to one another.

Although I was not able

Reunion. I have seen the photos, and by all reports, it was a terrific event. Kudos to CHUCK **RESNICK** and his team for the hard work they put in to ensure a great weekend. I have heard that those in attendance gave **LAURIE BUTCHER** MARSTON a kind round of applause for her 25 years' service as class reporter. She took the first 25 years, I have been here to report for the past 25. Now that most of you are retired and have run out of excuses, how about sending some news? Your classmates love hearing about you, and I know there have been some great "reconnections"

to attend our 50th



among us during the past

25 years. - A.S.B.

REUNION

### 1973 **SUSAN LATIMER CURLETT** slcurlett@aol.com

With our 50th Reunion quickly approaching, **CHUCK ERDELJAC** wrote to share some reflections in a poem titled "Coffeehouse Hope." He also writes, "It's amazing how Bucknell experiences continue to stir within me 50 years later and inform my perception and understanding of current events. The references to the 'cave' in the poem are intended to allude to Plato's metaphor of the cave. I don't know if the inner, small oval room in the Langone Center is still called the Cave or not. It

was called that when the student center opened in

**PETER KULESZA** undertook a project that required a lot of knowledge, skill, labor and perseverance to accomplish. The result was his own Peterbilt cab-overengine pickup truck. Starting his first entirely custom automotive project at the age of 65 and completing it five years later proved to be a rewarding experience. "It drives really well on a daily basis. If you are ever in the Knoxville, Tenn., area, keep an eye out for the only Peterbilt pickup truck in the world." A video about his project can be found at voutu.be/ccC16HUR2f0.

From Class Reporter SUSAN HUNSICKER '77: "Marcia and JOHN **KAZARY** came to Reunion so John could conduct the Bucknell Jazz and Rock Ensemble playing his original composition Buckminster Graves at their concert Saturday afternoon." The couple spoke with Susan at the golf tournament. - S.L.C.

### 1974 **NORBERT W. CHURCH** churchandchurch@ yahoo.com

1975 **NANCY QUAY BRADLEY** nancy.bradley6@gmail.

I was excited to hear from PAM MARTINDELL RANK, who has "collaborated on the book Women of Walt Disney Imagineering: 12 Women Reflect on their Trailblazing Theme

Park Careers." She is one of a dozen women "imagineers" who have written personal stories from their decades designing and building the Disney theme parks. Intertwined with their memories are glimpses of what it takes behind the scenes to create a theme park, and the struggles unique to women in a workplace that was overwhelmingly male. Pam's chapter begins with her theatre days at Bucknell and progresses through her career as a lighting designer, revealing her perspective on the unique experiences encountered along the

My husband and I spent another sun-filled winter in Venice. Fla., the sharktooth capital of the world and our favorite place for biking and golfing. I would love to hear from more of you who are willing to share what you are doing in "retirement." - N.Q.B

### 1976 **GAIL WATERBURY FERRI**

waterburyferri@gmail.

**MARY LOU KUPFER** maryloukpfr6@gmail. com

### 1977 **SUSAN HUNSICKER** 8elsiemarie@gmail.com

**BRIAN KNAPP** cbknapp@charter.net

During Reunion Weekend, we connected with a good number of our 685 classmates and, for the first time since becoming co-reporters, we met in

person. We extend a big thank-vou to HOLLY PUGLIESE KIMMEY, who did a great job organizing the event, Mark Sharer from University Advancement, and CAROLYN CAMPBELL '22 and EMMA DAVISON '23, who helped ensure our class events were memorable and went off without a hitch. Holly's 1977 trivia game at the Saturday Class Dinner reminded us that Paul Simon wrote the poem on the inside cover of the 1977 L'Agenda. It was fun to see the connections people had from living together on freshman halls to sororities and fraternities to majors or specific classes to working together at Bostwick or being in clubs or on sports teams together. We missed and honored classmates who have died and shared stories of their adventures

**SUSAN HUNSICKER** had fun playing golf with KURT WATERS and PETER ANDERSON. Kurt retired from teaching high school social studies and works part-time training teachers on McGraw-Hill's digital products. He's also doing his bucket list job of ushering at Washington Nationals' baseball games. Pete is a financial planner following work in the chemical industry, and Reunion Weekend was his first time back on campus since graduation.

JOHN ROLL sang at the Saturday Bucknell Jazz and Rock Ensemble (BJRE) concert. Retired after many years in various communications jobs, John and wife Paula aspire to be a singer/songwriter team, with Paula writing the words for John's music.

"It was heartwarming to hear of so many classmates performing volunteer work, helping students struggling in school or serving seniors, working on housing ... among other examples."

**SUSAN HUNSICKER '77 AND BRIAN KNAPP '77** 

The Rev. **TAD THAYER** stirred up the crowd at the BJRE concert. He enjoyed a career in human resources before retiring as a pastor for a small congregation in New York. He graciously provided the blessing before our class dinner Saturday night at La Primavera.

BOB NAGEL received the prestigious Longest Distance Traveled to Reunion Award, having come from Australia.

JIM ADELMAN, DAVE DEMBERT, PETE DIPASQUALE and DON SHASSIAN enjoyed a DU foursome of golf on Saturday afternoon.

Tri-Delts CAROL
CAMPBELL MCDERMOTT, CHRIS MONSON,
DIANE LANGEVOORT
RHODES, BARB
SCHEFFLER and husband
David Mernan, LORI
UHLE, BARB VENTURI
and DEIDRE MEHL
KUKUCKA enjoyed
reconnecting.

JOHN KUKUCKA,
MICHAEL DAVIDSON,
MARTY MARRA and JACK
RECCO recalled Sigma
Chi events. Marty has
been in construction for
47 years, including 20
years running his own
company and performing
mostly commercial work in
the Pittsburgh area.

**DOREEN HAKIM BOBROW, DAVE DESIMONE, AUDREY** HARNIMAN, JAN JOHNSON and husband Ed Kassab, DON and **EMILY GRAUL REH,** CHARLES SCHWARZE. **MICHELE MORAGNE** E SILVA, JEFF and CATHY KARPUK SEWARD, CANDY SNEBERGER, JOE SOMMER, ROBIN SUYDAM and husband Paul Corkery, ALEX **VALICENTI** and spouse Lawrence Donovan, KARIN WELKER and **JUDY KELLY WICKENS** recalled events and classes like they happened yesterday. SHERI

**BECKER HORNER** arrived on campus for Saturday's All-Class Lunch.

### **TIM BOLLINGER**

helped organize afternoon happy hour and Saturday's "nightcap hour" on 4th floor McDonnell Hall. BOB BARNI, SCOTT CONTI, MIKE GOLUB, RANDY **KOLVA, CURT LINDER-**MAN, JULIE BERNETT **MERRILL** and **CHRIS** TINKHAM were among the throng of afternoon and/or late-night attendees in addition to many classmates mentioned above. Kathy and CHUCK RENNER and MARK and PATTY **WALLACE WILLIS '75** helped close out the

successful afternoon.
Some of our weekend
takeaways: We're proud of
our class and of being
Bucknellians and are a

Bucknellians and are a resilient bunch. During the last two-plus years of the pandemic, many of us modified our work, family and travel routines as well

as retirement plans. It was heartwarming to hear of so many classmates performing volunteer work, helping students struggling in school or serving seniors, working on housing for those without a roof over their heads and advising small business startups, among other examples.

As we closed our Saturday night at La Primavera, we set a bold goal to have 200 classmates at our 50th Reunion in 2027. We heard from some of you that you passed on our 45th looking forward to our 50th. We challenged everyone present to recruit two to four classmates to attend in 2027 and extend that challenge to classmates reading this now. - S.H. and B.K.



1978
KATHY MCDONALD
ADELBERGER
tedkathy@comcast.net

I'm hoping no news is good news, since my inbox was empty for this issue. Please consider submitting an update for our next one. In the meantime, I hope everyone had a healthy, relaxing summer. Also, I hate to remind you, but June 2023 will be our 45th Reunion. – K.M.A.

1979 ALAN SCHRIGER altam@netvision.net.il

Sadly, I didn't receive one letter from any member of

our class. I promised myself when I took on the job as your class reporter that I would never submit a blank column. I could write about my wonderful grandchildren, but this time I will have mercy on you and write a short report about softball, Israeli style.

In the town where I live, we are blessed with a high percentage of American-Israelis and, among them, a nice number who love to play softball. We're all transplanted Americans who grew up and still love the game of baseball, which in this case translates to softball. On Friday mornings between March and October, 20 of us assemble at the local soccer field, which also acts as a baseball field.

I should add that there is a thriving Little League here in Efrat that this year boasted over 150 boys and girls. I have coached Little League and have wonderful memories, but back to the present.

We play pickup games on Fridays with generally the same players each week, ranging in age from 20 to 75, sometimes fathers and sons - in a few years grandfathers and grandsons - playing together. We have a rule that after age 65 a ball hit into the outfield on the ground is an automatic single. This is my first year benefitting from the rule, and I am loving every minute of it.

