

BUCKNELL

SPRING 2023

Cities of the Future

Technology has revolutionized our world and how we live in it — and it's not done yet

A CULTURE OF BELONGING, P6

Power Plants, p12

POETIC DEVICE, P16

Tomorrowland, p20





BY WAY OF BUCKNELL

CHEERY BLOSSOMS

Pretty pink cherry blossoms erupt in Lewisburg as nature emerges from hibernation.

If you would like a reprint of this photo, please fill out the form at go.bucknell.edu/PhotoOffer. We will send you a complimentary 8-by-10 print.

photograph by EMILY PAINE

PATHWAYS



FROM BUCKNELL

to

FINLAND

by KATIE WILLIARD

Alec Baker '23 spends his summers in Helsinki. The son of a Finnish immigrant, he heads to the Nordic region each year, visiting family, making friends and training with the Finnish Swimming Federation, the country's national swim team. In summer 2022, Bucknell enabled Baker to add a new layer to his life in Finland.

Thanks to donor support of the Bucknell Public Interest Program (BPIP), Baker, an international relations and German double-major, participated in an internship program with the U.S. Embassy in Finland. "I'm beyond grateful for the generous stipend from BPIP," he says. "It made it possible to have this experience — to live near the embassy, commute to my internship, buy food, get to swim practice and live independently for the first time in my life."

In his role in the consular sector, Baker organized discourse between the embassy and people wishing to renounce their U.S. citizenship, which contributed to the revitalization of the renunciations department. In addition, he researched the Finnish judicial system to build a foreign officer briefing package, an informational document to help new employees gain a better understanding of their station.

"Bucknell definitely prepared me for the experience," Baker says. "And now I know that I want to pursue a career abroad. It felt like very meaningful work."

photograph by EMILY PAINE





FROM THE PLAYGROUND

to

THE CLASSROOM

by **BROOKE THAMES**

When asked to describe her decades-long career in industrial design, Bucknell management professor Gabriela Diego sums it up succinctly: “Designers are essentially good problem-solvers who happen to solve problems by providing products.”

Diego’s products weren’t quick-fix gadgets or utilitarian domestic devices, but entire atmospheres of fun. As a former design strategist at Playworld, an equipment manufacturer in Lewisburg, she led teams in the creation of playground equipment.

“I loved working with children and seeing how those spaces enabled them to explore,” Diego says. “You can’t be so serious when thinking about a design problem. Like children, you have to stay curious.”

The work blended Diego’s creativity and lifelong interest in architecture, which was sparked during her own childhood in Mexico. She relocated to Lewisburg in 2001 after earning a master’s degree in marketing from the University of Guadalajara. Last fall – after 20 years at Playworld – Diego joined Bucknell as a markets, innovation & design professor in the Freeman College of Management, where she’s teaching the next generation of problem-solvers to think imaginatively.

“It’s beautiful teaching design to the people who will go out into the world and lead innovation,” Diego says. “I’m excited by their questions, ideas and visions for the future.”

photograph by **EMILY PAINE**

LETTERS

EXPERT TRANSLATOR

PROFESSOR KATE SUSLAVA'S RESEARCH on the meaning of corporate euphemisms was a breath of fresh air ["Taking a Red Pencil to Corporate Speak," winter]. I have cut it out and placed it in my "investments" file.

K. CLARKE CRANDELL '64

THE ARTICLE in the winter edition that described Kate Suslava's research on corporate doublespeak was profound. The chart on Page 36 did not just hit the nail on the head — it drove that nail into the foundation and came out the other end. She claims to be an accountant, but what she is really demonstrating is a mastery of CFO marketing.

J. RONALD "STAR" CAREY '61

IT TOOK A VILLAGE

REMEMBERING the Mods ["Home Sweet Home," winter]? There are alums, like me, who reminisce about living on the west side of Route 15 before the Mods were dreamed of.

Bucknell Village was constructed post-war to house married GIs coming to Bucknell on the GI Bill. The central drive branched out right and left with more than a dozen buildings, each three units long. Each apartment (which rented for \$25 a month in 1962-63) had a kitchen with laundry hookups, a large living room with a kerosene space heater, two bedrooms and a bath.

I recall the tub (as well as the bathroom itself) slanted away from the drain, so I had to scoop the last water uphill so it would drain. Otherwise, it might freeze overnight in the tub. And, yes, that kerosene space heater was inadequate, challenging and dangerous, but it came with the apartment.

Our appliances were very used models purchased from previous tenants, sold on to the next ones when we left. Picture a refrigerator up on legs with the compressor on top.

The community of residents was wonderful, mostly married students, most with a child and a dog. There was communal gardening and babysitting. There was fencing off the ends of two facing units so six apartments could run their dogs or children safely right out their back doors. All the mailboxes were lined up at the gateway to Route 15, and it was a gathering place for collecting the day's mail, chatting or talking to the cows who came curiously over from their pasture to check on us.

Both my husband and I were full-time students; therefore, we tried to arrange our schedules so one of us was always home with our daughter. I remember careening downhill on my bike after an early class to hand it off to him to pedal furiously uphill for his next class.

Bucknell Village — with its reasonable cost, the support of students, our garden plot and the local farmers market — made it possible for both of us to continue our education and graduate on time. We remember it fondly and still hear from friends we made there over 60 years ago.

BARBARA "BONNIE" HAWK BARNEY '63

MY WIFE, ANDREA, and I lived in Bucknell's married student quarters in 1960, right after we were married, right before my senior year. I believe it was called Bucknell Village. It was on the same spot as the Mods and, in comparison, it made the Mods look like palatial mansions. Bucknell Village was put up during or right after World War II and resembled army barracks. We spent \$25 on rent per month. There was a kerosene heater in the living room, and the doorways were open at the top so the heat could rise and go into the rest of our two-bedroom apartment.

We were recently at Bucknell showing our grandson the campus, and he commented on how nice the Mods were. What a surprise to read they will be replaced. A bit of nostalgia! Seems like yesterday!

NEAL I. FAGIN '61

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ART IMITATES LIFE

Part captivating, part ominous, *The Nemesis Machine* examines our interconnected lives.

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SMALL TOWN, BIG DREAMER

Pittston, Pa., is the pride and joy of Mayor Michael Lombardo '86, M'88.

ON THE COVER:

The Nemesis Machine, an art exhibit featured on campus, sparked conversation about smart cities and surveillance culture. Photograph by Emily Paine

Tomorrowland

THE FUTURE DOESN'T EXIST.

But anticipation for it does. Depending on your perspective, that anticipation can spark excitement and motivation, or it can enflame worry and anxiety.

The features within this issue of *Bucknell Magazine* explore the idea of the future, specifically the future of our cities. Our world is becoming more city-centric. More than half of the world's population lives in cities, and urban populations are expected to grow. Cities are on the front lines of critical

issues, such as pandemics, climate change and civil rights.

Fortunately, cities are also hotbeds of innovation – places where creative, transformative thinking is embraced, and where opportunities for economic growth, sustainability and social justice live. They are the perfect places to dream up and test solutions that will improve society's quality of life – from mega-metropolises to tiny towns.

On P. 20, in "Urban Evolution," you'll meet Bucknell alumni and faculty who are anticipating and actively preparing for the challenges ahead. They are working across disciplines and geographical regions to champion change in areas of transportation, infrastructure, civic engagement

and social justice. The short feature "Circuit City" (P. 30) highlights a recent exhibit at the Samek Art Museum that examined smart cities and the ever-growing role of technology in our lives. Finally, "Leading with Vision – and Heart" (P. 32) tells the story of an alum turned mayor who transformed his once-struggling hometown into a prosperous community bursting with economic opportunity and civic pride.

My hope is that you'll find this collection of stories insightful, inspirational and thought-provoking. By learning more about Bucknellians who are driving change, perhaps we can all feel more energized and optimistic about tomorrow.

KATIE NEITZ, *editor*
k.neitz@bucknell.edu

My Mom, the Rocket Scientist



Helen Grimley Blockus '52, P'92, had a successful career in aeronautical engineering.

CONGRATULATIONS to Bucknell for 100 years of women in engineering! Thank you for featuring this milestone ["Engineering the Future – for Good," winter]. While **Katherine Owens Hayden, Class of 1923**, broke a glass ceiling as Bucknell's first female engineering student, women in engineering were still uncommon decades later. Twenty-six years after Hayden graduated, my mother, **Helen "Betty" Grimley Blockus '53, P'92**, entered Bucknell as the only female engineering major in her class.

My mom told me stories about the challenges she faced. She had to get special permission from the dean of students to wear pants instead of a skirt to properly do her lab and fieldwork. She had to face disgruntled male classmates who resented being assigned her lab partner. She had to overprepare for daily lectures because a particular professor was known to call on her at the start of every class; he never singled out male students in a similar fashion. In our conversations, my mom would brush off these instances as

the price she paid for being one of the few. "That's just the way it was," she said.

After college, Betty started her career in aeronautical engineering at the Glenn L. Martin Company, where she worked on the aerodynamics of Matador jets. Then she went to Avco-Everett Research Laboratory to focus on aeroelasticity and reentry physics of spacecraft. She was, in fact, a rocket scientist – and one of the first women in her field.

I am grateful that my mother and the other female students of her generation persevered. They laid the groundwork for generations of women engineers to come. Thank you for honoring these trailblazers by empowering today's engineering students, surrounding them with role models and equipping them with the skills needed to actualize their career aspirations. There are still ceilings left to break!

LISA BLOCKUS BROWN '92

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VICE PRESIDENT FOR COMMUNICATIONS
Heather Johns P'27

EDITOR
Katie Neitz

CREATIVE DIRECTOR
Barbara Wise

DESIGNERS
Amy Wells
Barbara Wise

PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Emily Paine

DIGITAL EDITOR
Brooke Thames

ASSISTANT EDITOR
Katie Williard

CLASS NOTES EDITOR
Heidi Hormel

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT
Kim Faulk

CONTRIBUTORS
Dave Block
Shana Ebright
Mike Ferlazzo
Matt Hughes
Brad Tufts
Christina Masciere Wallace P'22

WEBSITE
bucknell.edu/bmagazine

CONTACT
bmagazine@bucknell.edu
Class Notes:
classnotes@bucknell.edu
570-577-3611

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The Center for Access & Success will foster a supportive environment to help high-achieving students succeed.

Transforming Access

Bucknell's new Center for Access & Success will help students succeed academically and thrive in the campus community

by MIKE FERLAZZO

BUILDING ON the institution's strategic priorities of increasing access and diversity, President John Bravman announced in March the establishment of Bucknell University's Center for Access & Success. The new center will serve students enrolled in Bucknell's five national and signature pathway scholarship programs, providing a cohesive system of high-touch mentoring and support throughout their four years on campus and enhancing their ability to excel at the University.

The center, which is scheduled to be fully operational by fall 2023, will focus on students from Bucknell's pathway scholarship programs: The Gateway Scholars Program, The Charles T. Bauer Scholars Program, The Posse Scholars Program, The Langone and Langone-Walling Scholarships, and The Bucknell Community College Scholars Program.

The center's vision is deeply personal to John Bravman. "As a first-generation student who struggled while adjusting to college life, I know that simply being admitted to college does not guarantee success," Bravman says. "Ongoing support and guidance throughout the four-year experience are critical. Bucknell's Center for Access & Success will offer many of our underrepresented students the resources they need to have the best possible experience here."

The center will administer and further develop Bucknell's pathway programs as well as the University's efforts in the American

Talent Initiative — a growing alliance of colleges and universities dedicated to expanding opportunities for low- and moderate-income students. Using data about academic experiences and outcomes, and working with other campus offices, the center will determine the most effective ways to support pathway students.

Its relationship-based approach will also strengthen these students' sense of belonging, serving "as a home for current and future pathway students, and providing services and support tailored to meet the specific needs of these students and their families," says Lisa Keegan, vice president for enrollment management.

The center will serve up to 300 Bucknell students at any one time. It will be led by the **Andrew Hartman '71, P'00 & Joseph Fama '71** Executive Director of the Center for Access & Success, a position made possible by Andrew and **Janet Bauer Hartman P'00**, and by the Charles T. Bauer Foundation.

"Bucknell has a long tradition of recruiting students from diverse backgrounds, but their success requires a commitment to support their entire Bucknell experience," Keegan says. "This center will allow the University to better serve underrepresented students through a more robust, cohesive and strategic approach."

NEWS TICKER

BRIGHT MINDS

For the second straight year, Bucknell was named a top producer of Fulbright Scholars by the U.S.

Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Recent awardees Professor Emily Martin, music, and Diane Jakacki, digital scholarship coordinator, are pursuing international research projects as part of the prestigious program.

HEAVYWEIGHT

In March, the Freeman College of Management was recognized as a "top 10 undergraduate business school to watch" by *Poets&Quants for Undergrads*, the leading online publication for undergraduate business education news.

READY FOR A ROUND?

NBC Sports GolfPass ranked the Bucknell Golf Club the No. 3 college golf course in the U.S., as well as the No. 18 golf course in Pennsylvania (among courses open to the public). The scoring is based on golfers' ratings of conditions, value, layout, friendliness, pace and amenities of each facility.

‘EQUITY IS EVERYONE’S WORK’

Vernese Edghill-Walden '87 returns to Bucknell to lead equity and inclusion efforts

by MIKE FERLAZZO



BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY is committed to making its campus a welcoming place for all, and **Vernese Edghill-Walden '87** will lead that effort. In July, Edghill-Walden will become Bucknell's inaugural vice president of equity & inclusive excellence. Edghill-Walden currently serves as vice president for diversity, equity and inclusion and chief diversity officer at Northern Illinois University (NIU).

Edghill-Walden has more than 30 years of higher education academic leadership experience. She has served in her current position at NIU since June 2020, and also served as interim chief human resources officer for a year during that tenure. She previously served at NIU as senior associate vice president for academic diversity and chief diversity officer for five years.

"I am thrilled that Dr. Edghill-Walden is returning to lead us in the area of equity and inclusive excellence, particularly since she played such a significant role in that area as a student leader," says President John Bravman. "She brings a

vast amount of academic leadership experience, and we look forward to her guidance as we address key strategic goals in equity and inclusive excellence."

The vice president of equity & inclusive excellence will plan, lead and coordinate all of the University's diversity, equity and inclusion resources for students, faculty and staff.

"I am honored to return to my alma mater," says Edghill-Walden. "As an undergraduate, Bucknell sparked my passion for student-centered advocacy and social justice. I was an engaged student leader and through that engagement I found my career path to diversity, equity and inclusion work in higher education."

Edghill-Walden earned her bachelor of arts degree in sociology with minors in counseling and human service systems from Bucknell. She went on to earn both a master of education degree and certificate in community economic development from the University of Delaware, as well as a doctorate in philosophy and sociology from Howard University.

Prior to her time at NIU, Edghill-Walden served for five years in the City Colleges of Chicago, District Office, where she held positions as provost and chief academic officer; associate vice chancellor, general education; and executive director, academic development. She was associate director of research & evaluation for the City Colleges of Chicago, Richard Daley College.

She has also held positions as assistant dean and director of the Center for Black Culture and Multicultural Programs at the University of Delaware, and alternative housing coordinator and minority student adviser at Franklin & Marshall College.

Edghill-Walden led efforts that garnered NIU national awards including the Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award from *INSIGHT Into Diversity* magazine in 2021 and 2022; the Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation grant from the American Association of Colleges and Universities in 2021, and the National Association for Diversity Officers in Higher Education

(NADOHE) Institutional Excellence Award, Honorable Mention in 2020. She was also the recipient of the Bucknell University Multicultural Student Services Center's Founders Award in 2012 for spearheading the creation of the Multi-Culture Center (now called Multicultural Student Services) at Bucknell in 1986.

She co-authored a chapter in the new book *The Experiences of Black Women Diversity Practitioners in Historically White Institutions* (2023). She is also co-author of *A Framework for Advancing Anti-Racism Strategy on Campus* (2021), a publication of the NADOHE, where she has held membership since 2015.

"I am excited to return to the community where I discovered my passion and purpose for this work," she says. "It is definitely a full-circle moment for me. Equity is everyone's work, and I look forward to chartering a vision for us to advance institutional equity and inclusive excellence together."

'burg and Beyond

In Lewisburg and far afield, Bucknellians make a positive and palpable difference

➔ **Lewisburg, Pa.** Members of Bucknell's Animal Rescue Club are actively preparing for "kitten season" — the period from April to October when community cats give birth to litter after litter of kittens. While "kitten season" may sound innocent, it's actually hazardous. Unspayed cats can birth 180 kittens over their lifetime, according to the SPCA, and the resulting overpopulation increases animal suffering and mortality. In addition, the local ecosystem suffers as outdoor cats excessively prey upon small mammals and birds. Club president **Evelyn Pierce '25**, a lifelong animal lover, is taking action to help humanely reduce Lewisburg's stray population.

What They've Done Bucknell students formed the Animal Rescue Club in spring 2022 under the leadership of **Raleigh Singer '22**. Club members initially set up feeding stations equipped with trail

cameras around campus so they could watch and track hungry visitors. Cats deemed social and eligible for adoption (usually kittens) were placed into foster homes and eventually into forever homes. Students in off-campus housing and faculty members were regular fosters. Cats that weren't up for the transition to indoor life were trapped, neutered or spayed

at a local shelter, and released, a process referred to as TNR.

Their Impact

The club has rescued and homed approximately 40 cats, and Pierce accomplished her first TNR as president during the fall semester. Going forward, Pierce says the club plans to partner with local shelters to perform more rescues and TNRs. She also plans to do more to

educate students and community members about the problem.

Through social media, particularly the neighborhood-focused platform Nextdoor, Lewisburg residents are actively engaging with the club. "We hear from people who can no longer take care of their cat, or need help with a population problem," says Pierce, an art & design and theatre double-major

from Teaneck, N.J. "We're helping a Lewisburg man who has 12 cats living in his backyard. It's nice that our neighbors see us as an asset. It's incredibly rewarding to be helping cats and the community."
—Katie Neitz

▼ Evelyn Pierce '25 rescued Henry and found him a home as an emotional support animal for a fellow student.



Photo: Emily Paine

➔ **Beltsville, Md.** When **Mahder Etuma '16** was a teenager, her aunt suffered a serious brain injury in a car accident. As she watched her aunt gradually make a full recovery, Etuma gained an appreciation for health care and a fascination with the miraculous healing power of the brain. It's what inspired Etuma to become a neuroscience major

at Bucknell and what then led her to Walter Reed National Military Medical Center to research post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Today, it's what fuels her work ensuring people with intellectual and developmental disabilities receive proper care in Beltsville, Md.

What She's Doing

Etuma is a program coordinator with Frontline Community

Services, a nonprofit dedicated to serving patients who have struggled to receive adequate care from traditional medical facilities. "We are here to help people who need specialized care, often those who have been left behind by other programs," Etuma says. "Some of our patients are dealing with mental health challenges like PTSD and schizophrenia, or they are survivors of

childhood trauma and abuse."

In her role, Etuma acts as mission control, overseeing the provision of services that ensure patients remain healthy, including medicine, nutrition, therapy and activities. "I connect the dots to make sure they are cared for and engaged in society," she says. "It's very fulfilling."

What She Wants to Do Next

Etuma plans to take all she has learned — from Professor Judy Grisel's neuroscience lab at Bucknell, from Walter Reed, and from Frontline — and create a hospital that will provide treatment regardless of patients' ability to pay. "I have seen how health care is drastically different for people who can't afford it," she says.

"Medicine is essential and shouldn't depend on someone's income."

Etuma's dream is to create a fully funded hospital in either Ethiopia, her home country, or Ghana, where she traveled during her senior year as part of the Bucknell in Ghana program. That experience was so vitalizing that after she graduated, Etuma returned to Ghana to volunteer in an emergency room. "I'm a product of my experiences," she says, "and Bucknell provided some of the most impactful experiences of my life."

—Katie Neitz

"I have seen how health care is drastically different for people who can't afford it. Medicine is essential and shouldn't depend on someone's income."

Mahder Etuma '16





Jake Tapper Discusses Polarization, Disinformation at Bucknell Forum

The CNN anchor was the second featured guest

by BROOKE THAMES

FACTS AND LIES. Political polarization and the democratic process. The influence of the media on the mind of the voter.

These were the prevailing themes of the Nov. 30 Bucknell Forum discussion between President John Bravman and CNN anchor and chief Washington correspondent Jake Tapper, held in the Weis Center for the Performing Arts.

A staple figure at CNN, Tapper anchors a two-hour weekday program, *The Lead with Jake Tapper*, in addition to co-hosting CNN's Sunday morning show, *State of the Union*. In April 2021, he became CNN's lead anchor for Washington, D.C., coverage.

During the hourlong question-and-answer session on "The State of American Democracy," the careerlong journalist shared his perspective on the prevalence of disinformation and conspiracy theories in the political landscape.

"Social media obviously plays a huge role in mainstreaming conspiracy theories. ... Having a [former] American president that screams conspiracy theories has made them more

▲ Journalist Jake Tapper joined President John Bravman for an hourlong discussion on "The State of American Democracy."

accessible," Tapper said. "But I think that they turned off a lot of the voters [in the midterm elections]."

While pollsters predicted a red wave in the 2022 midterms, the Democrats maintained a larger-than-expected number of seats in the Senate and saw single-digit losses in the House — a performance that's been called "history defying."

"At the end of the day, voters can surprise you, [and] that's the great thing about America," Tapper said. "It's up to the voters. ... It really is Pennsylvanians going to the ballot box. We [as journalists] just report the results."

Still, a lack of public trust in the democratic process has dominated political rhetoric since the 2020 presidential election. Tapper's perspective is straightforward: Lies can be powerful.

"I think the majority of Americans trust the electoral process. I think the majority of Republican voters don't. ... It is based on years of lies about the integrity of the [2020] election told to them," said Tapper, who said he is politically independent. "What's difficult in an environment like this is

to say [that something is a lie] and not have people think that you are liberal. There's nothing liberal about [saying something isn't true]."

One countermeasure to this extreme polarization, Tapper suggested, comes back to social media and the sources from which individuals receive thoughts, opinions and news. As a "ravenous news consumer," he recommended users diversify their feeds as much as possible.

"We are in an era where people don't want to listen to views that they might disagree with," Tapper said. "But [social media] is a great opportunity to hear from people with whom you might not agree [and to become] exposed to what they're thinking about."

The Bucknell Forum speaker series continued into spring 2023 with:

- John Kasich, former Republican governor of Ohio, and David Axelrod, former senior adviser to President Barack Obama, who appeared together Feb. 28, in the Weis Center.
- **Barbara F. Walter '86**, a leading scholar of civil wars and the author of the *New York Times* bestseller *How Civil Wars Start (and How to Stop Them)*, who spoke April 4, in Trout Auditorium.

➤ Coverage of these speakers occurred after the magazine's print deadlines. You can read about these events at go.bucknell.edu/KasichAxelrod and go.bucknell.edu/BarbaraWalter

INSTANT REPLAY

CAREER HIGHLIGHT

"We went into the locker room to get our pregame talk. When we came out to play, there were hundreds of kids from local schools all screaming. Getting to talk with them after the game and signing autographs was just super fun."

COMPETING FOR MINUTES

"It's a fight because lineups change, and you're never sure if you're going to start the next game. It keeps you on your toes."

TEAM PLAYER

"We're a really young team, so it's important to be patient and lean in with all the first-years and sophomores. I want to help them however I can."



Team co-captain Emma Shaffer '23 scored a career-high 24 points in a game against American University in February.



Holding Court

by BRYAN WENDELL

AS THE DAUGHTER of two former Bison athletes (**Kirsten Ellison '92, P'23**, basketball, and **Robert Shaffer '91, P'23**, football), **Emma Shaffer '23** has Bucknell in her blood.

Despite being raised in a Bucknell household, Shaffer grew up near Cincinnati and didn't visit the campus until her junior year of high school when Bucknell's basketball team began recruiting her.

Shaffer has been a standout player since at least the sixth grade, when she led her team to an Amateur Athletic Union national championship. As her squad defeated teams from as far away as Alaska, colleges began to take notice.

Bucknell offered Shaffer more than just the chance to play Division I sports. Shaffer recognized that Bucknell's academic opportunities would prepare her for an array of careers once her time on the court ended.

"I knew I wanted to study business for a really long time," says the markets, innovation & design major. "My dad was an accounting major and had an influence on that."

Courses like Exploring Management and Introduction to Organization and Management helped her build foundational business skills. Hands-on experiences offered through student organizations like the Women in Finance club added real-world flavor. And then came the internship.

The summer before her senior year, Shaffer completed a 10-week internship in capital markets operations at Fifth Third Bank in Cincinnati. Five hundred miles from her home court at Sojka Pavilion, Shaffer had joined a different kind of team — one where she was the rookie once again.

"Going through the internship, I realized I really want to do this kind of work," she says. "After a couple of days there, [my boss said], 'Wow, I really see how much you speak your mind.' I definitely think basketball helped with that."

That boss was impressed. So much so that the company gave Shaffer a return offer — a formal invitation to join the Fifth Third Bank team full time after graduation. She accepted.

Even while making her mark

in Cincinnati, Shaffer remained focused on her Bison squad. After finishing her workday at Fifth Third Bank, Shaffer would text her first-year teammates to check in and answer questions about the team. When she returned to campus for the fall, Shaffer regularly walked or drove with her teammates to class and helped them navigate the nuances of college life.

"I'm just being there for them — the way my older teammates were there for me," says Shaffer, one of just two seniors on a team dominated by first-years and sophomores. "During my first year, I was still trying to get my footing. Now, I have to be that voice when things are good or bad."

Shaffer, a team captain and the Bison leader in rebounds and blocks, says she hopes she's creating a foundation on which her teammates can build.

"I hope they say I had a great impact," she says, "and that I paved the way for people who will be there next year."



Solanum scalarium has an unusual ladder-like arrangement of prickles on its stems.

POPULAR SCIENCE

BOTANICAL BUZZ

Bucknell botanists celebrate two headline-generating sensations

by KATIE NEITZ

photography by EMILY PAINE

A Rare Find

While walking through Australia's remote Outback in 2019, Bucknell biologists spotted an unusual plant. Further study revealed that it was a new, undocumented species of an Australian bush tomato.

The discovery: Chris Martine, David Burpee Professor in Plant Genetics & Research, first found the plant with colleagues on a trip to Judbarra National Park in 2019. Back in Lewisburg, Martine gave seeds collected from the specimen to Tanisha Williams, Richard E. and Yvonne Smith Post-Doctoral Fellow in Botany, and **Jonathan Hayes '21**, who led in the care and study of the offspring used to confirm the new species.

The find: Martine happened upon the exotic plant along a steep trail near a set of stone steps. Inspired by that spot and the ladder-like prickles that adorn the plant's flowering stems, he and his colleagues selected the name *Solanum scalarium*. In Latin, "scalarium" translates to "ladder," "stair-

case" or "stairs." *Solanum* is the largest genus in the nightshade family and includes potatoes, eggplants and tomatoes.

The buzz: In December, the team's new-species description was published in the journal *PhytoKeys*, with Hayes included as a co-author. The discovery quickly generated headlines: *National Geographic*, ABC News, *Yahoo! News* and numerous scientific publications picked up the story. And in February, Williams discussed the discovery as a guest on NPR's *Short Wave* podcast.

The reward: Martine, who has been exploring the Australian Outback for nearly two decades and has found 10 new species of plants, thrives on the excitement of making new discoveries in the natural world. "Each time, it's like a dream come true," he says. "It's also an incredible message for both the public and my students – that if you learn about biodiversity, you will find there are many things, literally millions of things, left on the planet that we don't know about."

▼ Post-doctoral Fellow Tanisha Williams cared for the plant specimens, grown from seeds, in the Rooke Science Center greenhouse.

➞ Listen to Tanisha Williams describe the discovery at magazine.bucknell.edu



Buzz Worthy



Post-doctoral Fellow Tanisha Williams, biology, was recently selected by the Linnean Society of London to receive its Bicentenary Medal. The prestigious award is presented to scientists under the age of 40 in recognition of excellent work in the natural sciences. Professor Chris Martine became the first Bucknellian to be named a Fellow of the Linnean Society in 2022.

A Rare Bloom

For more than two decades, Bucknell has been home to a special plant famous for blossoming only once in its lifetime, just before it dies. In late 2022, Bucknell's very own *Agave americana* performed its grand finale, sprouting yellow flowers that created excitement across campus – and beyond.

The plant: Originally thought to live 100 years, *Agave americana* was nicknamed the Century Plant. In actuality, it blooms at the end of a 25- to 30-year life (still an exercise in patience for its caretakers). Over that period, the flowering stalk can grow to a towering six feet tall. Once it develops its flowering branches, it becomes visually dramatic, stretching as far as 10 feet wide.

The caretakers: Bucknell's Century Plant has lived in the Rooke Science Center greenhouse under the watchful eyes of several generations of nurturers, including **Tasha Hall '07**, Bucknell's current greenhouse caretaker. Hall notes that the plant thrives in arid, warm, sunny conditions. The real key to its care, she says, is showing restraint when watering it. Once a week is sufficient, and a well-draining soil is critical.

The hype: Hall and biology professor Chris Martine first noticed buds in mid-December – less-than-ideal timing, as

campus was clearing for winter break. To ensure people wouldn't miss the plant's final act, Hall worked with Library & Information Technology to set up a livestreaming camera, which also enabled alumni and community members to watch the blooms' progress. Local news outlets paid visits, further spreading the word. When faculty and staff returned to campus in early January, the greenhouse became a popular destination for visits – and selfies – with the plant. "The reaction on campus has been extremely positive," Hall says. "It's attracted people to the greenhouse who aren't typical visitors, and I've received many emails from people who want to learn more about the plant."

The future: Before the celebrated plant died in February, it produced several offshoots. Hall replanted them and is now caring for those so-called "pups" so future generations of Bucknellians can watch them grow and, hopefully, one day flower. "It feels special to carry on the legacy of others who have cared for this plant," Hall says. "I've enjoyed learning more about it and seeing people get excited about this rare beauty."

► **A marvel of nature, Bucknell's century plant attracted many admirers, including Professor Chris Martine.**



The Responsible Management Revolution



Bucknell's Freeman College embodies United Nations' principles for sustainable business leadership

▲ Professor Melissa Intindola, management & organizations, teaches students how to be drivers of corporate sustainability.

by BROOKE THAMES

UPON ENTERING BUCKNELL, it doesn't take students long to learn what differentiates the Freeman College of Management from traditional business schools. An emphasis on ethics, sustainability and equity permeates the entire curriculum – from the signature Management 101 course to classes on tax law.

Since its inception, the Freeman College has worked to integrate these ideals throughout its many majors, taking cues from a set of values and goals established by the United Nations. Founded in 2007, the UN's Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) initiative seeks to transform the future of global enterprise by positively shaping the skills and mindsets of today's business students.

"One of the noblest questions of our existence today is, 'How do we balance self-interest and the common good?'" says Professor Neil

Boyd, management & organizations, who helped introduce PRME to the College. "The answer lies in our ability to recognize that organizations don't simply exist for the creation of wealth. Our students must expand their focus beyond financial prosperity to include economic justice, social development and environmental protection."

Climate action, gender equality and the elimination of poverty are just some of the 17 PRME Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that guide pedagogy within the Freeman College. SDGs can be easily spotted in courses like Stakeholder Organization, where students assess the consequences of business decisions on various communities. Other SDGs have been creatively infused into the accounting and finance majors through lessons that highlight peace, justice and strong institutions – and what happens

when institutional integrity fails.

By examining the history of corporate fraud, students in Professor Stacy Mastrolia's accounting seminar "come to understand how human motivations influence financial management, for better or worse," Mastrolia says. "We've seen that if we do not have strong institutions, it's very hard for justice to prevail. Accounting provides the solid foundation that impactful businesses are built on."

The Freeman College has produced two comprehensive reports detailing its successful efforts to integrate the PRME initiative – from identifying high-priority SDGs to creating a student-led ambassador program to promote peer-to-peer engagement.

"Our goal is to help provide avenues for students to learn about these topics outside the classroom," says management & organizations major **Brenna Yingling '24**. Each semester,

the group hosts alumni speakers who model sustainable management and seeks out community partnership opportunities.

"It's important to realize that sustainability is about so much more than the environment – it's about supporting the long-term well-being of people," Yingling says. "Having that knowledge is what will enable us to go out and make a real difference in the world."

It's a kind of knowledge that "isn't commonly taught at the average business school," says Professor Melissa Intindola, management & organizations, who oversees the incorporation of SDGs into the college's evolving curriculum.

"At the Freeman College, we're creating leaders who are equipped to think critically about the work they do. And they're learning how to do it from day one."