In addition, I am now playing first base and love it. Playing right field was not a lot of fun. In addition to losing high fly balls in the sun, I fractured a finger trying to catch one. At first base, I am much more in the game, and I get to

show off the agility gained from doing aerobics five times a week. We have uniforms, blue or white (the color of the Israeli flag) and numbers. I like wearing a uniform as it enhances the whole softball experience.

Now, can some of you go to your computers and send me an update on your life so that next time I don't have to write the dreaded "you haven't heard about my adorable grandchildren" column. Write about your career, retirement, milestones, family celebrations, anything and everything. I'm looking forward to a full mailbox. - A.S.

### 1980 **DEBORAH L. HENNEL** dhennel@aol.com

Based on seeing more mini-reunion posts on our class Facebook group, it seems like COVID restrictions are waning and people can't wait to be out - some gatherings planned and some accidental ones.

Speaking of serendipitous Bucknell connections, as I was doing yardwork, one of my neighbors noticed my old Bucknell windbreaker and commented that his sister-in-law is an alum. I wasn't quite sure whether to ask what class and he couldn't remember anyway. But, when he said her name was Tammy, I couldn't help but ask her last name, which he couldn't remember either. Rochester, N.Y.? Yep. Physical description? Yep. Turns out she is TAMMY WINTERKORN WILKIN-SON of 4th Harris freshman year. It's a small

world - even more so because I live in a small island community. Hopefully a micro-minireunion will happen sometime soon.

There's no other news. Don't forget to include your faithful Class Reporter in your comings and goings. - D.L.H.

### 1981 **CAROL CHRISTIE ROSNER**

ccrosner@aol.com

As I write this, we just pulled off another fantastic Reunion (40th, one year late thanks to COVID) and enjoyed a special weekend on campus. Thanks to all who made the effort to attend though your effort was clearly rewarded with a weekend of embracing old friends, making new ones, moments of nostalgia, a few tears and lots of laughter. We missed the rest of you, especially those who had to cancel at the last minute due to health reasons. We had so much fun that some of us are already talking about doing it all again in two years.

My deepest thanks go out to the hard-working group of classmates who agreed to help me and BILL CUSICK pull off this event. Bill and I refused to accept that Bucknell would not be able to host us in person in 2021 and pushed the administration to give us our own weekend in 2022. Hence, our first-ever Reunion with no other classes around. The following people agreed to help with the planning and were terrific volunteers: JIM HOLLEN, TOM DURNER, KATHA-

**RINE WOEHLING STOWE** M'83, MARY CHILD SMOOT, PATTI FLOW-**ERS-COULSON. NICK** SPENNATO M'84, **BRENDA LAPINSKI HORWITZ, STEVE KOHN** and AMY VIENER. Bill and I extend our special thanks to Amy for taking on the lion's share of the work and keeping us all focused on making it the best weekend possible. The committee was lucky to have Bucknell staff member Tara Michaels working with us.

The highlight was the Saturday evening program in the Terrace Room that brought us all together for cocktails and dinner. We were fortunate to have the talented KELLI BRUNO '13 (daughter of KAREN SCHULTZ BRUNO and husband Paul) perform for us during the cocktail hour. Kelli is an accomplished singer/songwriter, and she performed '81 favorites as well as some of her own work. After dinner, Brenda hosted a program with her own inimitable style that started with musings from Tom. His talk was funny (did you know that the clock on top of the Bucknell library uses "IIII" instead of "IV" for the numeral 4?), thoughtprovoking and covered much ground, including how lucky we were to attend Bucknell at a time when there were few rules, allowing us to test and push ourselves. If you don't follow Tom on Facebook, you really should. He's a talented and thoughtful writer.

After Tom's musings, there was an In Memoriam slideshow of classmates we have lost, which was accompanied by Kelli's live singing. JAMIE BOU-**GIOUKAS JAMES** created

the piece, and many classmates told me afterwards that it really moved them. I found it powerful and sad to see how many we've lost.

After Brenda had a chance to thank the Reunion Committee (including a very touching tribute to me for my years of involvement with the class), Nick led the group in a fun trivia game that he and Amy put together. Here are some of the questions: What was the name of the dance teacher? What sorority was formed during our sophomore year? Who did Bucknell upset in the first round of the NCAA men's basketball tournaments in 2005 and 2006? (answers: Ms. Clark, Delta Gamma, and Kansas and Arkansas). As you can imagine, there was lots of laughter and competition.

We all hated the weekend to end so we adjourned to Dunkle's [now known as the Bull Run Inn] for an after-party. There was some dancing and lots of hugs and promises to stay in touch. After-parties happened both nights - guess we aren't as old as we think. The travel, lost sleep and lost voices were worth it; '81 just loves being together.

I have quite a few updates from folks I spoke to over the two days, which will be in the next column - I promise. - C.C.R.

### 1982 **BECKY GOODWIN KANGOS** rgkang@aol.com

I had a pre-Reunion reunion with KARIN KIEL **LACKEY** and **LAUREN** SHIFFRIN HUELSEBUS-CH. Karin couldn't make it back to Bucknell, so she flew to Boston and we spent a long weekend at our beach house in Maine. Karin is working for Verizon and says that after 30 years, Tulsa, Okla., is

now home for her.

We had a picture

perfect weekend for our 40th Reunion, from happy hour on Friday to the fireworks and Bison Blast Saturday night. Approximately 140 classmates returned to campus, so we won the award for most returning alumni. We also won the award for most money donated: over \$5 million. Many thanks go to **MELISSA CAMPBELL** PLAISANCE, FRANK DAVIS, EMMETT SEABORN, LISA **SENKOWSKI MURPHY** and PAT D'AGOSTINI **PERAZZINI** for chairing the Reunion committee. Also, it was announced that CHANNELL WILKINS won this year's Service to Humanity Award. At the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Channell helped to develop the state Juvenile Justice Commission and contributed to significant changes in the child support system. He went on to become director of the Office of Head Start for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services during the George W. Bush administration. In an award of my own making, 3rd East won with the most returning hallmates: 11.

[Read more about the Alumni Awards on Page

I really enjoyed catching up with KATHY BITTNER, an industrial/organizational psychologist who owns

her own consulting firm. Three years ago, she and her partner moved from Pennsylvania to Fairfax, Vt., to live closer to their two daughters and their families. I was happy to hear that she stays in touch with AFSANEH "AFFIE" BAHAR **CONNALLY**. I still remember Affie's big smile from when we were all living in Old Swartz. She lives in Northridge, Calif., and is a manager at Wells

classmates since our last Reunion. The most recent was CAROL POWERS DUNNE SUSAN **AMBUHL GALIONE** writes, "It is with great sadness that we share that Carroll passed away Dec. 12. She will be remembered for her contagious upbeat spirit,

We have lost several

Fargo.

her kindness, her enormous heart and those beautiful big blue eyes. To honor Carroll, we are raising money for a memorial plaque to be placed behind Rooke Chapel. The cost of the plaque is \$2,500. In addition, we hope to raise another \$10,000 for a bench in her memory. The bench would be on Moore Avenue and would look up Malesardi Quad to the library's clock tower. For donations, send checks to Kathleen Graham at Bucknell University, 301 Market St., Suite 2, Lewisburg, PA 17837. Note on the memo line that it is for the Carroll

Susan missed Reunion because she was at the Monaco Grand Prix with LORI VANWYCK DOWLING '83 and their husbands on a rescheduled trip from last year.

On a happier note,

Dunne Memorial."

Saturday morning of Reunion, a bunch of us walked to the Bucknell Farm and had a lovely conversation with the managers and volunteers

there. They provide food for the B-Eats program. We also walked through the greenhouse on the 4th floor of Rooke Science Building with its four different climate areas. I would've loved both of these things as an undergrad – maybe I would have found my passion for horticulture and gardening much earlier in life. We also toured the south campus, which has been transformed by 10 new buildings that are well-integrated into the campus.

Saturday afternoon we stopped by the Bull Run Inn to see how it had changed since 1982. We were able to snag a table on the street, which turned out to be a great place to see people. Pat and FRANK PERAZZINI joined us for a beer. They

moved to South Carolina,

where Frank works

remotely and Pat has joined the development team at Bucknell.

From the Class Reporter SUSAN **HUNSICKER '77: "RICH** ROWE ran into Susan and PETER ANDERSON '77 at the Reunion golf tournament, Rich and Susan had worked together, and Pete also worked in the same area of the chemical industry. Rich is retired so he and PAM STITES are trying out life in downtown Philadelphia."

Please share your news and stories from Reunion with us. - B.G.K.



1983 TRACEY TRUSK EICK tteick@bellsouth.net

I had a lovely, overdue dinner with GARY '80 and **DIANNE FENTON ADAM.** 

They were anticipating a summer trip to Spain with their adult kids. It had been COVID-delayed so that'll make it even more special. They were also celebrating their youngest daughter's college graduation (and finally being tuition free). Speaking of delayed travel, JIM '82 and I finally made it to Maui, Hawaii, at the end of March. The trip was a company reward for Jim that was supposed to take place in March 2020. Hawaii was as beautiful as we remembered, and we crossed the Road to Hana off my bucket list. Please let your classmates know where you have been roaming these last few months. - T.T.E.