Q&A



**Professor
Matías Vernengo**

PAYING THE PRICE

by KATIE NEITZ

Professor Matías Vernengo, economics, first became aware of inflation as a child in Argentina. During the 1980s and '90s, the inflation rate in his native country soared to more than 1,000%. As a teen, he read a book that opened his eyes to the symbiotic relationship between developed and underdeveloped countries: One prospers at the sacrifice of the other. It sparked his interest in economics. Today, he is a macroeconomist with a special interest in developing countries and the history of economic ideas. Here, he shares insights on the disruptions impacting the global economy.

Q: WHAT IS THE ROOT CAUSE OF TODAY'S HIGH INFLATION RATE?

It's a breakdown within the supply chain. As people stopped consuming goods and services during the pandemic, significant supply-chain issues and bottlenecks caused increased production costs in sectors acutely impacted by the shutdown. Prices increased for used cars, airfare, restaurants, housing and the energy sector, while transportation issues – clogged ports and trucking delays – added pressure. These can be temporary shocks. But if supply chains don't adapt, inflation persists, which is what we've seen.

Q: WHAT IMPACT DID THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S ACTIONS HAVE?

The overwhelming effort at the beginning of the pandemic was aimed at preventing a total economic shutdown. Financial rescue plans maintained levels of spending, and the Fed increased the money supply. Expanding fiscal and monetary policy has become the norm in recessions since at least the postwar era, and is practiced in order to avoid the pitfalls of inaction – a lesson we learned from the Great Depression. During the 2022 midterm elections, conservatives blamed the Biden administration for inflation, saying relief checks increased consumer demand and then prices. Meanwhile, the White House

claimed the economy recovered quickly, thanks to the increase in consumer spending – possibly due to the relief checks – and blamed inflation on corporate greed.

Q: WHO WAS CORRECT?

In my opinion, neither. First, it is hard to agree that the government's generous social spending spawned inflation. If disruptions to supply chains and transportation become endemic, moderately higher levels of inflation will persist.

The war in Ukraine is also an important factor. Ukraine is a major agricultural exporter, so the conflict has caused increased prices for wheat and other foods, and has also pushed up the cost of oil and gas.

Second, while it is true that personal consumption has recovered, the question is whether companies can increase production to provide for the additional demand. So far, they haven't. In fact, investment in production is below pre-pandemic levels.

So it wasn't the government or corporations that caused inflation. Bad luck is closer to the truth.

Q: CAN ANYTHING BE DONE TO RESOLVE THOSE ISSUES?

Not much. If the causes of inflation are the war in Ukraine and the closure of ports and production facilities, there's no direct government policy to change that in the short run. Conservatives have demanded fiscal

and monetary restraint, but that would only work if inflation was demand driven – it's not.

Progressives suggest alternative policies, like price controls, which would require a more organized or planned economy, in which key parts of the supply chain are domestic – they're not.

Inflation is fundamentally about wealth inequality between social groups. The poor always suffer the most.

Fortunately, I do not think inflation will reach 14% as it did during the Great Inflation of the 1970s. The labor force is less unionized, which means the demands for higher wages will be weaker. Also, the price of oil and natural gas has dropped significantly.

More Than a Magazine

‘West Branch’ creates a space for talented writers and skillful editors to cultivate creativity and community

by KATIE NEITZ

To mark a significant milestone – the publication of its 100th issue – the editors of *West Branch*, Bucknell’s professional literary journal, considered taking a unique approach. Perhaps they should establish a thematic thread that would run through each poem, short story, essay and review. Or perhaps they should honor the esteemed writers and editors of previous eras by curating a sampling of their works into a special anthology.

In the end, *West Branch* editors decided the 100th edition shouldn’t deviate from what the publication has done so well over its 45-year history – present a collection of beautifully written pieces that convey diverse ideas from a variety of perspectives with artistic flair. From a short story about unrequited love and heartbreak to a poem eulogizing the life of a honeybee, to an essay examining the author’s fixation with George Harrison’s “My Sweet Lord,” the fall issue of *West Branch* is a collection of expansive, compelling literary writing.

West Branch was cofounded in 1977 by co-editors and Professors of English Robert

Love Taylor and Karl Patten as a semi-annual publication. In 1988, when Bucknell’s Stadler Center for Poetry was established to support writers and foster an appreciation for the literary arts, *West Branch* became integral to the Center’s mission. Eventually, the publication increased frequency to three times a year and launched a companion digital edition.

“Back when *West Branch* was founded, literary publishing was dominated by big quarterlies that featured well-established authors,” says **Andrew Ciotola M’06**, managing editor. “In part, Bob and Karl wanted to carve out a place for emerging writers. Originally, the magazine had a regional focus, featuring authors from Pennsylvania and the greater Mid-Atlantic, though it has always welcomed submissions from farther afield.”

Over time, however, *West Branch* developed a reputation for its high-caliber writing – nurtured by its skillful editors – which sparked broader interest. Submissions arrived from across the country – and the world. English-speaking writers from as far as the British Isles, Australia, India, Nigeria, South Africa and beyond vied for consideration. “*West Branch* has always had this fly-under-

the-radar reputation here at Bucknell,” Ciotola says, “but it’s very well known in the national literary community.”

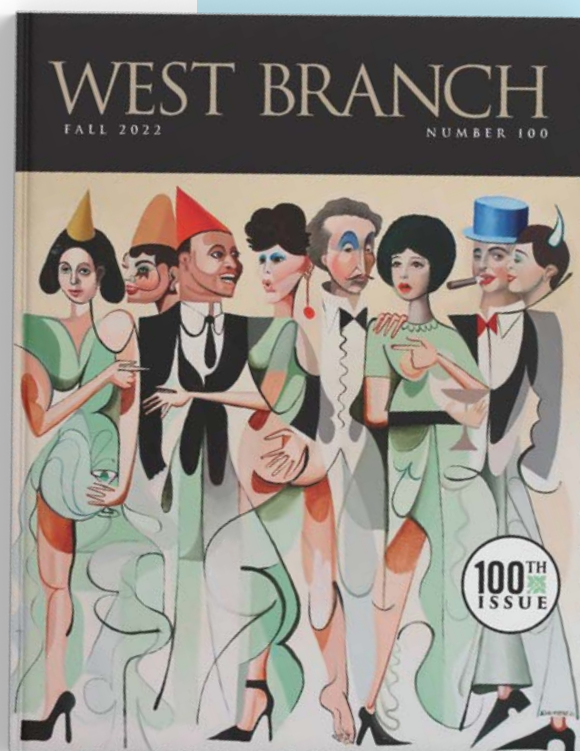
West Branch’s following – and selectiveness – have continued to grow. The editorial staff, which is led by Professor Joseph Scapellato, English, receives well over 5,000 submissions per year, and less than 1% of those are accepted for publication. The winter 2023 edition features poems translated from Chinese, Vietnamese and Italian.

“For me, a literary magazine is a portal to the public,” Scapellato says. “It generates a community – of contributors, readers and staff members – and because its very existence relies on submissions of creative work from the public, it is generated

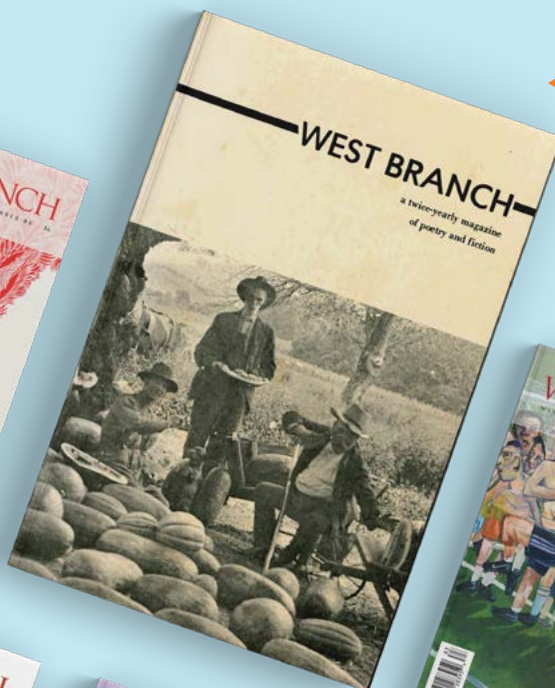
by a community too. I love reading the poetry, fiction and nonfiction that is submitted to us and discussing that work with fellow editors. It’s a joy, an honor and a privilege to contribute to the greater literary ecosystem in this way.”

One of the measures of success for a literary magazine is how many of its works are selected to appear in the *Best American* series (*Best American Short Stories* and *Best American Essays*, among other spinoffs). Stories, poems and fiction first published in *West Branch* regularly appear in these prestigious anthologies, which claim to represent the best of contemporary American literary writing.

Even with its popularity and accolades, *West Branch* is still



▲ Jean-Pierre Villafañe’s *The Devil’s Dancers* captures a diverse cast of characters celebrating, which editors thought would be fitting for *West Branch*’s 100th issue.



◀ The debut 1977 cover features a photograph of founding editor Robert Love Taylor's ancestors enjoying a crop of watermelons. "The photo suggests an abundant, joyful, celebratory harvest," Andrew Ciotola says.

▶ "I see our covers as an invitation to enter a place where this transformative experience happens. They are meant to catch the eye and, we hope, open a door," Managing Editor Andrew Ciotola says.

at its core a publication that helps new writers develop their craft and gain exposure.

"There are a lot of writers who have become influential in the American literary community who published their early work in *West Branch*," says Ciotola, who cites Billy Collins, Roxane Gay, Ottessa Moshfegh, and Matthew Salesses among those contributors who are now celebrated writers. "That really is something that we're proud of and something that we strive for – to be the place that emerging writers want to publish, because they're doing the most exciting work as far as I'm concerned. Emerging writers are the future of American literature."

West Branch is also known for developing the next

generation of editors and publishing professionals. In 2001, Ciotola started an internship program, which enables two or three Bucknell students each semester to have a hands-on role with the magazine, from evaluating manuscripts to participating in editorial discussions. Many interns graduate into successful careers in the literary world.

"*West Branch* was a wonderful experience that gave me the chance to be a part of a literary journal at a professional level," says **Janine Hauber Le '09**, an English – creative writing major who now runs her own literary agency. "My favorite part was the editorial meetings, where interns and staff all discussed the submissions that showed the most merit. I loved

advocating for my favorite pieces, which led to my career – now, I advocate for authors and illustrators."

Those who have made up past mastheads – editors, writers and interns – have carried forward *West Branch's* tradition of excellence and built a strong foundation for its future. In an era when many print publications are reducing frequency or going entirely digital, Ciotola feels there is value in preserving *West Branch's* original format.

"Digital reading is affecting the way artists produce," he says. "We're seeing shorter and shorter short stories. Micro-fiction or flash fiction is a big

deal these days. But I think people still appreciate holding a book or a beautiful magazine in their hands. This is a certain type of reading – the reading you do before bed, or sitting by the pool in the summertime, or relaxing in an easy chair at home enjoying downtime. I think our culture still wants to read and experience physical books. That may not always be the case – but I think it still is now."

➤ Enjoy *West Branch's* poetry, fiction, essays and reviews at westbranch.blogs.bucknell.edu

THE ART OF THE LONG GAME



➔ After building a tech company from scratch, **Mike Molinet '07** is experiencing his long-awaited payout. He spent nearly a decade pursuing and refining his vision for Branch, a mobile linking platform that helps businesses ensure customers have a seamless user experience across devices. Appearing on campus this April as the Freeman College of Management's 2023 Walling Lecturer, Molinet offers insight on how to thrive in the long game.

HOW DO YOU STAY FOCUSED ON YOUR VISION?

By staying true to myself, my interests and my long-term objectives. It's easy to get distracted by others' success. Like when others were securing great jobs at consulting firms or big tech companies, and I was sleeping on couches. Or when our first startup wasn't working, and we couldn't figure out why. In those moments, keep pushing. In the long run, you'll find yourself in a great spot.

HOW DO YOU FIND THE RIGHT OPPORTUNITY?

Don't wait. I've always tried to jump in headfirst with a focus on learning and iterating quickly. We never would have come up with Branch in a vacuum imagining theoretical ideas. We did it by identifying challenges we faced while working on an app, and the development of that app was preceded by prior ideas too. If you're interested in doing something, jump in. You probably won't get it right from the beginning, and you can't leapfrog to the finished product. Just start doing something you care about.

HOW DO YOU IDENTIFY A WORTHY IDEA?

When I get consumed by an interest for a couple months, it's a good sign I should act. I start by doing small things — small actions build into bigger actions. If you stick with it, you'll see results. Whether that's trying to sell a product, write blog posts or build a new skill set — small steps lead to growth.

WHAT'S THE BIGGEST LESSON YOU'VE LEARNED?

Your worst-case scenario is probably not as bad as you imagine it to be. Tens of thousands of dollars of debt? Couch surfing for months? Living in a garage for years? I've done it, and I survived. I knew committing to what I believed in would make up for those less-than-ideal situations. Don't let fear of failure prevent action.

WHAT'S THE KEY TO A SUCCESSFUL LONG GAME?

The people around you. If you find others with a growth mindset, similar values and a strong work ethic, you'll grow in unbounded ways. As you build a team, invest back into the people who have followed you. Success comes from making other people successful — because their wins elevate you with them.

FEATURES

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MAYOR

BRIGHT SPOT PUBLIC ART ENRICHES PITTSTON, PA, THANKS TO MICHAEL LOMBARDO '86, M'88

photo by Douglas Kilpatrick

TOMORROWLAND

URBAN EVOLUT

Sam Krassenstein '11
wants to see Detroit
transform from the Motor
City into the Mobility City.

Photo: Nic Antaya

ION



To be prosperous, sustainable and equitable, cities of the future will require innovations beyond flying cars. To contend with complex challenges, urban planners, engineers, policymakers and community leaders need to apply interdisciplinary thinking within an ultra-collaborative environment that values the needs of all people. Fortunately, Bucknellians are in the driver's seat.

by **CHRISTINE FENNESSY**

It's easy to get dreamy when envisioning the cities of the future. These will be places where people can meet their everyday needs by walking, biking or using high-quality transit, and goods will move seamlessly and efficiently, perhaps by drone or autonomous vehicle (but most definitely without emissions). Where infrastructure and buildings will work in tandem with green spaces to absorb and deflect severe weather. Where natural areas will be restored. Where the air will be clean. And where all residents will be equal citizens, able to move about without fear or restriction, and live in homes that are safe and affordable.

Turning this utopian ideal from wish to reality may seem like, well, wishful thinking. But there are no better places to dream big – and make big changes – than in our cities.

According to the United Nations, 55% of the world's current population lives in urban areas, and that number is projected to rise to 68% by 2050. "Cities are engines of growth – people move to them to get better life opportunities," says Professor Ritwika Biswas, geography. "But our society remains unequal. If we really want to restructure society and address those inequities, our starting point has to be cities."

Building prosperous, resilient and equitable cities (and towns and neighborhoods) relies on the willingness of people to champion transformative change. Fortunately, Bucknell alumni and faculty are committed to powering progress. Here, several of them draw upon their varied expertise to help us imagine the future across four primary components of city life: transportation, infrastructure, livability and social justice. With insight and awareness that transcend professional boundaries, they recognize that meaningful progress in one area can't be achieved without meaningful progress in all areas. And that creative, interdisciplinary thinking and problem-solving is needed to navigate the road (or skylane, perhaps?) ahead.



Self-proclaimed "transportation nerd" Sam Krassenstein '11 is the chief of infrastructure for Detroit.



TRANSPORTATION

The Obstacle: Too many cars, too many fossil fuels, too few options for citizens to get around.

The Solution: Optimize cities for safe, clean, convenient, affordable transportation that's accessible to all.

"When it comes to the future of Detroit, we're envisioning the Motor City becoming more of the Mobility City," says **Sam Krassenstein '11**, chief of infrastructure for Detroit.

The hope is for a trip across town to someday look, sound and feel different as innovative technology reduces everything from carbon emissions and road congestion to noise pollution and traffic accidents.

The U.S. Department of Transportation recently awarded \$25 million to Detroit to transform two miles of Michigan Avenue, part of the 40-mile transit route between Detroit and Ann Arbor, Mich. The project will add dedicated transit lanes and self-driving vehicle lanes that will extend from downtown through the historic Corktown neighborhood.

"It will be the first dedicated, connected

autonomous vehicle lane in the country that cuts through an urban area," says Krassenstein, who studied management and economics at Bucknell. "The technology will be the first of its kind in the country, and it's going to provide opportunities for innovation in the mobility sphere."