### 1984 **ALLISON ABOUCHAR CROSS**

14380th@gmail.com

In April I had the pleasure of being one of 75 attendees at the first-ever Beta Gamma reunion in Philly. JOAN DAUGHEN CADIGAN '86 and MEGAN **BROTT SULLIVAN '86** were the intrepid leaders of a weekend gathering that was two-plus years in the making, having been postponed twice due to COVID. The decades were well represented with guests from our class, including **KELLY BOOMER DONNELLY, SUSIE THUM** LIMPERT, SUSAN **CLEAVER VALENTI** and JANET RANKIN EICH-HORN. What fun it was to connect with people from classes near ours (1981-87) whom we wouldn't typically see at a Bucknell Reunion, given its five-year traditional cadence. Thanks to the University, a DJ cranked a curated playlist of so many old favorites we felt like we had time-traveled back to the last millennium. We all hope to make it a regular event.

After 38 years, PETER JARDINE wrote with a recap of his post-Bucknell life. Happily married to the same woman for 33 years, Peter has two grown daughters, Jill and Kait, and has lived in Raleigh, N.C., for the past 18 years. He is the head of marketing and strategy for an internal startup he co-founded for the aspirin company Bayer. His team developed an internetconnected rodent trap for sensitive environments like pharma, food processing and warehousing. In his spare time, Peter enjoys golf and "professional" barbequing. Peter would love to reconnect with Bucknell friends at jardine. peter@gmail.com or on LinkedIn at petertjardine.

# Coming soon ... THE 2023 BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY **CALENDAR**



Concept may not represent final calendar.

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\*Cornerstone Society Members, as well as donors of \$25 or more since Jan. 1, 2022, will receive a calendar.

### MIKE CONCORDIA'S

older brother Bob, who is 84, wrote with a heartwarming request. Bob is a talented wood carver and during our time at Bucknell gifted Mike two hand-crafted sculptures. The first was an old-time football player made from a cedar stump that he turned into a lamp. The second was a pirate's sword into which he carved "FIJI." The blade was attached to a black walnut handle carved with a distinctive bison. Both pieces went missing at some point during our time on campus. After all these years, Bob is wondering if anyone has seen either of these items. An avid artisan, Bob has all of the woodcarvings he's made, except these two pieces. His dream is to pass these items on to his children and grandchildren. If any readers know the whereabouts of either item, Bob would like to get them back. If you can help, please ping me and I'll connect you.

### **BRIAN BASTECKI**

transitioned from dentistry to a non-clinical role working from home as dental director for AmeriHealth Caritas Pennsylvania, an insurance company. He regularly sees friends PETER

### **KUYLENSTIERNA, GENE** MCCARTHY '83 and ROB STETZ and keeps in touch with **LESLIE LUCKER GALLAGHER** and ANDREW KOMJATHY.

Nearing retirement, Brian lives in Marco Island, Fla., but spends summers in Wildwood Crest, N.J., where he had the pleasure of meeting a fellow Bucknellian, EARL

BEECHAM '87, while dining at Earl's restaurant, Sol, in Woodcliff Lake, N.J. Brian reported that the Caribbean-fusion fare and service were both superb.

there on weekends. **STEPHEN DOTY** wrote with heartfelt remembranc-

A Latin jazz band plays

es of Professor Richard R. Brockhaus, who passed away in August 2021 at age 75. He was at Bucknell from the '70s through spring 1982. Stephen compiled a short YouTube video accompanied by a written tribute in the comments section at youtu.be/JzRY-VI9NTU or by searching the site for "Remembering Richard R. Brockhaus." - A.A.C.

### 1985 **CAROL RHEAM TEVIS** rheamtev@ptd.net

As I type this column, I am happy to report that I am at the Boston home of my freshman roommate, KRISTIN KUPRES. We are enjoying a few days together in the city and then heading to Rhode Island for some beach time.

Sadly, I have received no news from classmates. Hopefully the quiet in this column will inspire you to send an email with your latest updates. Be well and take care. - C.R.T.

### 1986 **JOAN DAUGHEN CADIGAN**

jcadigan@mac.com

GREG SMITH M'95 writes, "After a 25-year career in the pharmaceutical industry, I retired from Johnson & Johnson in November 2021. In January, I started a new role as a solutions architect with Radiant Logic, which delivers a platform to enable businesses to create an identity data fabric out of disparate sources of identity information. Switching over to the vendor side of the industry is turning out to be a lot of fun, and I get to apply my decades of enterprise identity management



A double-major in computer science and philosophy, Todd Griffith '91 has a unique perspective on Al.

### **DISCOVERY MACHINE**

### by KATIE WILLIARD

Todd W. Griffith '91 and his wife, Anna, decided to start a tech company shortly after the birth of their first child. But it wasn't the desire for flexibility or a novel parenting gadget that drove their decision. They were simply "too tired to resist," he says.

Discovery Machine, based in Williamsport, Pa., grew from sleepless nights and a Small Business Innovation Research Grant from the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). "Using the power of artificial intelligence (AI), we create interactive cognitive training agents," Griffith says. "But we know that not all expertise can be captured in data." Using a hybrid approach, Griffith's company combines interrogable AI (which can be questioned and form a response) with in-person instruction.

Twenty-two years of business has resulted in a well-tested methodology that is now being used by the Air Force. "By interspersing the virtual instruction and simulations with supervised flying practice in T-6 training planes, they are able to reduce the time to the pilot's first solo flight. What was taking nine months is now taking three," says Griffith.

"WE'VE GAINED A LOT FROM TECHNOLOGY, BUT **WE'LL NEVER REPLACE REAL HUMAN** INTERACTION."

During development, Griffith's team aimed to understand how expert pilots process information and emulate it with an Al model. Embracing John Boyd's observe, orient, decide and act loop, Discovery Machine created an Al instructor - the Virtual Instructor Pilot Exercise Referee (VIPER). Now, \$10 million simulators with in-person oversight have been replaced by virtual reality headsets and gaming chairs.

The hybrid method is the perfect fit, Griffith says. "We're never going to replace the story about flying through the hills of Afghanistan and having to pull up at the last minute. That has to come from the pilots that did it. The software allows instructors to teach and then say, 'Go practice this maneuver 100 times.' Then VIPER gives the learner the feedback they need."

The company evolved slowly through the two-decade tech boom that continues to expand. "We grew organically, and have seen the ups and downs," says Griffith.

But his philosophy remains the same. "Human expertise is necessary for creating intelligent systems," he says. "We've gained a lot from technology, but we'll never replace real human interaction."

experience in new and interesting ways. The company is small, but growing, the people are super smart, and there's a great atmosphere and culture. I think I found the ideal match for the next chapter in my career."

In April, MEGAN BROTT **SULLIVAN** and I helped organize a Beta Gamma sorority reunion to celebrate our 50th anniversary. Over 70 alumnae attended the gathering in Philadelphia that included sightseeing around the historical areas, remarks from two founding sisters (classes of 1971 and 1973) and a fabulous dinner program. It felt like traveling back in time to the mid-1980s. Class of '86ers who attended were: JOANNE GRYCESKI ARNOLD. NANCY HUTCHISON, KIM SMITH KNIPE, MAU-**REEN KELLY GAM-BOCURTA** and **PATTI** PICARDI. - J.D.C.

### 1987 **LAUREN SLAVIN WROBEL** laurenwr@optimum.net

### **BRIAN BASTECKI '84**

wrote about an encounter in New Jersey - where he spends his summers with **EARL BEECHAM** at Earl's restaurant, Sol. "The Caribbean-fusion fare and the service were both superb. A Latin jazz band plays on weekends as well. It was great to sit with Earl and reminisce about our days on campus." - L.S.W.



1988 STACIE VELISARIS DE **LA PARRA** svdelaparra@yahoo.com We had an amazing Lewisburg graduation weekend for my son, JACK '22. I'm so happy for him, vet it's bittersweet that after seven years as a Bucknell parent, my periodic road trips to campus have come to an end. Jack is on to his next chapter in Manhattan, rooming with four Chi Phis, so the fun will likely continue.

STEVE "MEL" BLOUNT

is back after a big few months. "My two daughters participated in the first back-to-back Bucknell graduations in the school's history in May: the Class of 2020's long-overdue ceremony Saturday, May 21, followed by the traditional Sunday, May 22, ceremony for the Class of 2022." Multiple Bucknell alumni parents and grandparents celebrated as well, including DOUG **ROTATORI '82, STACIE** "CLASS NOTES" **VELISARIS DE LA** PARRA, SCOTT YEAGER '86, DOUG WILLIAMS '63, ANDY '87 and CALI **WILLIAMS YOST '87, GARY LOFFREDO '86.** "SMILIN" CHUCK ALVAREZ, JOHNNY BYREN '87, ED "STUD" **ROBINSON '86, MARK** '86 and JILL BARLOW BLOOM '87, SAM **TICKNOR '83, KATHLEEN** JENSEN BELLISSIMO '89, DAN "BLACK EYE" FRONK '89, KATHY **MACPHEE MCDERMOTT** '87. TODD NEWCOMB. **CHRISTINE ZAPOTO-CZKY KELLEHER '91** (Bucknell University Alumni Association president) and the Commencement speaker,

**DOMINGUEZ '95.** FIJI's Pig Dinner was held in early April. Ed asked Mel to emcee this annual alumni dinner: a major honor, especially considering it was the first Pig Dinner in three years. Those in attendance

DAISY AUGER-



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included keynote speaker GARY SCOTT '86, a retired Marine Corps colonel, IAN FERGUSON '85, BOB MAUTE '86, DAN WILLCOXON '83, MIKE **THOMPSON '83, CHRIS TRATE '82, ANDY** KIMBALL '83, STEVE GIRDEN '83, PAT MCMAHON '83, KYLE YEARICK '84, DOUG KLABER '86, JAMES "JIMBO" MARSHALL, TOM HUNTZINGER, MATT DELOCA, KEITH **REILLY** and old **BILL** TRAVER '87.