One of those innovations will be an electrified mile that will use wireless charging to power vehicles as they're cruising down the highway – something Krassenstein says has never been done before. Detroit's ultimate goal is to convert the entire 40-mile corridor into "the world's most sophisticated roadway" that will allow for a mix of electric and autonomous vehicles and will incorporate technology that collects and uses data to ease traffic and promote fluid movement throughout the city.

Indeed, "smart cities" are increasingly relying on data systems to improve how residents get around town, says Professor Michelle Beiler, civil & environmental engineering, who researches sustainable transportation planning. These systems link together intelligent vehicles with intelligent infrastructure, like sensors, WiFi and traffic lights, for better traffic and mobility management across a city. For example, she says, transit buses can adapt their routes based on current demand while administrators monitor operations and track maintenance records. Their connected efforts will prevent delays and accidents to provide for a safer, more efficient commute.

For his own commute to his City Hall office, Krassenstein often relies on his Vespa (inspired by his study-abroad experience in Rome) or a bike from a

Detroit's streetcar, the QLine, which provides access to many of the city's prominent venues, began operating free of cost in 2021.



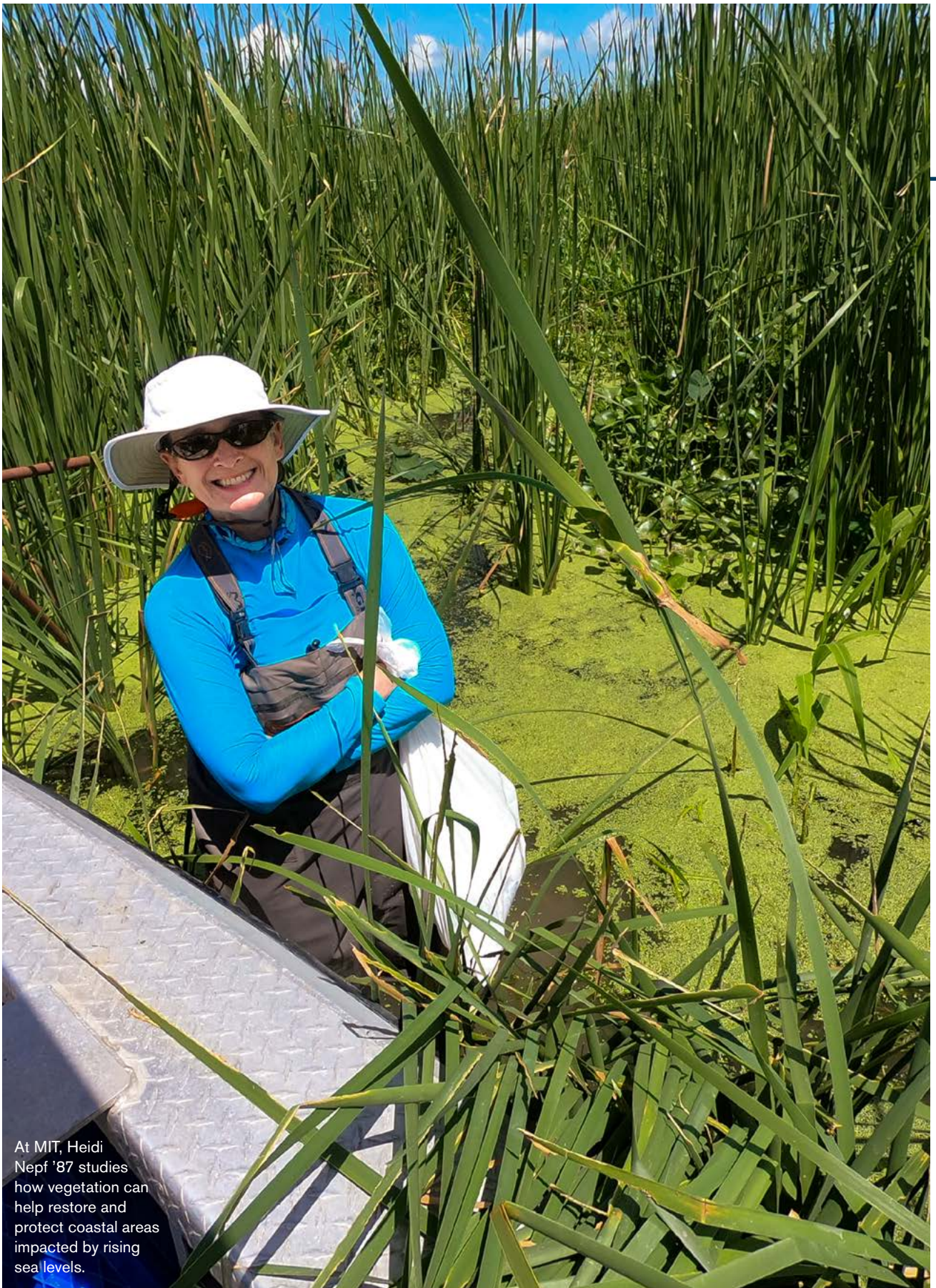
bikeshare station. You'll also find him on board Detroit's People Mover, an elevated train that runs a loop through the downtown district. Krassenstein says that roadways across the country will continue to evolve from being purely auto-centric to being more people-centric so "regardless if you are walking, riding a bike or scooter, or driving a car, the road is designed for you."

Krassenstein doesn't foresee Detroit ever becoming completely car-free, but big automakers like Ford have already started investing heavily in smart mobility. He believes car ownership will eventually transition to more of a shared and automated model. He also sees electric vehicle infrastructure and technology evolving to include service stations offering battery swaps, or shorter recharge times.

But what gets Krassenstein, a self-proclaimed "transportation nerd," really



With the creation of 240 miles of designated bike lanes and 75 bikeshare stations, Detroit aims to be a more pedal-friendly city.



At MIT, Heidi Nepf '87 studies how vegetation can help restore and protect coastal areas impacted by rising sea levels.

Photo: Courtesy of Heidi Nepf



excited? Electric air taxis. Yes, flying cars – the iconic star of every futuristic vision – are not as intangible as you might think. Boeing, Airbus and Hyundai are building air taxis, and in November, Delta Air Lines partnered with Joby Aviation to develop an electric aerial rideshare. “They’re going to be a real gamechanger, not just for travel within cities, but between cities as well,” Krassenstein says.

While advanced technology will certainly revolutionize the way we travel, Beiler wants the next generation of engineers and urban designers to understand how transportation, infrastructure and the well-being of an environment and its inhabitants are linked. She developed an upper-level course at Bucknell called Sustainable Transportation Planning to impart that lesson on students. Her research on sustainable mobility and the positive outcomes of walking- and biking-friendly spaces helped inform the expansion of the Buffalo Valley Rail Trail that stretches between Lewisburg and Mifflinburg, Pa.

Beiler points to cities like Portland, Ore., Copenhagen and Amsterdam, which have a booming biking culture, as models to follow. Creating a cultural shift and popularizing motor-free travel isn’t easy. But supportive infrastructure – safe bike lanes, expansive networks of bikeways and bike boxes in intersections, for example – may help.

“Global complex challenges, such as climate change, are driving us away from traditional design methods that are focused more on vehicular mobility,” Beiler says. “As a society, it is our responsibility to reduce impacts on the triple bottom line – environment, society and economy. Through multimodal options and newer technologies, more innovative, cleaner, equitable transportation methods are possible.”

Krassenstein agrees that applying an equity lens to transportation design and planning is essential. “Transportation needs to open doors for all people in order to advance economic opportunity and improve access to employment and social services,” he says. He credits Pittsburgh for its Universal Basic Mobility program, which

is designed to democratize transportation. “Pittsburgh is really the model for what public transport will look like in the future,” he says. “Instead of giving someone a bus pass, you give them a mobility pass, so you’re giving people as many options as possible as the transportation and mobility landscape is changing.”

Similar programs have been tested in other parts of the country. Bakersfield, Calif., and Oakland, Calif., for example, recently piloted programs that provided low-income residents with free access to city buses, scooters, e-bikes and carshares.

By tackling affordability and access, a city can take steps to reduce inequality and help people develop stronger connections in their communities. Cutting pollution and congestion along the way is icing on the cake.



INFRASTRUCTURE

The Obstacle: The fundamental systems that support our communities are buckling under climate stress.

The Solution: Invest in innovative, nature-based solutions to manage risk, contribute to economic growth and promote climate-resilient communities.

Rising global temperatures are causing more extreme weather events more frequently. Floods, droughts, heat waves and hurricanes have costly impacts on our cities’ built environments – not to mention residents’ safety. To mitigate the effects of the climate crisis, creative adaptations to improve resiliency will become necessary.

That creativity is taking many forms. In 2020, Los Angeles resurfaced a portion of a downtown road using recycled plastic asphalt that contained the equivalent of 150,000 plastic bottles. Preliminary lab tests indicate the road may be stronger and last longer than traditional asphalt, which would ultimately save taxpayers’ money. In 2022, Portland, Ore., became home to a first-of-its-kind renewable energy plant that combines solar power, wind power and battery storage on a large scale. This integrated system generates continuous power – when the wind isn’t blowing or the sun isn’t shining, the batteries kick in – that will help the city transition away from fossil fuels.

Back in Detroit, getting creative entails rethinking stormwater management. Like many old cities, Detroit uses a combined sewer system where domestic sewage, industrial wastewater and rainwater are collected in a single pipe and transported to a treatment plant. But heavy rain or snowmelt can overwhelm the system. When it does, streets and homes flood, and untreated wastewater dumps directly into streams, rivers and lakes.

“As a result of climate change, we’re seeing 100-year and 500-year storms seemingly happen with increasing frequency,” Krassenstein says. “More frequent storms combined with the fact that over the last century, cities have built up their infrastructure and added more paved surfaces, and so the water doesn’t have anywhere to go. Systems that were built 100-plus years ago can’t keep up.”

One solution, he says, is to take stormwater out of the equation entirely. Some of Detroit’s future road construction projects will divert stormwater from the sewers and channel it directly into the Detroit River. He says other potential methods include planting more trees and creating rain gardens or bioswales – low-lying areas planted with grasses and perennials that collect, absorb and filter runoff while providing habitat and urban green spaces.

Urban green spaces are a focus of **Heidi Nepf ’87**, the Donald and Martha Harleman Professor of Civil & Environmental Engineering at Massachusetts Institute of



Technology (MIT). Nepf was part of a team at MIT that engineered a new take on the detention pond – a multi-use wetland area that collects and treats stormwater while providing recreational green space and habitat for wildlife. The design features clusters of vegetated islands whose configuration helps slow and dissipate the inflow of stormwater through a large basin.

It's an approach that could guide future city planners as they try to balance resilience against climate change with the need to make cities more livable and environmentally friendly.

Cities along the coast could also fortify their infrastructure by protecting, restoring or mimicking nature. Nearly 25% of salt marshes and 50% of all mangrove and seagrass meadows have been wiped out. Such habitats provide critical barriers by dampening the power of waves and reducing storm surge. In fact, a 2017 paper published in *Scientific Reports* found that coastal wetlands prevented more than \$625 million in property damage in the Northeast during Hurricane Sandy in 2012. "Seawalls reflect storm energy, whereas vegetation dissipates that energy," says Nepf, who studied mechanical engineering at Bucknell. "So if you can put a marsh in front of a seawall, it can give you greater protection."

For many coastal cities in the U.S., however, habitat restoration is not an option because urban areas have been built to the shoreline. Recent innovations in green infrastructure could help, Nepf says. She points to projects like Living Breakwaters, a partially submerged stone and concrete structure along the south shore of Staten Island meant to break waves, reduce beach erosion and provide habitat for a range of marine animals. There is also Emerald Tutu, a system of circular, floating vegetated mats that protect urban coasts by absorbing wave energy and mitigating flooding. The Boston-based startup recently tested its first mat and plans to launch a large pilot project this summer. These types of protections could save vulnerable coastal communities billions of dollars each year.

In her MIT lab, Nepf is working to



Jennifer Smolko Vey '93 studies transformative placemaking with the goal of creating more connected, vibrant, inclusive communities.

develop drone-based data collection of marsh characteristics to show how restoring and protecting marsh areas can prevent extreme flooding. "The explosion of data available from remote sensing can lead to new solutions," she says. "Most of my career has been looking at individual plants and slowly scaling my findings. Now I can develop a tool that can map the coastal protection value of a marsh. If this data can motivate people to preserve marshes, that would be the happy end of my career."

She says she believes the real promise for a greener future lies with her students. "Students want to go out into the world and make changes in these cities," she says. "They're optimistic that they can do it. And so that makes me optimistic."



LIVABILITY

The Obstacle: The best path forward is often evident to those living and working in their communities – but they aren't always given equal opportunity to drive improvement.

The Solution: Empower residents with a voice in decision-making and improve access to affordable amenities and housing.

Making cities more desirable places to live means engaging directly – and meaningfully – with residents and other community stakeholders. **Jennifer Smolko Vey '93** is a senior fellow with Brookings Metro and director of the Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Center for Transformative Placemaking at the Brookings Institution. She studies how place-based policies can help transform communities, generating social, economic and environmental benefits.

She and her colleagues focus on what she calls the "hyperlocal" level to identify the interrelated challenges faced by those living in neighborhoods or districts – and the solutions to overcome them. "It's the scale that residents, workers and businesses relate to," says Vey, who studied geography at Bucknell. "At this level, you can see how the economic environment is influenced by the physical environment – the condition of the streetscape, for example, or whether there are public gathering spaces – which in turn influences people's overall sense of social connectedness, safety and well-being."

Vey says her team's work at Brookings aims to advance a new form of integrated, place-led development focused on creating communities that are economically dynamic and socially and culturally vibrant, and where built environments are accessible and sustainable. (These outcomes are supported by robust and inclusive structures, which she discusses in her new book, *Hyperlocal: Place Governance in a Fragmented World*; see P. 40.)

Vey says the biggest issue cities will face in the future is something they've long struggled with: poverty and inequality. "You hear a lot about gentrification, but the overwhelming challenge is deepening concentrated poverty, where a high proportion of a neighborhood's residents are poor. It's a persistent and growing issue."

There are no easy solutions. But any fixes must be both people- and place-based: provision of high-quality services, workforce and skills development, investments in education, green space and amenities. All of those factors, when tuned

to the needs and aspirations of those within the community, she says, can help increase economic opportunity and quality of life for local residents.

Vey points to recent research published by Brookings that makes her hopeful that real change is possible. It looked at neighborhoods across the country where poverty went down without the displacement of residents. The researchers identified a range of factors that may explain the change, including positive economic growth in surrounding areas, lower rates of residential vacancy, the presence of community-building organizations and high rates of homeownership.

"It's an important piece of work," Vey says. "So how do we move on some of these factors, like increasing home ownership opportunities, so that we can hopefully see this kind of success in more neighborhoods across the country?"

For Professor Stephen O'Connor, real estate, increasing home ownership is somewhat of a holy grail. "I don't think there's a bigger issue relative to the future of cities than the issue of affordability," says O'Connor, who has spent much of his career focused on the creation of housing for low- and moderate-income households in urban communities.

Currently, he says, the U.S. has a deficit of at least 5 million housing units, and it's a problem born of limited supply, the high cost of resources and community resistance. When it comes to housing for future citizens, he says, it not only has to be affordable and liveable, it has to withstand the increasing forces of climate change. "It's going to take everyone – architects, engineers, planners, designers, politicians, policymakers – to figure out how we're going to do that," he says.

O'Connor would like to see greater support for first-time homebuyers and a streamlining of the more arduous regulations that can stall affordable housing projects, ultimately making them more costly. And he's an advocate of rethinking how current structures are used.

"There are so many great stories about buildings that were abandoned that have



DREAM GREEN HOME

Edward Louie '13 put a huge amount of work into building a little house. He hopes his model of high-efficiency, modest-sized living will inspire others to dream big while living small.

by KATIE NEITZ

Designing and building a tiny house requires big thinking, especially when your goal is to ensure it uses only the energy it produces – and when it's your first foray into construction.

Armed with intellectual curiosity, enterprising determination and a commitment to sustainable living, **Edward Louie '13** decided in 2019 to DIY his own 187-square-foot green home. What the house lacks in space, it makes up for with high-tech features, including rooftop solar panels, ultra-efficient LED lighting, a compostable toilet and the "world's most efficient heat pump." Louie, who lives in Portland, Ore., says he plans to make it his full-time residence once it's complete – hopefully, by October.