Mel writes, "I played my annual work-out-the-kinks round with WES LANG '79 to start my golfing season, and then went to Augusta, Ga., for a Masters practice round courtesy of ZACH **HENKHAUS '16. KAREN BAILEY BLOUNT** and I went back to Bucknell to join STACEY GARDNER **MULLINS, ERIN** O'CONNELL LANGTON and ROB and CORINNE **COLE RYAN** for an awesome 'Super

Saturday' and five-star dinner at the Bull Run Inn."

He saw KRISTINA **HAAS DESMOND '91** earlier in the year at a Dartmouth women's lacrosse game and again when Dartmouth played at Princeton in April.

"Our daughter, MELISSA '18, moved in with JULIA DE LA PARRA '19 (Stacie's daughter). In April, Melissa, Julia, SCOTT BURIAN '17 and I played golf to celebrate Scott's birthday. On the Bucknell karma front, we ran into a trio of Bucknellians when we were warming up on the range: JIM TOPOR '87 and RON '87 and KATHY TROM-BACCO BANGS '87. I was lucky to get a text from my good buddy and FIJI son, JOSH TRAGER '90, inviting me and **LEE** EBERDING '89 (my other FIJI son) and MATT **DELOCA** to a late New York Rangers regular season game. We talked our way onto the Garden

ice after the game for a great pic."

Mel said his whole family followed Cornell men's lacrosse to the NCAA Final Four over Memorial Day weekend with **LESLIE NORTHRUP** LONG '87'S son, Michael, a part of the team. In late April, he was at Princeton for the final regular season game, and SUE HOLBACK EVANS (Leslie's Kappa little sister) joined them for the pre-game tailgate. The following weekend, Mel and Karen went to Rhode Island for the Ivy League Championship weekend, where they played golf with BOB '87 and JOANNA WARNER WILLIAMS '87, and then went to Brown University, where **SUE BAILEY THOMSON '86** (Karen's sister) joined them. Also, he coordinated a golf outing with: TOM COLLINS '87, H.J. WILLCOX and STU FRANK at H.J.'s club over Father's Day weekend.

"I'll close with a sad

event that brought Bucknellians together in May - the memorial service for ROBERT "BIG BOB" SCHEURER. He was a wonderful guy with a heart of gold and a lovely family, including his beautiful wife, Sheila, and three sons, all Eagle Scouts. Bob was a fellow 3rd Traxer and FIJI brother. He. KEVIN STEWART and I had an active, muchneeded Miami Dolphins support group text chain for the past 15 years. At the reception, they had a microphone for anyone who wanted to share their favorite memories with the group ... and the stories went on for three hours. Bob had an incredible impact on all who met him." - S.V.P.

1989 **RENEE LEAVITT BARLOW** 

reneebarlow999@gmail. com

1990 **LAURA MICHALEC OLSZEWSKI** laura.michalec@gmail. com

JEFF DORST wrote with the exciting news that he will officially be a Bucknell parent come September, when daughter CARA '26 arrives on campus. Her twin sister, Nicole, will be attending Northeastern. Jeff is the managing director in the Financial Restructuring Group at investment bank Houlihan Lokey. Stay safe and be well. - L.M.O.

1991 **JENNIFER COCKCROFT ROTH** jroth2007@gmail.com

### **PROFILE**



Of the farmers she works alongside, Lisa Blazure '91 says, "They're the greatest people on Earth and they don't get enough credit; I have tremendous respect for them."

### **GETTING HER HANDS DIRTY**

Lisa Blazure '91 teaches farmers about regenerative agriculture

by KATIE WILLIARD

Farmland abounds in Pennsylvania, where generations of families have planted, grown and harvested crops. But heavy plowing in the non-growing season has caused extreme runoff and nutrient depletion, impacting crop and livestock health and damaging the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Lisa Blazure '91's days are spent far from the bay, but the goal of her work with the Stroud Water Research Center focuses primarily on restoring the Chesapeake's health. And she's doing so right in the heart of the Pennsylvania farmlands.

"The center was founded in 1967, before the Clean Water Act," says Blazure. "Its original focus was on understanding overall stream dynamics, but they realized the need to look beyond the stream corridor, examining how the lands in the watershed were being managed."

At Bucknell, Blazure studied biology, and her passion for environmental science was encouraged through classes with Professor Emeritus Ben Marsh P'04, geography and environmental studies & sciences. She then received her master's in environmental science from Indiana University Bloomington, started her career doing stream assessments and eventually moved back to Pennsylvania, taking a job with the Clinton County Conservation District in 2008. It was there that she was first exposed to the concept of improving a watershed by managing the land and agricultural activity around

Despite knowing agriculture's effect on nutrient and sediment loading, and understanding the benefits of no-till and cover crop practices, she felt out of her element. "But farmers are so knowledgeable," she says. "They know about mechanics, chemistry, agronomy, and animal and soil biology - and they teach me as much as I teach them."

It's here that Blazure has found her niche: working with farmers to reverse decades of watershed damage through regenerative agriculture. She shares strategies to improve soil health, which in turn improves crop and herd health, and she educates farmers on the scientific benefits of the restorative efforts. "I get to teach about biology and ecology; how microscopic critters drive soil systems for nutrient density and water absorption," she says. The result of the new practices - which are being widely adopted by local farmers thanks to people like Blazure and organizations like the Pennsylvania No-Till Alliance - does more than stop land degradation and decrease runoff. "It goes beyond sustainability. We're not just keeping things the way they are. We're working to rebuild and improve the

In her latest project, Blazure serves as the lead coordinator for the Pennsylvania Soil Health Coalition. "It brings many great organizations together, fostering collaboration with the common goal of improving farm profitability, improving the land and improving water quality. I'm really proud of that."

### 1992 **LISA BLOCKUS BROWN**

lisa.blockus.brown@ gmail.com

**LINDA MASSA SAFFLE** lindaoncapecod@gmail. com



### 1993 **CHRIS ZACHARDA**

chris.zacharda@gmail. com

### 1994 **SARAH A. SMITH** ssmith4321@yahoo.com

Not much news to report, but ERIK KLINGNER writes, "On April 30, a FIJI crew of IAN FERGUSON '85, DAVID BERARDINEL-LI '93, TODD HARDY, JESSE CAMPBELL, DAN ZAPPA, BRAD BERNAR-**DINI, MARK GENTILE '95** and me enjoyed a day in quaint downtown Fredericksburg, Va. We gathered in love and support of Dan, a pillar of strength and grace as he wages a personal war with cancer. In typical fashion, we shared many drinks, stories, laughs and even some heartfelt tears. We managed to behave long enough for Dan's family to join us for dinner before we retreated to a basement bar - reminiscent of our time back at old Greystone." Sending good wishes to Dan and his family. - S.A.S.

1995 **JENNIFER BLOB BONER** jenboner@gmail.com

### 1996 **BRIAN TIMMS** bibliomane74@gmail.

1997 **SARA BLOOM BRUCE** sarabloombruce@gmail.



### **REUNION**

### 1998 **HEATHER MURPHY** LOUDON

heather\_loudon@yahoo.

### 1999 STACEY MACKES stacey.mackes@gmail. com

### 2000 **ANN BONNER O'BRIEN** bonner6@yahoo.com

**BETH SLABY** and **KEVIN** STONER had baby boy Eric April 24, 2021. She writes, "It's been a chaotic year for us, but we're all doing well. I'm an attorney for a small creditor's rights firm in Pittsburgh. We can't wait to bring Eric to Bucknell to visit." - A.B.O.

### LORI ESPOSIT

MILLER M'01 completed her MBA from Butler University, Indianapolis.

### 2001 **HEATHER POLLARD ADRIAN**

hdpollard@aol.com

### 2002

**MEREDITH SHREINER ROARK** wrote that **KATIE PETERS** married **JUSTIN** HARRIS '00 Oct. 31, 2021, in Hawley, Pa. The

couple live in Ridgewood, N.J. Those in attendance for the celebration included the bride's brother and sister. GREG PETERS '99 and

## **KRISTINA MAMMANO**

'14. Katie's Bucknell friends are overjoyed at this union, and expect a rowdy party to celebrate soon. - M.P.

The University thanks Melissa Pauley for her service as the Class of 2002 reporter as she steps down and invites any other member of the class to consider being the Class of 2002 reporter.

If you are interested in serving as the class reporter or have news to share, please email Heidi Hormel, Class Notes editor, at hjh006@ bucknell.edu.