But Louie, who studied civil engineering and completed his master's in environmental and energy policy at Michigan Technological University, isn't just focused on reducing his own carbon footprint or utility bills. He is thinking about the future of sustainable housing.

As a building energy efficiency research engineer for Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Louie tests the performance of appliances such as heat pumps, water heaters and triple-pane windows.

"We have increased the energy efficiency of residential homes, so they are more efficient per square foot," he says. "But at the same time, our houses have gotten bigger, and that means we are canceling out those benefits. That's a problem. As humans we need to get to a place where we are thinking, 'How much house do I really need?'"

Louie says this shift in mentality is creating a growing interest in so-called "middle-density housing" or "pocket neighborhoods." These "cluster developments" offer residents modest-space living that is modern, affordable and sustainable – all within pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods that foster community. The idea is to bridge the gap between large single-family homes and high-density apartment complexes with multifamily housing, a range of duplexes to six-plexes in a variety of configurations.

Louie sees these communities as the future of urban development, and he intends to be part of it. He sees his own tiny-house project as a test bed that will help him eventually transition into a full-time sustainable housing career. He's already begun drafting designs for five- and six-plex units and plans to seek partnerships with designers and contractors who share the same vision.

"We are living in a different age," he says. "We are worried about urban sprawl, long commute times, the cost of housing and climate change. Having less space for things means less consumption. And having mixed incomes and multiple generations living together in the same community allows for greater social mobility. I'm excited by the idea of being able to build houses that are good for society."

➔ Check out Louie's architectural plans and a video tour of his tiny house at magazine.bucknell.edu



Urban geographer Professor Ritwika Biswas teaches courses in economic geography, uneven development and sustainable urban futures.

been adaptively reused and converted into affordable housing.”

As the president of NuHouse Group, an affordable housing and community development firm, O’Connor has made his work his passion. “But it’s been a long slog,” he says. Economics, politics and the often intractable force of the not-in-my-backyard mindset have perpetuated the problem.

O’Connor is wielding his other passion – teaching – to cultivate the future of affordable housing. He wants his students to understand the history of city building and how institutional racism and segregation were woven into the very design of our urban spaces.

“White soldiers returning from World War II were offered the GI Bill and Veterans Administration mortgages, while soldiers of color were denied the same benefits,” he says. “So GIs like my dad went to the suburbs, and the people who had to stay in the cities were the majority minority.”

He’s helping his students understand the power of their education, intelligence and skill sets so they feel empowered to bring the long slog to an equitable end. He says he thinks they can do it.

“We all want what’s best for our families – that desire is universal,” he says. “There is no level of currency that can equate to the feeling of helping someone get their own house and improve their life.”



SOCIAL JUSTICE

The Obstacle: Biased policies, laws and structures overlook the rights and needs of many.

The Solution: Prioritize technology, infrastructure and community engagement to create safe, inclusive spaces where everyone can thrive.

We don’t all experience cities in the same way. And that inequity threatens future prosperity.

As a feminist urban geographer, Ritwika Biswas looks at inequality through a city’s urban infrastructure – basically, the transportation and surveillance systems that connect people to goods and services, and the built environment, including buildings, sidewalks, street lighting and

public toilets. She is currently building a comparative research project to study commonalities and/or differences between Philadelphia and Kolkata. “Cities are designed by particular groups of people, and that design essentially serves the privileged group,” she says. “I look at the ways in which a city’s design leads to unequal experiences of women and of men of marginalized groups.”

Krassenstein is working to right historical wrongs that have led to such inequities. “A lot of cities were hurt in the 1950s and ’60s by highways that were built through neighborhoods and communities,” he says. “And in Detroit, one of the most damaging projects was the installation of I-375. It cut through a predominantly African American community called Black Bottom, which was a prominent business district.”

Detroit has partnered with the state Department of Transportation to remove the highway and reconnect neighborhoods to each other and to downtown. Part of the initiative’s mandate is to ensure community engagement throughout the process. “We want to undo this damage and rebuild the urban fabric that was torn apart by these projects,” Krassenstein says. “We see pedestrian safety as being a core part of this. Many of our poorest citizens rely on walking, biking and public transit to get around a city that’s designed for the automobile.”



In her own research, Biswas found that women in Kolkata who rely on public transportation must constantly negotiate how and when they travel to and from their home. If the bus or train stop closest to their home is not well lit, they'll often get off at an earlier, better-lit stop and take another form of transportation – like rideshares or taxis – directly to their door. That means they're paying for two modes of transport to ensure their safety.

"This in itself is a form of privilege; if you can afford \$5 instead of \$2.50 for a bus or train," she says. "Marginalized women in terms of class either have to walk through these dark areas or make sure they're traveling only during the day."

She found a similar situation in Philadelphia: Women who lived in poorly lit neighborhoods of North Philadelphia would adopt different strategies to be safe at night, such as switching transportation or taking longer routes that were better lit or more populated. Women, in particular, she says, may forgo jobs with higher salaries if it means traveling home after dark. "When people are not fully utilizing their economic opportunities, that hurts the economic development of the entire region."

So what would a more just city of the future look like? Public transportation would service all neighborhoods equally, with reliable timetables that allow for all citizens to work the hours they must and get home safely. Sidewalks, buildings and transportation systems would be well lit and accessible to differently abled people.

Replacing prejudices with tolerance and respect is a tall order. But Biswas believes it can happen. "Community involvement in planning and design is a must," she says. "Without input from the marginalized communities, you simply can't understand their needs."

To address this in its own projects, Detroit taps what Krassenstein calls a "really robust" community engagement arm. He and his team work closely with the city's Department of Neighborhoods to meet with residents and listen to their concerns and needs around all proposed initiatives. "Urban planners and city administrators have to protect the interests of all residents," he says.

Ultimately, says Biswas, members of marginalized communities must be represented throughout all forms of government – and all levels of education.

"That is why I'm an educator," she says. "[Black feminist scholar and activist] bell hooks says that 'educating is always a vocation rooted in hopefulness.' I teach every course with a focus on justice because my students are going to be working across the globe in positions of power."

Biswas says her classes aren't easy – they challenge students to question their perceptions and beliefs and society's

entrenched social norms. They have to unlearn a lot, she says, in order to set the stage for new ideas. But these courses fill quickly. Students keep coming back for more, she says, and it's that willingness to question, to be vulnerable, to take a stand and really see the world as it is – and as it could be – that gives her hope. ■

➔ **How can we create communities that will thrive in the future?**
Visit magazine.bucknell.edu to learn about students who are tackling that question from varied disciplines.



Sam Krassenstein '11 regularly rides Detroit's People Mover, a light rail system that loops through the city's downtown business district.

TOMORROWLAND

CIRCUIT CITY

Digital metropolis exhibit asks
Samek visitors to consider their
existence in a big-data society

by MIKE FERLAZZO

photograph by EMILY PAINE

Welcome to *The Nemesis Machine*: a technology-driven city where ubiquitous smart devices and algorithms predict, assist and monitor your actions. Is it a utopia, an interconnected environment where systems operate seamlessly and improve quality of life? Or is it a dystopia, where inescapable technologies erase agency and provoke anxiety?

The tension that lies between those worlds is where *The Nemesis Machine* lives. The thought-provoking exhibit made its U.S. debut at the Samek Art Museum, where it attracted Bucknellians and community members from January through March.

It's the creation of Stanza, an award-winning British artist who specializes in installations, sculptures and paintings that examine technology and surveillance culture. For *The Nemesis Machine*, Stanza constructs a scale-model cybernetic cityscape out of silicon and circuit boards.

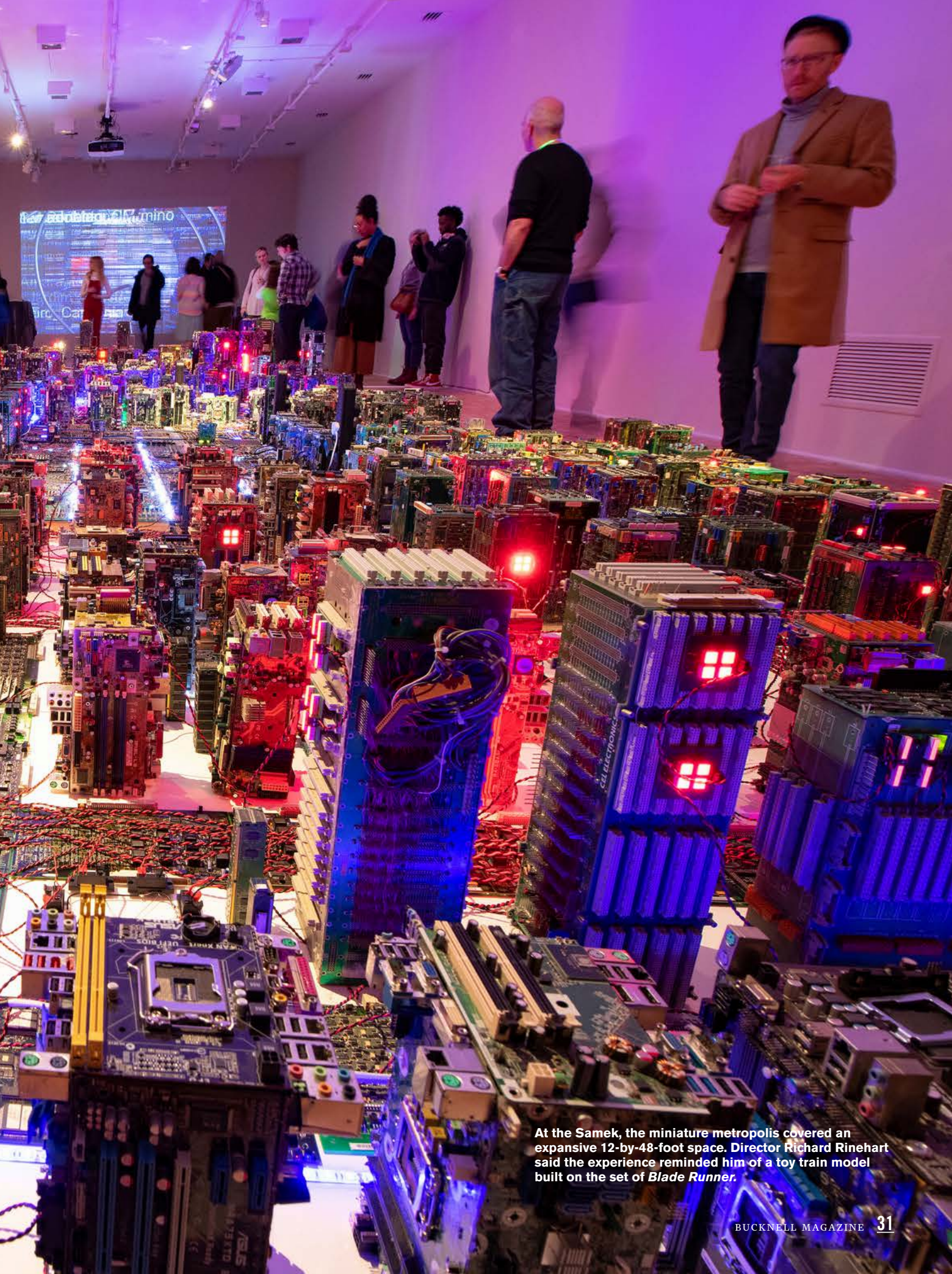
It's ever-evolving: He reconfigures the exhibit for each specific venue, so no two encounters are identical. It's also performative: *The Nemesis Machine* uses micro-cameras to capture images of visitors and project them onto digital screens within the space. This entangles the viewers in the technology, conveying how this seemingly fictional, futuristic city reflects reality.

"We have a long history of imagining the future — as both good and bad — often premised on what technologies exist and how we utilize them," says Samek Director Richard Rinehart. "This is very much in that tradition, but it is as much about the present as any imagined future."

Rinehart, a new-media art scholar who co-authored *Re-collection: Art, New Media, and Social Memory*, said visitors were captivated by the exhibit, struck by its tension with a mix of wonder, genuine contemplation and reflection.

"People love seeing things in miniature; there's this beautiful snow globe or diorama effect," he says. "It's visually seductive, but the serious concepts behind *The Nemesis Machine* counter the emotional enchantment of it." ■





At the Samek, the miniature metropolis covered an expansive 12-by-48-foot space. Director Richard Rinehart said the experience reminded him of a toy train model built on the set of *Blade Runner*.



PITTSBY
100 South Main Street
DENTAL

LEADING WITH VISION — & HEART

Michael Lombardo '86, M'88 has transformed a once-distressed small town into a vibrant, prosperous community that bursts with civic pride and admiration for its homegrown mayor. For Lombardo, it's all been a labor of love.

by **BRYAN HAY**

photographs by **DOUGLAS KILPATRICK**

During this photo shoot, several locals stopped Michael Lombardo '86, M'88, on the street to express gratitude and appreciation for the mayor's work.

A

n idyllic Frank Capra-esque winter scene of Pittston, Pa., with a cherry-red streetcar passing by a bustling Main Street dotted with storefronts, theatres and bank buildings is captured in a painting that occupies prominent wall space in the office of Mayor **Michael Lombardo '86, M'88**.

"That piece serves as a reminder of Pittston's heyday and as a source of inspiration for future possibilities," he says of his hometown, which lies along the Susquehanna River between Scranton and Wilkes-Barre in north-eastern Pennsylvania.

Lombardo has orchestrated an urban revival in this 1.7-square-mile city of about 7,500 people, many of them descendants of anthracite miners and

garment industry workers. From the moment you turn onto Main Street from any of the alleys coming from the residential areas of town, the heart of Pittston spills open like a movie set.

Where ghostly, abandoned warehouses and shuttered storefronts scarred the business district just 20 years ago, a vibrant Main Street corridor has taken shape with restaurants, retail establishments, residential units, colorful murals of Pittston's heroes and icons, and public artwork by local artists. One of Lombardo's many stretch goals is to have more public art per square inch in Pittston than any other city in the country.

Drawing inspiration from the vintage street lights of Lewisburg and his academic and athletic mentors from Bucknell, Lombardo reimagined Pittston, much in the image of the painting on his office wall, by tapping into a latent civic pride and reawakening a community.

Today, Pittston residents enjoy community police programs, refurbished parks, open-air markets, street festivals and business investment. Lombardo is particularly proud of establishing a modern, freestanding public library that offers an array of community programs, replacing a few shelves of books formerly housed in the basement of city hall.

Lombardo is serving his fourth term as mayor. But he says he feels like he's just getting started.

The Reluctant Mayor

The Mike Lombardo who majored in psychology and went on to earn his master's in school psychology at Bucknell was "a naive idealist with no political ambition." He landed his first professional job in 1987 as a school psychologist with the Mifflin County School District. When he accepted a position with the Pocono Mountain School District in 1990, he returned to live in Pittston, a few blocks from his childhood neighborhood.

Lombardo went about his days passing empty storefronts and peeling paint along Main Street. It was easy for him to overlook the faded edifices of a bygone age. That changed one day when his brother-in-law paid a visit, his first time back to Pittston in many years, and expressed dismay with the condition of the town. "I remember him asking, 'What happened to this place?'" Lombardo says. "It rattled me, so the next morning I got up and decided to deviate from my normal running path."

An 800- and 1,000-meter runner at Bucknell, Lombardo started his route on the south edge of Main Street and took in his hometown in a new way. "For the first time in a long time," he says, "I looked up at the upper floors of buildings and wondered, 'When did all



Michael Lombardo '86, M'88 embraces lessons from the past as he looks toward the future. His office showcases plans for upcoming development projects.



Michael Lombardo '86, M'88's brother and father are both depicted in the Main Street mural *Inspiration*, which memorializes residents who made an impact on Pittston.

those windows get boarded up?" Lombardo realized, abruptly, the true state of his city, "and it really bothered me."

Lombardo also had something else stirring within him — the memory of his late brother, Captain John Lombardo. A volunteer firefighter for Pittston, John died in 1993, at 26, fighting a blaze on Main Street. His selfless act of duty motivated his big brother to step up and serve the community.

And so, in 1996, Lombardo reached out to his closest childhood friends and hatched a plan to run for city council. "Together, we founded a group called Downtown Tomorrow with the idea to make our city look better." The globe street lights of Lewisburg kept popping into his mind, serving as a beacon in his quest. "I always loved running in Lewisburg, and those vintage light standards stuck with me," he says. "I know psychology, and I thought we sort of had this bad self-image. We needed to clean up the welcome mat and at

least make ourselves feel better. So how do you do that? You do that visually. That's the first step."

As his campaign propelled forward, his friends started elbowing him to forget city council and go for the mayor's office instead. "We ran an all-out campaign," he says. "I had to raise money. I had to advertise. I literally knocked on every door in the city. And, you know, I was nervous. I thought to myself, 'I can lose this thing. What's going to happen then?'"

He thought back to an encounter with the late **Art Gulden P'03, P'05**, longtime head coach of Bucknell's cross-country and track and field programs. After a disappointing meet, Gulden reminded Lombardo that a loss is sometimes inevitable — and personal conduct counts most. Lombardo never forgot that lesson, and he says it helped him through the anxieties of that first election season.

In the end, Lombardo won by a landslide, and in 1997, at 33, he became the youngest mayor in the city's history. He got to work turning campaign promises — to enhance the downtown, establish a freestanding library, improve streetscaping, build new homes and attract businesses — into reality.

Pittston, Transformed

Former Pittston *Sunday Dispatch* editor Ed Ackerman, who has known Lombardo since he was a teenager, witnessed the city's decline during the late 1970s and early 1980s. He remembers one of Lombardo's first tasks as mayor was installing electric utilities underground to improve aesthetics. "It's a seemingly simple thing that makes all the difference in the world — he once said to me that we're doing a lot of preliminary things, making improvements that no one is going to see, but they'll get this sense that something's right with the town," Ackerman says. "He had a feel for that before everybody was talking about it."

Lombardo also developed a knack for securing public money from politicians, which in turn attracted private investment in Pittston and drove measurable growth both downtown and in neighborhoods. The Main Street occupancy rate stands at 90%, compared to just 25% a little over a decade ago. Significant strides have been made in neighborhood blight reduction, and civic pride is abundant. The city has an investment-grade credit rating, increased housing opportunities, record-low crime, and property taxes

that have not increased in 13 years.

From the beginning, Main Street Pittston has been the focal point of Lombardo's plan for renewal. He not only sees Main Street as a source of services for residents but also as an attractive staging area for programmatic opportunities such as art walks, parades, live music, farmers markets, outdoor movies and events, including the Pittston Tomato Festival. The annual celebration promotes the city's long-held designation as the "Quality Tomato Capital of the World," attributable to the fact that the town's soil and climate are particularly conducive to tomato growing.

"Mike has a tremendous vision for his hometown, which he loves dearly, and he's very hands-on," says Ackerman, who more than once has observed the mayor in a bucket truck repairing a pole or putting up Christmas lights. "I grew up here, I live here, and you know, when I look around now, I feel that this is a wonderful club I belong to here."

A Personal Evolution

Lombardo launched Pittston on this dramatic transformation while still working as a school psychologist. By the end of his second term in office, he also had added director of special education to his resume. And, at home, he and his wife, Susan, were raising twin daughters, Catherine and Kristen. Lombardo decided to step away to devote more time to his family. But he missed his civic engagement work so much that, in 2005, he made a career change, leaving education in order to focus professionally on economic and community development.

Currently, Lombardo serves as business development director for Quad3, an architecture, engineering and environmental services firm in Wilkes-Barre. His role involves everything from pitching projects to municipalities to

"Bucknell trained me how to listen, show empathy and motivate people."

Michael Lombardo '86, M'88

grant writing. These skills inform his duties as mayor, a position he resumed in 2018. Back by popular demand, Lombardo was reelected for a fourth term in 2021.

Lombardo's leadership has received notice statewide. In 2022, he was named Pennsylvania State Mayors' Association Mayor of the Year, received the Pennsylvania Municipal League Career Recognition Award and was appointed president of the Pennsylvania Municipal League.

He credits his Bucknell academic mentors — Professor Emerita **Mary Bryfogle Wetzel '56, M'78, P'79, G'11**, education, and Professor Emeritus William Hauck, education, in particular — for shaping his personal and professional development. "They taught me how to be analytical, methodical and empathetic, how to listen and the power of making a difference in others' lives," Lombardo says.

He also learned the value of teamwork and the importance of recognition from Coach Gulden. "Often those out front get a lot of credit and those working behind the scenes tend to get neglected — but they deserve a ton of credit," Lombardo says. "It's easy to look good when you are surrounded by greatness."

Bucknell's well-rounded liberal arts education prepared him to be ready for anything, "whether it's life's tragedies or victories," he says. "I never took any government classes, yet Bucknell trained me how to listen, show empathy

and motivate people. That's what effective municipal governance is all about."


What Lies Ahead

Lombardo ended 2022 on a high note by securing a deal with Alvernia University, a Catholic university based in Reading, Pa., to open a satellite campus on Main Street. With three years remaining in his current term and plans to run for a fifth, Lombardo wants to continue the expansion and revitalization of Main Street's north section.

"My team and I will keep working on neighborhood revitalization utilizing the proven downtown strategies," he says. "I have recently announced Project Connect, which is a strategic plan to link the neighborhoods to our downtown. Operationally, it's my goal to continue to place the city in a strong, financially sustainable position while continuing to be an example of effective government operation."

It's a source of pride and satisfaction for Lombardo, who keeps a steady eye on that streetscape painting in his office. It was by the late Joe Borini, who painted Pittston's many history-themed murals and joined Lombardo as one of his original patriots in the cause of redeveloping the city.

"It reminds me of what I'm fighting for," says Lombardo, who says he has no political ambitions beyond his hometown. "It's not really about having power; it's about having the power to make a difference. I'm proud of what's happening in Pittston. There's nothing on the planet, short of my family and friends, that you could offer me that would have more value than a five-minute walk down Main Street." ■

 [Get a glimpse of what makes Pittston and its mayor so special at magazine.bucknell.edu](https://magazine.bucknell.edu)



'ray BUCKNELL

FROM THE
PRESIDENT

A PLACE FOR
EVERYONE

AN EPIC JUMP

VIRTUALLY HERE

CULTURAL MOVEMENT

GABBY DIAZ '25 CONNECTS TO HER ROOTS THROUGH FOLKLÓRICO DANCE

photo by EMILY PAINE



The Right Help at the Right Time

I'VE SPOKEN FREQUENTLY

about being the first in my family to go away to college — but less often about how close I came to flunking out.

It didn't take long after my arrival at Stanford to discover that I was no longer the smartest kid in the room. After years of acing my classes while rarely cracking a book, I found myself surrounded by better-prepared classmates who also knew how to study. It was devastating, and being so far away from my family made things even worse.

But in my sophomore year, I took a course with a professor who changed my life. Buoyed by his guidance and encouragement, I switched my major to his field, where I thrived. He became my undergraduate adviser, and later my

doctoral adviser, and then my colleague on the faculty — and we remain close to this day.

I know a “first-gen” plumber's son who faced similar struggles during his first semester at Bucknell. With the help of **Fitz Walling '46**, then director of admissions, young **Ken Langone '57** found his way, graduated and went on to an extraordinarily successful business career. Fitz's profound impact on Ken is honored through the Langone-Walling Scholarship, which Ken established along with his wife, **Elaine P'83**.

The challenges Ken and I faced early in college help illustrate why it's not enough for Bucknell to simply enroll talented students — we must also ensure they have the resources to succeed throughout their time on

campus. Our new Center for Access & Success is an important step forward in ensuring our ability to support students from matriculation through graduation (see P. 6). It brings together all five of our national and signature access programs, allowing us to better meet the ongoing needs of program participants.

More broadly, we must be prepared to reduce obstacles that any student could face in their Bucknell journey. To that end, we've added many wide-scale programs to boost student success and retention — an important strategic goal. Here are a few recent examples:

- The new position of faculty academic adviser is dedicated to reviewing the advising process — a critical component for student success. The appointed professor in this role seeks ways to strengthen and streamline the experience for both students and faculty.
- A newly expanded quantitative support program helps students who seek extra instruction in STEM subjects, where learning was particularly impacted by COVID-19. It offers boot camps in topics such as chemistry, math and computer science to help ensure mastery of foundational courses.
- All three colleges now offer peer mentorship programs to welcome new students to their academic program and help them make the transition to college. Trained upperclass students are paired with incoming students in a

relationship that continues throughout their first year at Bucknell.

- Our New Student Orientation coordinator now oversees the entire first-year experience, in recognition of the importance of ensuring that our newest Bucknellians settle in, make connections and become fully engaged in campus life.
- In 2019, we introduced Psychology of Success, a spring course for first-year students who faced significant academic difficulties in the fall semester that teaches skills such as goal-setting and resilience. Eligible students from the Class of 2022 who took the class were more likely to graduate in four years (85%) than those who did not (62%).

Such supports didn't exist when Ken and I were in college — we were lucky to be mentored by caring faculty and staff. By integrating these kinds of programs into the Bucknell experience, we can intervene at the critical junctures that often make or break a student's ability to thrive and earn their degree. We'll continue to develop new ways to help all Bucknell students make the very best of their precious years on campus. The right resources, at the right time, have the power to change lives.

John C. Bravman
President



EMERITI

NICOLE CONNOR TAYLOR '01
nicole_connor1979@yahoo.com

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

1950

HOLLY HINCHMAN REIGNER '96
hehreigner1@gmail.com

1951

FAITH BRADLEY KING
faithbking@sbcglobal.net

1952

CAROLYN KNIES ERDLE
liberty384@comcast.net

1953

CHRISTINE HILL KILLOUGH
chkillough@gmail.com

JOHN MANBECK
manbeckj7@yahoo.com

JANE BANKER BOWEN died in May 2022. She and the late **GREG**, who died in 2007, were married in 1954 and lived throughout the U.S., at one time they were two doors away from the late **JIM** and **GINNY NICELY HEINRICH** in Maryland. The Bowens settled in West Chester, Pa., where they raised their two boys. Greg was a Realtor and active as a coach and teacher for high school sports, especially pole vaulting. Jane, a pianist, enjoyed accompanying other musicians. They

were both very active with their church, and Jane was a hospital volunteer for many years. Jane is survived by two sons and three grandchildren.

DON and DORIS MCCRODDAN SOULE wrote that **WALT MCCONNELL** moved to a facility closer to family. His daughter, Barbara Pope, receives his mail and is at P.O. Box 815, Bolton Landing, NY 12814. She said Walt's memory loss doesn't seem to be Alzheimer's. He usually recognizes her and the family and enjoys family photos.

JIM HEINRICH died in October 2022 and met love of his life **GINNY** during our freshman year. They married soon after and lived in Bucknell Village while Jim completed his education and worked in various jobs in Lewisburg. He had a long career in the wholesale office furniture business. When he retired after 40 years of living in various locations around the country, they settled in Outer Banks in North Carolina, where Jim earned his North Carolina real estate and broker's license, spending 27 years as a Realtor. Everywhere the couple lived, Jim was active in the community, especially in fire companies, Rotary and churches. He helped establish several churches and worked as a Stephen Minister and Eucharistic lay minister and taught Bible study. Jim was an avid golfer, gardener and surf fisherman. He is survived by wife Ginny of 70 years, three children, including **KATHY '88**, two

grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

In September 2022 we lost **PAUL DEAR**. He was an engineer who had a 35-year career with the Navy, including as a sea-trial coordinator. He was proudest of assisting with the restoration of the battleship *New Jersey*. Paul enjoyed competitive chess, never letting his children or grandchildren defeat him. He played softball as a youth and participated in golf and bowling leagues. He served as a referee for his children's Little League games. He is survived by brother, **RON '55**, three children and grandchildren.

Ending on a much happier note, our 70th Reunion is in June. Let's show the University how strong our great Class of 1953 continues to be. Registration forms should have arrived at your home. **Ginni and JOHN MANBECK, TRUDY KNUTZEN POWELSON and CHRISTINE HILL KILLOUGH** plan to attend the events on campus and look forward to seeing you there. We can't believe that it's been that many years. — C.H.K. and J.M.

1954

BONNIE MACKIE ASPINWALL
bmaspinwall@gmail.com

I started this report in October when I was reacting to all the hurricane damage caused in Fort Myers, Fla. At that time, it seemed like I was writing from a war-torn area after Hurricane Ian

made a direct hit on Fort Myers. For a while TV coverage was extensive, but nothing could capture the all-encompassing sense of loss we all have. I was one of the luckier residents. Only my car was submerged. My son wasn't as lucky. He lost the roof of his house, the interior walls and floors, and most of the contents and treasures, plus his two cars. He also lost his dental office.

It has been months since the storm, and restoration is going very slowly. Many of my friends are still living in temporary quarters. The realization of all the destruction and all the effort it will take to get back to even the smallest sense of normalcy has set in. But it will happen. Many of the trees and flowers were already thriving and giving us hope. Things will get better. — B.M.A.

1955

ELEANOR MACKIE PIGMAN
empigman@gmail.com

JEAN CARNEGIE GOLIGHTLY reported **BILL'S** passing Sept. 8 after 67 years of a happy marriage with five children. Bill and Jean provided long- and short-term care of 100 foster children — imagine what this Bucknell romance has contributed to the world.

Jean and Bill also hiked the Appalachian Trail and built a cabin on top of a West Virginia mountain. **NORM** and the late **ELLIE RUGEN SINGLE** and **NANCY BARNES KLAHRE**,

Jean's roommate, enjoyed visiting the mountain cabin. It was so good to hear about this Bucknellian's life.

While talking with **NANCY BEASTEN SPEER '56, PAT MANSFIELD NIXON** and **NANCY SHEPLER RICHARDS '56**, we started remembering our Bucknell years and the things we most remembered. Each one made us recall our collegiate days in the '50s and we enjoyed thinking about Bucknell. For example, "I like Ike"; "Bucknell hello spirit — be sure to say hello"; "Don't step on my white bucks," and "As mem'ries fond come trooping by." — E.M.P.

1956

JOSEPH EBERHART
jdocyardley@aol.com

I had lunch with **RICH MCFARLAND** and wife Rachel at the Black Powder Inn in Devon, Pa. We swapped many tales of our Bucknell days, of course, and largely about his days at the SAE House. He is regularly in touch with brother **STAN ELLSON**, with whom he shares many common events. Rich still mans his beehives while living at Shannondell senior community in Audubon, Pa. He gives the honey as gifts and shares it with Shannondell's kitchen, as well.

While visiting with my oldest son and his family in Phoenix, I shared lunch with **JOHN HAYES**, who has retired from his pediatric practice, but keeps busy with Shriners'



Community Charms and Challenges

by CHRISTINE FENNESSY

WE ALL HAVE OUR FAVORITE sections of our city or town. Like that neighborhood where flower arrangements erupt from brightly painted planters, quaint lightposts line the roadside and seemingly every shop is marked by a colorful “Open” flag. An area that encourages you to walk slower, linger longer — and buy more.

These idyllic streetscapes could be an authentic representation of community pride, but the emergence of place-based groups — like a Main Street organization or business improvement district — could also be behind the curation of the look and feel that draws you in and, ultimately, helps those working and living in that area thrive.

“These groups can be both efficient and effective at tackling place-based challenges and promoting economic development in urban, rural and even suburban areas,” says **Jennifer Smolko Vey ’93**, a senior fellow and director of the Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Center for Transformative Placemaking at the Brookings Institution. “But for as many benefits as these organizations provide, they can also be controversial: Some believe they can exacerbate disparities between communities.”

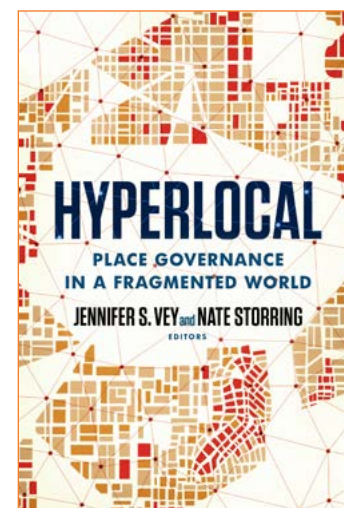
Addressing these opportunities and tensions is the subject of a new book, *Hyperlocal: Place Governance in a Fragmented World*, that Vey co-edited with Nate Storrington, co-executive director of Project for Public Spaces. It attempts to define and understand the importance of place governance — the collaboration of local stakeholders to shape the economic, physical and social dynamics

“In a country challenged by very uneven patterns of economic growth and development, we need to support new and improved governance models that work for more people in more places.”

Jennifer Smolko Vey ’93

of a particular place — and how it can be done better, especially when it comes to who is able to take part in the decision-making, and who is held accountable. For instance, she says, one criticism of these hyperlocal organizations is that they contribute to the decline of the public sector by doing the work of city agencies. And by having property owners make decisions on behalf of all others working or living in an area, they are in a sense privatizing public space.