### REUNION

### 2003 **PAIGE NICOLE** WIEDERSPIEL **BASKWILL**

pnjacobson@gmail.com

### 2004 JENNIFER BUNCH **WEBLER** jen.webler@gmail.com

2005 **NIKKI HOLLISTER OLSZYK** nikkiolszyk@gmail.com

### 2006 **JULIA SARGEAUNT**

julia.sargeaunt@gmail. com

### 2007 **JENNA CAMANN** jenna.camann@gmail. jcamann@alum.bucknell. edu



### 2008 LINDSAY CARTER **ALLEN**

lindsayallen410@gmail. com

Congratulations to KIMBERLY KANE and MAC MORGAN on the birth of their third son, Patrick Kane Morgan, May 7. He joins brothers Charlie and Michael.

JOE and GILLIAN YOUNG BRUNO had Jeanette "Jeanie" Marie Bruno May 4, joining brother Jayce. - L.C.A.

### 2009 **NIKKI SEAMAN ISELIN**

Nseaman006@gmail. com

### **MEGAN VODZAK M'14**

shares, "I moved from Cambridge, Mass., to Oxford, England, last year with husband Guillaume. We welcomed baby boy Hugo May 1, and we're utterly besotted."

JESS "RIVER" VOORIS accepted a tenure-track job at Wells College, Aurora, N.Y., in the women's, transgender and queer studies department and will start teaching there in the fall. River and their partner, Indigo, were excited to relocate to the Finger Lakes region with their dog, Pippin. They are sad to leave the community they have created in Indiana over the last two years but were looking forward to being closer to family and friends on the East Coast.

**ERICA LOPATOFSKY** KRYST M'09 graduated with a doctorate in educational theory and policy from Penn State May 8. She works as the

senior associate director for Career Experiences & Education at Binghamton (N.Y.) University.

**MAGGIE BLOUCH** COOKE writes, "In March, my husband, Andrew, and I and our two kids (Hannah, 4, and Connor, 2) relocated to the Raleigh-Durham, N.C., area from central New Jersey after the completion of our new home. I started a new position in the wealth-tech area of finance in January. We're loving the transition so far - lots of time outdoors, a new neighborhood and a happening food scene."

KADERO WATSON and wife Hope had their first child, Novi Raine, in January. They live in Chicago.

### **MEREDITH CHAM-**

BERS LANGE was excited to report that she and her husband were expecting their second child in early September.

MATT CHODKOWSKI and wife KRISTA YANCEY '11 had their first child, Eliza Claire, in April.

They live outside of Richmond in Powhatan, Va., where Matt is a management consultant and Krista is in-house counsel for a real estate and mortgage company.

In May, MARISSA MAGNO became vice president of people and inclusion at Cotopaxi, an outdoor gear brand and certified B Corporation. This is a newly created role that supports the employee-centric culture of the humanitarianfocused lifestyle brand. Marissa steps into the role from her previous work at Anheuser-Busch, where she held multiple people management roles over six years. She will work alongside the executive team at Cotopaxi to lead an industry benchmarksetting human resources, diversity and inclusivity program. She said in a press release, "I am very excited to be joining the

### **PARALLELS**

### The Bucknell Brigade prepared Sarah Dickinson Schmalzle '05 for a career in urban medicine

by KATIE WILLIARD

Sarah Dickinson Schmalzle '05 woke up in Nicaragua.

With her heart set on becoming a doctor, she studied cell biology and biochemistry and minored in philosophy. Then, her interest in social justice ignited through service-learning and advocacy programs at Bucknell - namely the Bucknell Brigade.

"In my first trip to Nicaragua, we understood the sociopolitical background, health care access and the environment before we got there. So it wasn't just a moving experience - for most of us, it was the first time we really witnessed poverty. We understood why things were the way they were and how our country played a role. That experience just really wakes you up."

Her service work expanded. She participated in Bucknell's Scholars in Service program with AmeriCorps on its hunger and homelessness team, spending overnights doing intake at a local shelter, and working with the team to start a soup kitchen in the community.

It built the foundation for her work today.

Schmalzle is assistant professor of medicine and the medical director of the THRIVE program at the Institute of Human Virology (IHV) at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. "The institute has a massive global impact," she says. "They've started one million people on HIV medicine in Africa and Central America, and now they've shifted to workforce development in those settings to have an even larger long-term impact." She sees direct parallels between the IHV's work and the Bucknell Brigade, with both initiatives finding success through relationships and connections with people who live in and understand local cultures.



Sarah Dickinson Schmalzle '05 supports the physical and social needs of individuals living with HIV in Baltimore.

Her program provides patient-centered specialty and primary care for more than 2,500 people living with HIV in Baltimore. "But it's the social issues that put patients at risk for acquiring HIV and for poor outcomes," says Schmalzle. That's why THRIVE's services include social workers, housing coordinators, insurance specialists and employment, mental health and substance abuse counselors. "Grants allow us to provide transportation, food assistance, nutrition and pharmacy services - everything we can possibly have in one spot.

"Unless you're working in service and advocacy, you don't realize how similar other resource-limited settings are to urban U.S. settings in relation to structural poverty, racism and lack of health care access," she says of the evident parallels. "You can have expertise and passion and altruistic people, but if you don't have systems set up to address problems, they persist."

Schmalzle uses her passion and perspective to drive THRIVE's mission. "It's the foundation of what we stand for. Comprehensive health care systems. Together, Healing, Reaching, Inspiring to achieve Victory over illness and Embrace life."

Cotopaxi team. It is a privilege, and I know it will be a joy to bring talent, skills and attitude together to continue building something bigger than ourselves."

Stay healthy and happy, Bucknellians. - N.S.I

### 2010 JENNIFER HIRSCH **MANN** jenniferlhirsch@gmail. com

**DAVID ISELIN** dtiselin@gmail.com

It was so good to hear from members of the

Class of 2010 with some exciting updates.

**LUKE TRAFTON** finally married Katy in May after postponing the ceremony for a full year due to COVID. They honeymooned on St. Lucia.

**BRETT** and **ALLIE** FITZPATRICK CAREY had their third baby, Graham Robert Carey, May 2. He joins brother Liam and sister Maeve. In November 2021, Allie became vice president of product management at Ascella-Health, a global specialty pharmacy solutions provider in Berwyn, Pa. The entire family is doing well and lives in Collegeville, Pa.

### **SEAN COYNE**

accepted a new position as assistant professor of psychology at Washington & Jefferson College, Washington, Pa.

**CHRISTOPHER** "GRIFFIN" BURNS is voicing Prank (the Joker Van) in Warner Bros.' upcoming animated series Batwheels, which will come out this fall on **HBOMax and Cartoon** Network. He also had a small part in The Addams Family 2 and guest starred on Dragon's Rescue Riders, which appeared on Paramount+.

**EVA LIPIEC** and STEPHEN NORTON continue to enjoy living in Washington, D.C., and had daughter Bea Lipiec Norton in February.

We got word that **BRANDON SIMMONS** was named managing director with KMK Consulting. He will lead the site selection and incentive negotiation offerings for the company's corporate clients in the Cincinnati region and across the country. Brandon was named one of North America's Top 50 Economic Developers in 2021 by Consultant Connect. - J.H.M. and D.I.

2011 **LINDSAY MACHEN** lindsay.machen@gmail.

2012 **SONALI BASAK** sb051@bucknell.edu



2013 **MASHA ZHDANOVA** mz008@bucknell.edu

### **WORLDS COLLIDE**

### At Spotify, Brian Pei '13 melds his affinity for data with his love of music

by KATIE WILLIARD

When Spotify introduces you to something great, you can thank Brian Pei '13.

Pei helps write the code that propels the technological wizardry of the popular audio streaming service. "The code I contribute to tells the app what song to recommend to you," he says. "We use data from content performance analytics to make your personal experience better."

He speaks passionately about his work, but couldn't have predicted his career path. His first love is music.

Growing up in the New York City suburbs with two musician parents, he studied violin and voice - his mother and father's instruments. But as the only son of first-generation immigrants from China, Pei was advised by his parents to study music only if he paired it with "another versatile major." At Bucknell, he found the opportunity to continue performing - with the Bison Chips, chorus and orchestra, as well as at open mics on campus - while double-majoring in math and economics.

His first job - a consulting role - pitched Pei headfirst into coding. "The lead developer quit, so I spent two weekends watching hours of YouTube videos on coding," he says. In his flood of learning, Pei realized a surprising parallel - he could equate writing code with writing music.

"It was a bunch of random letters and numbers to me at first; not English," he says. "But music isn't English either, and learning to view music as its own language gave me confidence to learn programming."

Pei invested himself in becoming a programmer, and eventually joined co-working company WeWork during its meteoric rise. "As soon as I was on a data team, I noticed that I was surrounded by incredibly smart people, who almost all had different majors," he



Brian Pei '13 gained two key skills from his lifelong love of music patience and practice.

says. "The colleagues I learned the most from had studied English, classics or pre-med."

The move to Spotify - triggered by WeWork's famed crash landed him his dream role: combining his love of music with his penchant for coding.

Now, Pei pays it forward. In partnership with Bucknell's Center for Career Advancement, he recently spoke to students about the breadth of data as a discipline. "Whether to Bucknell students or at the high school career fairs I've attended, I make sure to cover around 20 data-related job titles, specifically explaining their function and importance," he says.