Critics also say these organizations can worsen inequality. Places that are well organized receive more investment and can become even more prosperous. They are also often able to thwart investments current neighborhood



residents don’t want but which their city or town may need (for example, in affordable housing). Meanwhile, people and communities with fewer resources continue to be left behind.

“So within these hyperlocal, place-conscious groups, who has a voice, and who doesn’t?” Vey asks. “Where are these organizations thriving, where are they missing and how do we build the capacity of people to organize themselves in places that are low resourced?”

Vey says the book is the first of its kind to look at these organizations in a holistic way — from their history to their varying structures and financing models to the activities they undertake — and address what they might look like in the future. Her hope is that the book will help drive innovation in the structure of these groups, how they are funded and sustained, and the strategies they employ to create more connected, vibrant and inclusive communities.

“Thousands of place-governance organizations are working to make their neighborhoods more welcoming, beautiful and meaningful by investing in efforts ranging from park maintenance to small business assistance,” she says. “But in a country challenged by very uneven patterns of economic growth and development, we need to support new and improved governance models that work for more people in more places.”

Hyperlocal: Place Governance in a Fragmented World, Jennifer S. Vey ’93 and Nate Storrington. Brookings Institution Press, 2022.

ALUMNI BOOKS

Harold Schobert '65

Rethinking Coal: Chemicals and Carbon-based Materials in the 21st Century
(Oxford University Press, 2022)

What is the future of coal? In his new book, Schobert discusses the remarkable changes affecting coal use over the past decade and provides examples for new directions in coal usage. Schobert, a professor emeritus of the fuel science program at Penn State University who studied chemistry at Bucknell, examines aspects of the composition and properties of coal that are important in its current and possible future applications. *Rethinking Coal* presents the environmental, technical and economic advantages and disadvantages of various applications of coal without disparaging or supporting its use.

Barbara Klinger '73

Immortal Films: 'Casablanca' and the Afterlife of a Hollywood Classic
(University of California Press, 2022)

Casablanca is one of the most celebrated Hollywood films of all time. Drawing from archival materials, industry trade journals and cultural commentary, Klinger explores the history of *Casablanca's* circulation in the United States from the early 1940s to the present by examining its exhibition via radio, repertory houses, television and video. "I was inspired to write the book by the common wisdom that classics are 'timeless' and somehow transcend time because of their sterling merits and universal qualities," says Klinger, who studied English at Bucknell. "Instead, by focusing on one film's exhibition from 1942 to 2022, I wanted to challenge this wisdom by studying how dramatically the classic's meaning and significance change over decades of its circulation through forces that range from developments in the film industry to shifts in U.S. culture." Klinger is provost and professor emerita of cinema and media studies at the Media School at Indiana University – Bloomington.

Amanda Lock Swarr '95

Envisioning African Intersex: Challenging Colonial and Racist Legacies in South American Medicine

(Duke University Press, 2023)

In her new book, Swarr debunks the centuries-old claim that "hermaphroditism" and intersex are disproportionately common among Black South Africans. Swarr, an associate professor of gender, women and sexuality studies at the University of Washington, documents the colonial roots of intersex diagnosis and treatment protocols and traces the history of racialized research. Swarr, who majored in women's studies and minored in Africana studies at Bucknell, shares how intersex South Africans are actively disrupting medical violence, decolonizing gender binaries and inciting policy changes. Swarr is donating all royalties from the sale of the book to Intersex South Africa.

activities. As you may know, the Shriners have long sponsored hospitals for children with orthopedic challenges. John lost his first wife to MS. He later married **DOT HUND HAYES '57**, who passed away with breast cancer. It was great catching up on all that has taken place with our respective families.

ROBERT "BUZZ" LYON wrote to tell me that he has moved back to the Austin, Texas, area. He'd moved east to live with his daughter but got homesick for his old "stomping grounds." He has a granddaughter living in Austin. Buzz served in the U.S. Army as a dentist. He retired as a full colonel and is enjoying his "golden years" in Harker Heights, Texas. – J.E.

1957

CAROLYN "CALLIE" MEYER
meyerwrite@comcast.net

CAROL WANAMAKER LENKER
caroldalelenker@gmail.com

As most of you know, we have been trying to start conversations among classmates by sending what we hope is a thought-provoking question to a dozen or so people chosen at random. Our latest question was: Which professor or class has had the biggest effect on you – personally, professionally or in any way you want to respond?

RUTH ANN MYERS writes, "I shouldn't have gone to college when I did, because I didn't take it seriously. However, in my freshman year, [the late

professor] **JACK WHEAT-CROFT '49** read aloud one of my essays in class. He said he thought it was promising. I wanted to hide under my desk, being seen like that. It was not until junior year that I felt I had finally found my voice.

"Another young professor was Roger Campbell, the biologist who asked me to help him with some of his research on rats. I loved doing research – so much easier than reading text books. After many years in therapy, I found that I was actually clinically depressed during those Bucknell years. So, I went to graduate school and became a psychotherapist. I'm still working full time in my private practice."

GENE OBERFRANK credited three professors with having had a profound effect on his life and work: the late **CHUCK JONES '42** in education, the late **WENDELL SMITH '46, M'48** in psychology and the late Albert Blume in German. "When I was a student at Bucknell, I had [attention-deficit disorder], which was not understood at that time, nor was there medicine to treat it. Thanks to those three professors' faith in me, I went on to acquire a master's degree in psychology/counseling, and a post-master's in human sexuality.

"To this day, I have profoundly positive feelings for Bucknell. My parents taught me to think for myself, but at that time, I didn't realize that my professors were also teaching me to think for myself and be my own person. Directly or indirectly, my life experiences have had a 'tie in' with Bucknell."

Gene married and had

three children, including twin daughters. The family camped during the summers in every state (except Hawaii) and all of Canada. They lived in Alaska for two years and settled in New Jersey. Gene's wife of 54 years has passed; he volunteers with hospice, working with terminally ill individuals.

Every year I [**CAROLYN MEYER**] get a holiday card from **DICK '56** and **CHRISTINE HORNE NEWMAN**, featuring a photograph of the ever-expanding Newman clan – sons, wives and sweethearts, and grandchildren, a total of 13, including Chris and Dick, her "amazing husband of 64 years."

Chris writes, "I liked my psychology classes since that was my major. My logic class was interesting, especially since Dick was in it, and I enjoyed both the music and art appreciation courses. Obviously, Bucknell gave me a really rounded education."

Speaking of expanding clans, the Lenkers have been busy. In October, granddaughter **HEATHER '12, M'13** married Cameron Stevens, with her sister, **KATHRYN '20**, as maid of honor. (Kathryn received her "white coat" from UPenn vet school.) It was an exciting night with granddaughter Lara Dale Wall going into labor the night before the wedding and having great-granddaughter Madison. Another "great," Sophie, arrived in August.

In answer to our question: I [Carolyn] remember the late David Martin, professor of philosophy, sitting cross-legged on his desk and tossing out provocative questions that shook

some of my most basic beliefs. I went home and announced that I was an existentialist; my parents were not amused. As an English major dreaming of becoming a writer, of course I signed up for the late Mildred Martin's classes. My efforts did not impress her. "Slight but pleasant," she wrote on one of my stories. I've never forgotten that, and I've been trying for the past 67 years to prove her wrong. — C.M. and C.W.L.

1958

ROBERTA BAYER SCHLACKS
schlacksr@aol.com

CATHY HOFFMAN

DOREMUS went to South Dakota before Thanksgiving with son Pete, to be with her other son, David, for a visit through the Christmas holidays. Her sons enrolled her at their gym and library, and looked for a mahjongg group for her. Peter, who has an intercontinental marriage, left after Thanksgiving for Great Britain. His wife, Rachel, is from the Isle of Jersey and was never happy in the U.S. The couple speak every day via Zoom, and Cathy gets to read to grandson Elliot (4) whenever she chooses. Peter goes for part of every month, and eventually will move there. Cathy was over there for more than a week in October.

ELLEN CAMPBELL CHAMPLIN M'60 sent a remembrance of **EUGENIA WRIGHT VAN HORN**: "Eugenia was a unique person and a friend for many years. We met as fifth graders in Wilmington, Del., when a group of us

became Girl Scouts. By the time we graduated from Mount Pleasant High School, Eugenia was the only active Scout, and she kept us up to date on her seafaring journeys as a mariner. We both chose Bucknell and roomed together in Hulley House our sophomore year and spent our junior year stacked in bunk beds in Harris Hall. Post-Bucknell, I headed to California for a teaching career. Eugenia did social work and teaching in Delaware and Pennsylvania, while keeping me connected to our mutual friends.

Summer vacations found me back in Delaware for what became our yearly lunch reunions. As the years progressed, we became a group of four. We each married and had children, so reunions became a family affair. Even living in California, I heard of Eugenia's continual generosity. When our friend Anne was hospitalized, Eugenia added another crib to her daughter's room and moved Anne's infant son in for a stay. When friend Ardis's young son needed a boost, Eugenia was with him for reading help. When her own daughter developed crippling arthritis, Eugenia became her family's rock of support. I don't think Eugenia ever denied help to anyone. She worked with a local vet to spay/neuter numerous feral cats, while adopting three indoor cats and three outdoor cats herself.

Through the years, Eugenia had numerous medical challenges. Her strong religious faith and own determination through operations and clinical trials were an inspiration to all who knew her. Eugenia

died May 11, a week before her 86th birthday."

NANCY BOYER

HOPPER married her high school sweetheart Dec. 4. "John and I are sitting at my dining room table watching the bald eagle on my tall tree limb by the Severn River [Maryland], five miles from the Naval Academy. I have an A-frame home with a 28-by-38-foot glass wall that faces the river up on a 100-foot hill. The Lord provided me with a wonderful Bucknell husband for 47 years and now my high school sweetheart husband."

Here I go again with the Kappa Five. **MERLE HOLDEN WINSTEAD, ELAINE LONGENECKER WILSON, CHARLOTTE GENTRY SISLER '59, WILLI RILLING STAHURA '59** and yours truly did our yearly trip. This time we vacationed in Brevard, N.C., my former hometown. It's hard to beat the Blue Ridge Mountains and gorgeous waterfalls, the amazing Biltmore Estate, Grove Park Inn, Pisgah Inn and the wonderful tourist towns nearby. We had a fantastic time, and I had a chance to visit with my Connestee Falls friends.

BILL SCOTT contacted me with the news that wife **PHYLLIS "PHIDDY" GILMAN SCOTT** died Sept. 11. One of her heart valves was destroyed by an infection, and she was too weak for open-heart surgery. I have a wonderful memory of Phiddy when we took a European tour after our junior year.

JANE SCHEIFELE FRASSENEI writes, "**MARIE MASTORAKIS** has hosted a two-day early December dinner and gift exchange party in her Cranford, N.J., home for eight friends from the

Class of 1958 almost every year since the late 1990s. On Dec. 1 and 2, there were four of us: Marie, **SHIRLEY COOK HATCH, JAN BULL BORDEN** and Jane. In many years **PEGGY FAULK MYRBACK, LORIAN RODI DEUEL, JUDY DANIEL MORRISON** and the late **ADELE IRVING** have joined the celebration." — R.B.S.

1959

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

1961

JAN POWERS
jpowers0135@earthlink.net

LINDA GUILD LAKE

writes, "I moved to a cottage at Menno Haven, a retirement community in Chambersburg, Pa., a few miles from the home where I lived for 50 years. I was in one of 22 new cottages, and move-in day reminded me of September 1957 when, as freshmen women, we settled into a room in Larison with the help of our parents. Only in 2018, it was the children helping the parents get settled in a new environment.

"I'm active in the Chambersburg Afternoon Club, an organization that supports our local library. I also attend the Institute of

Retired Persons, a group that hosts speakers several days a week in the fall and spring. For many years we met at Wilson College, but now meet in a large event room at Menno Haven. One of our speakers was class reporter **JAN POWERS**. Her topic was Burma/Myanmar. In the discussion that followed, we reminisced about Burma Bucknell Week.

"**DALE BURKHOLDER HASTINGS '62**, an Alpha Sigma Alpha sister, retired to the Chambersburg area. We met quite serendipitously several years ago and have enjoyed renewing our friendship. She says, "Except for a few years when my children were little, I taught in preschool and all elementary grades. I will always be grateful for the inspiration of education professor Maury Hillson."

Let's hear from more class members in the months to come. Tell us about where you retired and something about your life's work. — J.P.

1962

JANE CARSON SIMS writes, "Thank you, **STEVE SUGAR**, for almost a decade of serving as the Class of '62 reporter. Speaking for myself, on receiving a new *Bucknell Magazine*, the first thing I did was to turn to Class Notes. You perfected the art of begging for folks to send you snippets of their life's happenings, and you edited the offerings into a column of interest and information for us all. Our part (those who responded to your suggestions of have you been traveling, do you have a special

hobby, have you joined up with any other classmate for lunch, etc., have you moved) was the easier part because you had to [summarize] whatever ramblings you received. The results were good.

"We hope for you more faith-filled, happy days with your family and loved ones. Take care."

If you are interested in being the 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

As of Oct. 5, I had sent emails to 284 classmates from my class listing of 408. About 70 had no email available, and post cards were sent to about 41. Four '63ers email addresses had blocked their mail. Around 21 from that list are deceased. I still hope to hear from more of you.

LOIS KUEBLER STEWART is living in south Florida and remembered her years of living in Paris with fondness.

I've relocated to Delaware after several years in a rented condo in northern Virginia. Fortunately I owned the Delaware house so I had somewhere to go that I

feel comfortable and at home with a friendly and caring community.
– P.W.S.

1964 BETH WEHRLE SMITH bethdonsm@gmail.com

JOHN COYLE passed away peacefully in his home on Useppa Island, Fla., Sept. 13. The following information was shared by his daughter. "John grew up on the family farm and was an avid Boy Scout, achieving Eagle Scout. A FIJI at Bucknell, he played football and wrestled. He served his country from 1964–66, after which he entered the family business, Sink'r Swim. John wintered in Spain, Portugal, Mexico and Jamaica before settling on Sanibel Island

(and eventually Useppa Island) in Florida, where he enjoyed his 26-foot sailmaster *Dutch Treat*. He was a natural leader, helping to found the Long Beach Island Historical Association, Useppa Island Club and Tuckerton Seaport & Baymen's Museum. He also had a great interest in A-Cats, running an A-Cat regatta at Tuckerton Seaport, N.J., and crewed on a J/24 international One-Design keelboat. He was inducted into the Barnegat Bay Sailing Hall of Fame in 2016 and was celebrated as founder of the Useppa Island Club in 2021. With a glint of mischief in his eyes and a pep in his step, John brought uncommon energy, stinging humor and practical insight to almost any situation. He always went the extra mile with all his pursuits,

including dressing up as Santa, setting up the bonfire, organizing the fireworks, firing up the grill, giving someone a job to do and making everyone feel included at the party. His independent strength, irreverent spirit and faded baseball caps will be especially missed by those who loved him most."

The latest Elder Sammie dinner was held at El Rio Grande Restaurant in New York City in October. Attendance was strong – some mentally, some physically, none both. Present were **SETH KAMINSKY '62, BARRY GARDINER '62, MURRAY UFBERG, ELIOT RISKIN, RICK AMDUR '65, STEVE OESTREICH '65, RICH HIRSCH '65, RON BARON '65, JACK POSNER '65, MIKE WEINSTEIN '65** and "pledge" **BOB SIEGEL '66**.



FOREVER ORANGE AND BLUE

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Visit go.bucknell.edu/reunion to:

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Share memories with classmates at Reunion events, which will include educational sessions, campus tours, outdoor recreational activities, department and program receptions, festivals and more.

FIND YOUR CLASSMATES AT BUCKNELL.EDU/ALUMNIAPP AND SHARE YOUR EXCITEMENT ON SOCIAL MEDIA USING [#BUCKNELLREUNION](https://twitter.com/BUCKNELLREUNION).

While descriptors for the dinner, like "raucous," "stimulating," "lively," and "side-splitting" would not be quite honest, a sorta OK time was had by all. Should any other fraters of that era wish to attend the next festivities, please contact one of the above.

As a business major, I was lucky enough to be in classes with these bright guys who cut their teeth on balance sheets. I was really intimidated, struggling to remember whether debits went on the left and credits on the right or vice versa.