Ultimately, he credits his desire to help others to his parents. "I think a little bit of mentoring is in my blood. It gives me a sense of purpose."

Stream a Bucknell-themed Spotify playlist curated by Pei magazine.bucknell.edu

It is summer as I write this, and my husband, GREG EPREMIAN '12, and I have returned from his 10-year Reunion - which, of course, means that ours is right around the corner. I hope you are already looking forward to it and making plans to attend. One thing I learned: book your accommodations early. Otherwise you will, like us, wait too long and end up staying in Selinsgrove 20 minutes away from campus.

Bucknell's buildings and grounds continue to look beautiful, with several

academic constructions and dorms that opened their doors since we graduated, and yet the campus still feels like home. While on campus, I had a chance to catch up with GABY ANDRI, who was there with AKMAL DANIYAROV '12, M'14 and their newborn daughter, Anabella. I also chatted with a few of Greg's classmates, including our mutual friend STEFAN IVANOVSKI '12.

From off campus, either via email or Zoom reunions, I have received the following updates from our

classmates and friends: We missed that **DEVIN GORDON-HAMM** also attended JUSTIN HICKS'S wedding in our Summer 2022 Bucknell Magazine column. Devin was also a member of Sig Chi and a football player.

**CHÉRIE CELESTE** MALONE moved to Sweden, living in Malmö. She goes back and forth to the U.S. for acting work. Chérie was a co-star in the Danish series Borgen on Netflix. In addition, she has a new career in software development and started a new job as a

front-end developer in August. She is excited for what the future holds, and I am certainly excited for

### **ZACH WARRES**

completed the entire Appalachian Trail, from June through November last vear.

Hope to hear from many of you soon - write anytime. - M.Z.

2014 **LIZ WALKER** ecw012@gmail.com

2015 **COLIN HASSELL** cmh027@bucknell.edu

**CHIEDOZIE "DOZY"** ONONUJU M'17 was

ordained a transitional deacon of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Harrisburg May 21. As a transitional deacon, he will assist the priest at Mass and may celebrate baptisms. witness marriages and officiate at funeral rites. Dozy returned to Mount St. Mary's Seminary, Emmitsburg, Md., in the fall to

complete his bachelor's of sacred theology. In June 2023 - soon after the graduation of his brother KIZITO "KIZ" '23 - Dozy anticipates accepting ordination to the priesthood.

**MATTHEW GERACI** works for a U.S.-China relations-focused think tank in Washington, D.C., where he regularly writes on the economic, security and geopolitical aspects of the bilateral relationship. He was an East Asian studies (China concentration) major at Bucknell and

continued with a master's

at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies in Washington, D.C., living in China for the first half of his program. Matthew's work has been featured in several publications, including Newsweek and NPR. - C.H.

2016 **REBECCA MOORE** rebecca.moore016@ amail.com

### 2017 **AVID KHORRAMIAN** avidkhorramian@gmail.



REUNION

2018 **ANNA MILLAR** aemillar3@gmail.com

**2019 HALEY MULLEN** hem005@bucknell.edu

### 2020 **CHANDLER HOULDIN** cwh021@bucknell.edu

2021 **MACKENZIE GROSS** mackenziealexandra gross@gmail.com

The past few months included several reunions and celebrations. As I wrote these notes, I was anticipating a warm welcome back for Homecoming.

I connected with KRISTIN SMITH, who

received her bachelor's in biology and women's & gender studies, and she reflects on her time at Bucknell: "I grew up as a competitive dancer while being interested in medicine and biology. Finding a University was incredibly challenging as I wanted to pursue my art and a science major without feeling trapped in a curriculum that would leave me without a social life. Nowhere else could I have found all of that with the level of support and prestige that Bucknell offers.

### **PROFILE**

### **LIFE OUT LOUD**

### Oompa Williams '14 uses her art to become unbothered

### by KATIE WILLIARD

At her Boston Calling music festival performance in May, Oompa Williams '14 had a crowd of Bostonians chanting "Lebron" - hours before the Celtics played the Lakers in an NBA playoff game. Only a true artist can sway that kind of crowd.

Boston.com called her "a force in the city" ahead of her May performance. Named one of NPR's 2020 Slingshot Artists to Watch, and featured in the Boston Globe, Boston Magazine and HuffPost, Williams is an established fixture of the Boston music scene whose work combines honest, sensitive lyric writing with a mainstream rap sound. The release of her third album, Unbothered, is the culmination of the work she's done since leaving Bucknell.

A double-major in English and education, Williams found that some aspects of her identity clashed with University culture. "I'm very much from Roxbury in Boston. I'm very Black, very queer, very loud, very woman. Bucknell felt like it wasn't quite ready for all of that, even if it wanted to be."

She established her community through academics and art. "I found mentorship and academic rigor in the English department with [Professors] Shara McCallum and Carmen Gillespie," says Williams. "But there were definitely challenges - feeling like the institution was learning at our expense."

Since graduating, she has used her music to define her experience.

Williams' first album, November 3rd, debuted in 2016, and "laid the foundation for what I needed to process in real life." Her second album, Cleo, dug further into the complexities of her life. Still, Williams questioned her work's impact.

When the pandemic hit, she stepped away from music to focus on self-development and filled the gap by joining a small urban



"Bucknell is the place where I learned that I can be an artist out loud," says Oompa Williams '14.

Catholic school in Boston as a music teacher. "My kids are very daring about what they imagine," she says. "And they keep me

Unbothered shows Williams in a place of acceptance and gratitude for her journey so far. With that record and a run of dynamic Boston performances in 2022, she's focused on a future of continued growth through music.

While she's still climbing, she's preparing to help other artists find their place. "I've been slowly rolling out a cultural agency to support establishing artists," she says.

With her career path and personal growth deeply entwined, Williams says she has "nothing but gratitude for where I've come from and where I'm going."

"I started as an Arts Merit Scholar in dance on the pre-health track knowing that science and dance were absolute musthaves for me. From there, I discovered the world of research. By the end of my sophomore year, I added a women's & gender studies major to my schedule so that I could educate and empower myself on the foundations of social injustice. Finding balance in my life was challenging, but I learned critical skills in prioritization, communication and putting my mental health ahead of all else. My mentors and the entire dance program faculty were with me every step of the way - even if what I was seeking quidance on had nothing to do with their depart-

"My senior year, the biology department brought in a biological anthropologist for their seminar series. She studied how people's identities and cultural history impacted their health beginning on a cellular level and by using variables I was studying in my own research. Suddenly, my two majors

merged in a way I'd never imagined.

"Outside of my majors, I danced my heart out in the Tustin studio every single week as a Bucknell Dance Company member and dance minor. Much like other athletics, dance is a sport people often have to let go of after college unless they pursue a professional career. However, Professor Dustyn Martincich showed me how dance can continue to be part of my life. Months after graduating, while working as a scribe at the Cleveland Clinic, I was dancing for a choreography project of hers that was not part of her position at the University - inadvertently showing

me how art can exist outside of the professional world or even as a simultaneous secondary

"I continue to connect with my mentors, whether it's an email about an article that reminded them of me, an update on the lab or helping me build connections in a new city that I'm moving to. The never-ending support is so unique to this institution; it continuously amazes me. I am forever grateful to every person Bucknell brought to me for showing me that it is possible to do anything you are passionate about without sacrificing your well-being."

Thank you for sharing your experience, and we congratulate you on your incredible work as a MOST Fellow at the Cleveland Clinic. - M.G.

### 2022 **JASMINE MINHAS** jkm030@bucknell.edu

### **IN MEMORIAM**

Remember your friends. family, classmates and others by posting a comment on our online Book of Remembrance, Go. to bucknell.edu/bmagazine.

### 1936

**OPLE FOX WINEY**, Dec. 7, Mendenhall, Pa.

### 1941

ALICE BEE CORCORAN. July 4, 2021, Schenectady,

### 1942

**MARY "MEZ" DIVINE** RAGSDALE P'71, Jan. 26, 2020, Timonium, Md.

### 1945

JOHN "JACK" E. FREEMAN P'74, April 6, Coatesville,

BILL WATKINSON, May 25, Flemington, N.J.

### 1946

MARGIE BUOY WOOD. March 7, Chevy Chase,

### 1947

DAVE DOUGLAS. June 7. North Towanda, Pa.

### 1948

STEVE ATKINS P'70, G'13, Jan. 22, Livingston, N.J.

**ROBERT AUSTIN M'48**, April 11, Newark, Del.

HAL BERKOWITZ, Dec. 9, 2020, Boynton Beach, Fla.

JOANN GOLIGHTLY BROWN P'79. P'82. G'21. May 24, Summit, N.J.

PETE HENDERSON P'75, G'01, G'03, Jan. 16, 2020, East Dennis, Mass.

STEWART HETTIG, April 1, Charlottesville, Va.

RICHARD LOWRIE, Jan. 14, Dade City, Fla.

### 1949

SUZANNE MCCORMICK GILLESPIE, May 1, Ridgewood, N.J.

LLOYD JONES P'72, G'01, G'04, April 25, Vero Beach, Fla.

### 1951

**DOTTIE VARNI CHILD** 

P'81, P'89, G'12, June 13, 2021, Marietta, Ga.

**THADDEUS "TED"** HOROSZY, May 30, 2021, Culver City, Calif.

WILLIAM WRABLEY M'60. June 1, King of Prussia,

### 1952

ANN HAHN COOPER. April 26, Dallas

BARBARA "BOBBIE" PARCELL SLOAT, May 6, Durham, N.C.

LEE CRAIG VIERLING, May 6, Seattle

CARL WEISER, March 28, New Hope, Minn.

### 1953

L. EARLE "BUD" BRETZ. May 16, Placida, Fla.

JACK FORD, May 12, Jacksonville, Fla.

### 1954

PAUL ANDERSON, March 25, Los Altos, Calif.

**CHARLIE STAINTON P'79.** March 12, Gibsonia, Pa.

### 1955

**DON CURRIE P'83, P'92,** May 26, Lake Mary, Fla. **GLORIANNE SIBOLD** EISS, April 1, Park Ridge,

MARION MINKER, May 14, Annapolis, Md.

**DIANA "DEE" JOHNSON** SIGLER P'81. P'89. June 19, Lewisburg, Pa.

**LUCILLE BAYLIS** YEATMAN, May 7, Wilmington, Del.

### 1957

JAY ALLEN, May 27, Las Cruces, N.M.

EDISON SPEER P'83, Aug. 18, Eighty Four, Pa. JIM ULRICH, May 9, Danville, Pa.

### 1958

REESE DAVIS, April 10, West Chester, Pa.

DAVID HILLMAN, May 17, Sanford, N.C.

**HOWARD KNOWLTON.** May 11, Northumberland, Pa.

JON LEAVITT P'92, May 13, Palm Beach, Fla.

**EUGENIA WRIGHT VAN** HORN, May 11, Chadds Ford, Pa.

### 1959

**CYNTHIA "CYNIE" BLUNT** KENDALL, June 13, Palmyra, Pa.

NORMA COYLE SIEBEN-HELLER, April 15, Pisgah Forest, N.C.

**GERALD ZEIGLER**, April 16, York, Pa.

### 1960

BILL CALISE P'91, April 20, Carlsbad, Calif. BOB DAGGETT, May 15, Cape May, N.J.

**BILL HILDRETH.** March 22, 2020, Encinitas, Calif.

LINDA BRUN MCCULLOUGH, April 27, Cutchogue, N.Y.

GARY MUNKELT, March 19, Doylestown, Pa.

**BOB RAYMOND P'97.** April 28, Lewistown, Pa.

FRANK REGAN, April 8, Daniel Island, S.C.

DAVE SLIFER. May 30. Santa Rosa, Calif.

### 1961

MARSHA O'BANNON, March 12, San Francisco BART RICHARDS, April 23, Northfield, III.

### 1963

SAMUEL DAVIS, April 21, Pinehurst, N.C.

**DONALD KNIGHT**, March 25, West Lake Hills, Texas

### 1964

SUZANNE DAVIDSON EMRICH, May 12, Indianapolis

**CECILY "CISSY" BORELLI** MARABELLA, Nov. 28, 2021, Norristown, Pa.

**CHUCK WEIDENFELLER** P'94, May 1, Naples, Fla. JOHN "BOB" ZIMMER-MAN, June 6, 2021, Davidson, N.C.

### 1965

SUE PALMER LOVE, May 11, Bowie, Md.

### 1966

**HEATHER MCDOWELL** BROWNELL P'93, Jan. 28, 2022, Phoenix

### 1967

KENNETH KUBACKI, Dec. 9, Hockessin, Del. PHYLLIS DEIBLER STENDER, April 1, Thousand Oaks, Calif.

### 1969

RICHARD BROWNFIELD. June 5, Winter Springs, Fla. **SALLY BARLOW** SARKISSIAN, May 28, West Hartford, Conn.

### 1970

JONATHAN APGAR, March 20, Holland, Ohio JOHN SPIELMAN, April 24, Sarasota, Fla.

### 1971

DICK HORST, April 10, Ellicott City, Md.

PATRICK SULLIVAN. April 28, Stony Point, N.Y.

### 1972

JOHN CARROLL, May 31, Oshkosh, Wis.

RALPH DEL CORO, Dec. 7, 2021, Green Village,

THOMAS DOREY, May 12, Celebration, Fla.

### 1973

**ROBERT ALLEN P'99**, April 18, Cape May, N.J.

### 1974

JACKSON "VAN" IRELAND, May 7, Huntingtown, Md.

ROBERT PALMER, March 30, Richboro, Pa.

JILL STEINER, April 28, 2020. Ashland. Ore.

MINA HALE VARNEY. April 29, Rose Valley, Pa.

### 1979

**LIZANNE GROSSE** RITROVATO M'80. P'10. April 2, West Chester, Pa. LEWIS "KIP" SHAW M'79, April 8, Hershey, Pa.

### 1983

**CYNTHIA MONTEFUSCO** RUTLEDGE, May 9, Rutherford, N.J.

### 1988

ROBERT SCHEURER. May 4, Cranford, N.J.

### 1990

JOHN "MARTY" FORKEN. April 15, Greensboro, N.C. **ROBERT HELLAUER**, May 12, Linfield, Pa.

**GREGORY LEGGETT.** May 2, Vienna, Va.

### 1992

MATTHEW YOUNG, April 27, Albuquerque, N.M.

### 2011

SEAN LOCURTO, April 6, Manhasset, N.Y.

### 2015

ANDREW NEIFFER. March 8, Vista, Calif.

### 2020

**CHARLES CROOKS**, July 29, Raleigh, N.C.

### **MASTER'S**

**BERNADETTE ANTKOVIAK** M'71, Dec. 11, Harrisburg,

**ROBERT BENDER M'62,** May 25, Urbana, III.

**EDWARD COPE M'69.** June 3. Deer Lake, Pa.

WARREN HASSINGER M'54, May 6, Millersburg,

BARBARA DIFHI **LABREE M'62**. Feb. 20. 2020, West Redding,

MICHAEL METIL M'96. June 10. Blairsville, Pa.

**CRAIG WEBSTER M'67.** May 11, Chantilly, Va.

### **FACULTY AND STAFF**

**EDWARD COTTER, May** 13, Shrewsbury, Mass.

ANNELIES GRAY, May 13, Lewisburg, Pa.

MARY HILL, April 5, Asheville, N.C.

WILLIAM MELOY. May 1. The Villages, Fla.

CHRISTOPHER REYN-OLDS, April 29, Royersford, Pa.

EILEEN SPADE P'97, June 2, Northumberland, Pa. **BEVERLY SPATZER P'93.** 

### **FRIENDS**

RICHARD O'DAY P'24. May 1, Rumson, N.J.

April 24, Herndon, Pa.

### **IN MEMORIAM**

### **ROBERT BRUNGRABER G'05, PROFESSOR EMERITUS, CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING**



Professor Emeritus Robert Brungraber G'05, civil & environmental engineering, died June 27. He served as department chair from 1968 to 1974, held a Presidential Professorship from 1979 to 1983, and left a tangible legacy in Lewisburg that can still be seen today, when crossing the Bull Run creek or standing east of Dana Engineering.

The 40th anniversary and rededication of the Hufnagle pedestrian footbridge garnered news coverage in early 2022, bringing worthy attention to Brungraber's role in the design and building of the local landmark. (Read more about the anniversary on Page 7.)

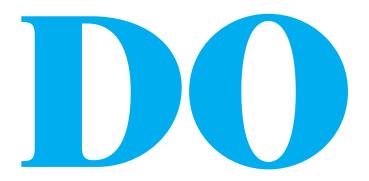
In addition to his well-known bridge work, Brungraber also designed and supervised the construction of a campus facility to house the

University's 600,000-pound Baldwin universal testing machine, providing students a space "to learn the importance of testing connections that hold structures together." Beginning in 1978 with the delivery of the Baldwin to campus, the professor sourced experimental materials that could be used to construct the building at little or no cost to the University, offering his consulting services in return to the companies who donated in kind. "Bob was not only an outstanding engineer, but also he was a great salesperson for Bucknell engineering," said Professor Emeritus Jai Kim, civil engineering, who worked closely with Brungraber throughout his career. The building was completed in 1985 but stood unnamed until his retirement in 2000, when the department dedicated the Brungraber Civil Engineering Structural Test Laboratory in his honor.

At Brungraber's retirement ceremony, former Dean of Engineering Thomas Rich spoke of the professor's impact. "The structures testing facility symbolizes your ingenuity, perseverance, dedication and skills as both engineer and entrepreneur," he said. "You can take pride in knowing the many students who have benefitted from your teaching and those who will benefit in future years from their experiences in the structures testing lab."

Beyond Bucknell, Brungraber served as a research engineer for the National Bureau of Standards and was a member of the board of directors of the National Institute of Building Sciences. His pioneering development of a patented device for measuring slip resistance was adopted by the committee of the American Society for Testing and Materials. After his retirement, he and his wife, Ruth, founded Slip-Test Inc., a specialized consulting, testing and manufacturing firm, which they ran for two decades.

Brungraber is survived by two children, including his son Ben Brungraber P'05 and spouse Joel Feldman P'05; five grandchildren, including grandson Griffin Brungraber '05 and spouse Caesara "Chezzie" Wendin Brungraber '04; and seven great-grandchildren.



### STAY CURRENT ON CRYPTO

Like our cover story? Follow your curiosity further at our upcoming Bucknell 360° event **Cryptocurrency: A Virtual Currency** with Real-world Implications, featuring Professor Karen McGrath, finance, Monday, Oct. 31, at noon EDT.

Learn more and watch bucknell.edu/360

# STAY CONNECTED!

Find and connect with classmates using the private, online alumni directory.

Get started bucknellconnect.com

### **CROWDSOURCED**

# WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE ANIMAL ENCOUNTER ON CAMPUS?

We had a "pet" squirrel named Bert who lived outside of Trax. We'd bring him bagels and things back from the caf all the time. I eventually was able to coax him up onto my shoulder if I sat on the sidewalk really still.

Stephanie Farnsworth '00

Woke up in my 2nd floor **Vedder Hall bed one** morning with a cat sleeping on my feet. How did he get there? Through the open window? Never knew.

Helen Koons '71

### Know an outstanding **Rucknellian?**

### Nominate a fellow graduate for a Bucknell Alumni Award!

Learn more and submit your nomination go.bucknell.edu/AlumniAwards

# ANSWER THIS:

**HOW DID YOU GET YOUR COLLEGE NICKNAME?** 

**FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK TO** SUBMIT YOUR ANSWER

facebook.com/bucknellu

The Animal Behavior Lab took in a baby alligator purchased by someone who lived in the Mods ... thankfully Reptiland was able to give him a new home.

Carly Rovner '20

When observing the snow monkeys, my partner got close to the cages and one of the monkeys came out of nowhere, snatched our records out of his hand and gave it to the alpha monkey, who proceeded to eat it. We had to go to Professor Candland and explain what happened, to which he dryly replied, "So you're telling me that the monkey ate your homework?"

Tracey Veracco Price '97



# Photos: Above, Gordon R. Wenzel; Below, Special Collections/University Archives/Greg Moyer

# **Alumni Service** Recognized

### By MIKE FERLAZZO

FOUR ALUMNI were recognized during Reunion Weekend for their contributions to the University and society with awards from the Bucknell University Alumni Association. Honored for their passion and service were:

Connie Tressler '62, M'65, P'90, Loyalty to Bucknell Award: Tressler has remained committed to Bucknell and the surrounding community since her graduation, serving as president of the Bucknell Club of the Greater Susquehanna Valley and the Bucknell Club

of Northeastern Pa. As a member of the Bucknell Public Interest Program, she has helped match students seeking opportunities in the nonprofit and public service sectors with employers. She was also a volunteer for her 50th and 55th Reunion Giving Committee and chair for her 55th and 60th Reunions.

Channell Wilkins '82, Service to Humanity Award: At the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Wilkins helped develop the state Juvenile Justice Commission and contributed to significant changes in the child support system. He went on to become director of the Office of Head Start for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under President George W. Bush. He serves Bucknell as an alumni admissions volunteer and assists students through the Center for Career Advancement.

Lisa H. Tostanoski '12, Young Alumni Award: Tostanoski is a postdoctoral fellow in the Center for Virology and Vaccine Research at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center - Harvard Medical School. Since graduating from Bucknell,



From left: President John Bravman, Tressler, Freeman, Wilkins and Bucknell University Alumni Association President Christine Zapotocky Kelleher '91 during the Reunion awards ceremony.

she has pursued academic research training, developing expertise in biomaterials, drug delivery, vaccine design and immunology. She has published over 40 peer-reviewed articles in journals such as Nature, Cell, Science and the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA).

Kenneth W. Freeman '72, Outstanding Achievement in a Chosen Profession Award: The namesake of the Freeman College of Management and the Kenneth W. Freeman Professorship and Dean of Management position, Freeman was a Bucknell trustee for 18 years and chair of the board for nine. He began his career at Corning and went on to leadership roles in numerous organizations. Notably, he served as chairman, president and CEO of Quest Diagnostics and later as dean of the Questrom School of Business at Boston University.

# SHARE A MOD MEMORY



AFTER A HALF CENTURY, Bucknell's "temporary" housing units, the Mods, are being replaced. Before they're gone, we want to hear your Mod memories. Responses may appear in a future magazine issue.

Share yours bmagazine@bucknell.edu

# Photos: Above, Emily Paine; Below, Special Collections/University Archives

# INSPIRING YOUNG MINDS



Isa Lamparter, 10, a student at Linntown Intermediate School, reads a poem on the poetry path.

### **FURTHERING ITS EFFORT** to

bring the power of poetry to the public, Bucknell's Stadler Center for Poetry & Literary Arts recently installed a new poetry path on the grounds of Linntown Intermediate School, just outside Lewisburg.

Funded by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, the path includes six stops at locations students frequent throughout the day, each featuring a children's poem selected by the Linntown student body.

"We hope that the path will help show school-age children the artistic potential of language," says Stadler Center Program Manager Andrew Ciotola.

# itty Winners

Here are our favorite caption submissions from the last issue:

"Relaxing after 'acing' their finals. It's hard to beat four of a kind." Jay Sullivan '69

"I'll see your 'Oxford Shoes' and raise you a 'Trip to the Bookstore!' " Rich Trefflich '65

We're doing math homework – the statistics and probability chapter! Gail Seekins '73

"YOU GUYS ARE IN **COLLEGE AND YOU'RE** STILL PLAYING GO FISH?!"

Laura Allison Leddy '78

"No thanks, we're too young to learn bridge."

Submit your caption for the retro photo on Page 61 to bmagazine@bucknell.edu or facebook.com/bucknellu by Nov. 15.





# **Enjoy the Shade**



New pavilions are a popular spot for gathering, study and more

▲ A new pavilion, one of two installed this summer, caps the outdoor study space gifted to Bucknell by the Class of 2016.

### By MATT HUGHES

**WHO KNEW** they'd prove so popular?

When Bucknell's Facilities division began raising tents around campus in preparation for the return of in-person classes in fall 2020, the first thought on the minds of most was certainly not, "People are going to love these."

But according to Justin Salyards, project manager for Facilities, over the two years that followed many at Bucknell gained an affinity for the white big tops protruding from among the cherry trees and collegiate Georgian buildings.

Even after vaccines and other safety protocols reduced their necessity, faculty appreciated the option of a shady space to teach on a beautiful central Pennsylvania day. Students likewise took a liking to the room to study, hold club meetings or

just enjoy the beauty of Bucknell's campus in the cool shade that the tents afforded. The fondness extended to the very top: "It was actually President Bravman who asked, 'Can we make some of these permanent?' " Salyards says.

And so this summer Bucknell constructed two permanent pavilions on campus, one near the Dent Drive entrance to Rooke Science Center and the other between Academic West and Bertrand Library, which acts as a canopy above the outdoor study space gifted to Bucknell as the senior tribute of the Class of 2016.

Outfitted with power outlets in their supporting pillars and lights that turn on with the campus streetlights, the pavilions add a new dimension to Bucknell's outdoor amenities, which have played an increasing role in the University's efforts to enhance academic and student life. In fact, the same fondness Salyards uncovered inspired the Class of 2022 senior tribute: a smaller, powered pergola between Academic East and Academic West.

"Especially with COVID, a lot of students were studying outside at the study spaces by Academic East and Academic West, but those tables are always filled," says Maddy Mallory '22, vice president of her class. "We all love the outdoor study spaces, so we thought this would be used a lot."

Salyards says comments like those, and his experience with the tents, have reframed how Facilities approaches the continuing development of Bucknell's campus.

"When we build buildings, we're always concerned about the exit doors and pathways, about pedestrian flow, about the views and the vistas and how things fit with the campuswide

architecture," Salyards says. "But now we're thinking not just about how it looks to travel from this building to that building, but about what people will do in the meantime. Is there a pavilion to stop and enjoy, a picnic table or Adirondack chairs, places to play certain games or sports? Instead of just looking at pedestrian transportation, we're thinking about the activities that might take place in these spaces."

Other outdoor amenities to enjoy on campus include a woodsy, reimagined quad between Roberts Hall and the Carnegie Building; an outdoor classroom at Davis Hall; an outdoor fire pit at the Bucknell Farm, the senior tribute of the Class of 2020; and a patio at Swartz Hall gifted by the Class of 2021.



13,453

More than 13,000 alumni, parents, students and friends of the University made gifts to Bucknell in 2021-22. \$67

Thanks to their generosity, the University received nearly \$67 million — all of which will directly enhance our students' educational experience.

**42** FUNDS

Additionally, 42 new funds were fulfilled, making them available for students during the 2022-23 fiscal year: 15 endowed scholarships, six endowed program funds, 15 annual scholarships and five annual program funds.

The excellence of the Bucknell experience is a direct result of the annual support we receive from our loyal donors.

Whether you support scholarships, facilities, research and travel experiences, athletics or academics, your gifts make a daily impact on Bucknell students. Thank you for your ongoing generosity!



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