CAROLYN GOSS

WILLIS writes, "I would like to offer condolences to any of our classmates who might have suffered losses in Hurricane Ian. From posts I've read, it appears that quite a few Bucknellians spend the winter months in Naples, Fla.

"My husband, Ron, died in August 2020. We had 54 wonderful years together – then, two bad months. I sold the house and bought a condo in Chevy Chase, Md., which is near my son. I enjoy traveling and spend my summers in Sun Valley, Idaho. I got the Bucknell brochure about a cruise to Normandy and Scotland, and a friend and I are planning to go. Let me know if any of you are thinking about going. I'm at cmwillis28@gmail.com."

GAIL KILLE TYRRELL writes, "The patriarch of our family, **RICHARD "DICK" TYRRELL '63, M'67**, passed away Dec. 9. He brought dignity to a Parkinson's disease that tries to take yours away. Living with it for over 15 years, he never complained once. We will greatly miss his humor, kindness, toughness and warmth.

"Originally from Woodbridge, N.J., Dick was a very accomplished football player at Bucknell and had a successful career as an executive with the RCA Corp. and the Sony Corp. He also was involved in barber-shop singing groups in Cherry Hill, N.J., Hilton Head, S.C., and Sun City Center, Fla. Dick had a natural way to make people feel welcome and was never short on jokes. He cast a very big shadow, but it was always a warm shadow." – B.W.S.

1965
LINDA HAIGH TOZIER
tozierl@verizon.net

JACKIE HONOR PLUMEZ
careerdoct@aol.com

It was almost New Year's Eve as I wrote this, and the Pittsburgh Penguins and Steelers were generating excitement in this sports town.

I want to thank **FORREST CHILTON** for providing the names of classmates who passed away. This has reminded me that only the five classmates and two spouses who attended our 55+ 2 Class of '65 Reunion saw my video about my dealing with inoperable liver cancer since October 2020, which led to **TOBY DECKER, CAROLE GILBERT ROCKLAND, and MIKE '64 and CAROLYN MORTON MOORE** writing messages in their holiday cards expressing surprise.

I also want to share some news about **RON BARON** and Baron Capital, which he founded 40 years ago. The

company reinstated its annual investment conference at the NY Metropolitan Opera, and in an interview, Ron shared his work ethic while growing up in Asbury Park, N.J. He had many jobs growing up, including delivering newspapers beginning at age 5, working at a carwash and being a life guard and caddying at the local golf club. Each of us who lived during the late 1940s and early 1950s behaved similarly.

Carole lives in Arizona where she rides bicycle with a group there as well as other locales, including New Zealand and England to honor her husband, who was killed in a bicycling accident several years ago. She is moving to the Masonic Village in Elizabethtown, Pa.

Caroline and Mike's granddaughter **LOGAN '26** made the rowing team as a walk on. Their son manages their Turtle Club in Naples, Fla. And they still enjoy vacationing in Owls Head, Maine, from early June until mid-October.

My cousin, **LUCILLE HAIGH ESPOSITO '60**, lives in Guilderland, N.Y., and summers in Ocean City, N.J. I remain in touch with fellow Delta Zetas **PEGGY OSBORN LUTTMANN '64 and JANET ZAKRYK CONGDON '64. ROBERTA MYLES KING '66** writes me often throughout the year.

My 2023 wishes for each of us are for better health and world peace. – L.H.T.

The University regrets to report that Class Reporter Linda Haigh Tozier '65, M'78 died Feb. 18, 2023. Bucknell Magazine is

grateful to Linda for her years of dedicated service keeping classmates informed, engaged and connected. We offer condolences to Linda's family, friends and classmates. JACKIE HONOR PLUMEZ has agreed to take the role of Class Reporter and welcomes your updates at careerdoct@aol.com. The editorial staff thanks Forrest Chilton, for assisting Linda with her reports during her illness and also for providing the following tribute.

Forrest, Class Reunion Chair, writes:

"Linda valiantly endured illness over many months before entering hospice. She was a proud mother and devoted grandmother, a great person and a true friend whose loss we will always feel. We welcomed every day her ability to inspire camaraderie, warmth and affection among us all.

"For over 35 years, Linda served as Class Reporter for the Bucknell University Class of 1965. Without complaint or compensation, she became the historian and recorder of the significant happenings among the members of our class. Over the past almost 60 years, Linda was dauntless in her pursuit of information about the accomplishments and happenings of alumni. She accepted data from all sources and composed it into a clear, succinct message that showed her love of Bucknell, while encouraging our class to do the same. Linda always displayed a sense of humor in life and as our reporter.

"Linda was a mainstay in a job that rotated every

few years in other classes. She worked very hard to maintain the Class of 1965's love of each other and lasting loyalty to Bucknell. When Linda first became ill in 2020, her classmates attested to Linda's exceptional steadfast fidelity. They nominated her for a special Loyalty to Bucknell Award. The University's alumni office presented her with an official award certificate to her for her 'longstanding commitment and dedication to her alma mater.'

"At Bucknell, Linda participated in the marching and concert bands, orchestra, Women's Glee club, Christian Society and Delta Zeta. After graduation, Linda followed her mother as a member of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), where she became the go-to authority and sought-after collaborator on a wide range of issues that affect women and their families. Linda said that AAUW was the significant factor in creating who she was. As a Bucknellian, she accomplished many things, making AAUW a vital organization that advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy. Linda's Bucknell loyalty, learning and experience made the AAUW a vibrant and dedicated force for change.

"Linda was special to us all. We will miss her greatly. The world will miss her."

1966

JACKIE PEARSON WEIDENFELLER
theweids@verizon.net

"If it's not one thing, it's another": This trite saying describes well what has been going on in the past few years. After suffering through the COVID era and thinking we were finally digging out, a number of us have had personal tragedies, including health issues or losses, and then Hurricane Ian wreaked havoc on Florida's west coast.

FLOSSIE GRABER

WATT and Bob Shannon's high-rise condo overlooking the Gulf of Mexico had no direct damage, but ground floor flooding and elevator damage rendered the building still uninhabitable three months later. They are fortunate to own a unit nearby, which is typically rented out but has become their temporary home. The famed Turtle Club in Naples, Fla., owned by the **MICHAEL '64** and **CAROLYN MORTON MOORE '65's** family, was totally wiped out by Ian but will be rebuilt. The Moores had hosted an annual fall cocktail party on the beach at the club for alumni but, between COVID and the hurricane, that hasn't been possible for several years. A happy-hour event was held this fall at another local restaurant, and nearly 50 graduates and friends attended. The '60s alumni who came were Michael and Carolyn, **LINDA LAWRENCE NUTTAL '69**, **ROBERT POLINER '64**, **SHARON POOL '67**, **MIKE SEIGFRIED '65**, **BETH WEHRLE SMITH '64**, **PAUL "SILKY" '62** and

KATHY MEARA SULLIVAN '64, Flossie, **BILL WEIDENFELLER '65** and me.

I'd like to thank the many very kind folks who have connected with me concerning my husband, **CHUCK '64's**, bicycle accident. Your comments were heartwarming and so helpful. Some of you shared your own news, too. **CONNIE GENT LAYMAN** wrote of losing husband **DICK '65** after he'd suffered a stroke and long illness last year. On a happier note, she reports, "I was glad to spend some time with my Bucknell roommate, **SHARON "SHERRY" SMITH FOGG**, in September. She and I and her daughter had a great afternoon strolling through Longwood Gardens [Kennett Square, Pa.] and reminiscing. There is a Bucknell alum in my neighborhood, and I go to a church in Wayne, Pa., where there must be 40 Bucknellians."

BOB PUFF '67, who covers many bases with his Bucknell family ties, writes, "My wife, **NANCY LARZELERE PUFF '68**, is **TOWNLEY LARZELERE'S** sister. We retired to Vero Beach, Fla., about 15 years ago and have had a grand time. We have three grown children and five grandchildren who love to come visit. Townley suffered a bad stroke last November, but he is in good hands in California. His second wife died several years ago, and his only daughter lives in British Columbia, Canada, with his only grandchild. **LORRY HATHAWAY '65** lives in our community, so I see him regularly, along with his wife, Barbara. **PAUL NEZI '69** also lives in the neighborhood." Bob

has two Bucknell sisters, **BARBARA PUFF '69** and **SALLY PUFF COURTNEY '74**, and a Bucknell brother, **JEFF PUFF '75**. On another note, I learned that Townley's daughter traveled to Ireland last summer and took several Townley "puppets," which she photographed in various spots so that Townley could "be there" in Ireland with her.

ROB DAHLSTROM

recalled meeting up with my husband and me when Chuck's brother, Bill, and Rob were doing a cross-country bike ride some years ago. Rob reports, "I'm still cycling, as I co-lead a 38-mile ride in the Greenbelt, Md., area twice a week, and I did the Sea Gull Century again last month. Even when I don't know people well, any loss in the biking community is hard to take." Rob and wife, **HENRIETTA "HANK" STRAL DAHLSTROM '67** visited her sister, **OLGA STRAL MICHAEL '69**, and husband, **GREGORY MICHAEL '74**, in Bozeman, Mont.

In January 2022, **EDGAR "BART" FRAME** lost wife Joan, who he'd known since high school, to cancer. Bart and Joan moved to Lincoln, Calif., 16 years ago to be near son Dave and daughter Meredith and their families. Bart and Joan spent summers at their cottage in Maine for nearly 50 years.

Please send along some happy news. Connect with a friend, look for joy in your days and cherish the "mem'ries fond" that "come trooping by." — J.P.W.

1967

If you are interested in being the 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

BOB BRUSH made his annual pilgrimage to Vermont to celebrate his brother's birthday. The timing was perfect, coming during Vermont's "foliage season," locally referred to as "leaf peeping." Bob's brother lives a half hour up the road from me, so Bob drove over and spent the afternoon hanging out in the back corner, sampling our apple crop and taking a ride around the hills of Lincoln.

FRANK WEIRMAN reports, "After graduating, **ALVES GRAY WEIRMAN** and I married in August 1968. We lived in Philadelphia for four years while she worked as a teacher and in the U.S. passport office. I completed studies at Hahnemann (now Drexel School of Medicine) in June 1972. After a year internship at Allentown (Pa.) General Hospital, we moved to Nebraska and lived there for two years while I worked as a public health officer in a small-town clinic. We adopted our twin sons, Matt and Jon, who are now 48, in June 1977. We moved with our expanded family to Rochester, N.Y., to complete a family

medicine residency program.

"After having a spiritual life-changing experience in Rochester, we sought family practice groups with a Christian influence and impact. Alves and I moved back to Nebraska to join a two-man group that eventually reached eight persons with three licensed mental health care providers and four physician assistants. Alves and I lived in Lincoln and traveled three times to South Asia for medical outreach trips. We left the Lincoln practice in September 1996 and departed for the same South Asia hospital, Memorial Christian Hospital, written about in the book *Daktar* by Viggo Olsen."

The couple worked there until June 2013 and are retired in Lincoln and their sons live nearby. They have two grandchildren and are active in their community and local church. Frank and Alves have been in touch with the late **DEB MCVEY DRESSER, RALPH MCMILLAN, BRUCE** and **LYNN O'NEIL WRAY** and **CINDY HELGREN SKELTON**. Alves is at alvesgw46@gmail.com, and Frank is at frankweirman@gmail.com.

MARILYN OLSON PARKS (mparks81@gmail.com) reached out and asked me to join her on the Reunion Committee for our 55th, which will be June 2–4. Hopefully, we'll have a turnout like the one we had for our 50th, although it will be a challenge to generate the enthusiasm that **DAVID** and **FAYE HANEY DEYSHER** and their committee generated.

Just before Thanksgiving,

we stopped in on **PATTI BURKE KUHN** and her partner, Jerry, in Bradenton, Fla. Although it was a brief visit, it was great to see them and get a peek at their Florida lifestyle. Patti hasn't slowed down and is the same high-energy "get it all done" gal she has always been. We had a lot to discuss including our lives as "snowbirds," our attempts to adjust to driving in Florida, growing apples in the North and dealing with critters. Now that we know the way to their place, we look forward to visiting them again on one of our next trips to Bradenton. In any event, we'll see her again at Reunion. Patti is at kuhnzie2@cs.com.

I found the message that was sent in 2018 by **SUE WEINGARTNER ELKO**. She talked about all the fun planned for our 50th Reunion and to make a contribution to the Class of '68 scholarship named for the late **BONNIE SHIHADDEH SMITHWICK**, which is intended to honor all those who have left us too soon. The same sentiment still applies. Here's hoping to see you in June. — G.V.

1969
PETER E. D'ORSI
pdcpa@hopetech
partners.com

DAVID LANDES writes, "I'm thinking it's time to break the code of silence of the Class of '69, so I'm sharing a gathering and adventure. Seeing an opportunity to explore and get off the grid for a bit, I reached out to some swimmers. **MIKE SINKINSON**, my brother, **PAUL LANDES '72**, and I traveled from Pennsylvania,

Montana and Wyoming, respectively, to Los Cabos, Mexico, to journey to Isla Espiritu Santo in the Sea of Cortez. We camped on the beach for six days and did six days of distance ocean swims with a small group of like-minded souls. The island is uninhabited and designated a World Heritage Site and Mexican marine national park. A few more days in civilization near Cabo San Lucas, and it was time to return to familiar surroundings and think up another adventure. — P.D.

1970
LYDIA HALLER DODD
lydiadodd@yahoo.com

THOMAS ZIMMERMAN M'70, retired associate professor of psychology and faculty athletic representative at the Pennsylvania College of Technology, has been given emeritus status by the college's board. I'd mentioned in the last issue that we'd love to hear from anyone who attended the Reunion. I've had no responses so I'm asking again. Please help fill the Class of '70 column. — L.H.D.

1971
LOU KISSLING
L.KISSLING@msn.com

1972
ANNE SMITH BENBOW
anne@benbow.net

STEVE and SUE MARTELL BAIRD welcomed grandson Jack Baird Cawley just before Christmas. He joins sister Ellie and parents Matt and

EMILY BAIRD CAWLEY '11. BARB FAUST

MCALLISTER writes that in the fall, "I hiked 26 days on the Way of St. Francis, 250 hilly miles from Florence, Italy, to Rome, with just my backpack and fellow pilgrims. This was my fourth Camino walk and the hardest one physically. We were blessed with great weather, magnificent views, ancient history and good food. We ended at St. Peter's Basilica, and because we were pilgrims (obvious by the way we looked and our backpacks), we didn't have to wait in line. I saw the 'Pieta,' which I'd seen many years ago. This time it had a very special meaning to me because I have two sons. I returned home with a lightness of spirit."

Just before Barb left on her pilgrimage, she joined a group of classmates in Asheville, N.C., on a beautiful October weekend. We'd planned this trip twice previously (in 2020 and 2021) and finally were able to gather.

PAM SILKWORTH FINN, LORRIE CANGELOSI ZORBO, PAM DINGWALL HERRING, CINDY BLAND LESKER, JUDY DISERAFINO HUEY, HELEN SCHWALM BULLWINKEL, Barb and I rode the trolley; visited the arboretum, the Biltmore Estate, the botanical garden, art galleries and shops downtown; ate at wonderful restaurants, and spent a lot of time catching up. We also had an Art in the Dark evening thanks to Lorrie, who still had her cards from that course. We missed those who couldn't join us and are already plotting our next gathering.

I'm looking forward to hearing from more of you throughout 2023. — A.S.B.

REUNION

1973
SUSAN LATIMER CURLETT
slcurlett@aol.com

RUDY PALMER writes, "Having just heard the sad news of the passing of [University Chaplain] Jim Hammerlee Nov. 26, beloved husband of Betty and dear friend to so many, I was moved to send this message to remember our dear Koko who brought so much talent and energy to our wonderful week of Cap & Dagger *Mikado* performances in March 1973. As we look back on the 50th anniversary of those memorable shows, allow me a warm shout out to the superb cast, orchestra and production crew that made those events at Coleman (now Harvey Powers) Theatre so wonderful. I couldn't be more proud and grateful these many decades later.

"I live in New York City with wife Madeline Rogers, and would love to hear from any of you who are still alive and kicking at rudy.palmer@gmail.com." — S.L.C.

1974
NORBERT W. CHURCH JR.
churchandchurch@
yahoo.com

MICHAEL KALANTY has bread for you. Mixing equal parts art, science and mysticism with a dozen different flour blends over the course of six months, he created an award-win-

ning Roman-style restaurant table bread that is a cross between focaccia and ciabatta. The bread, called Pane Romana, was created for San Francisco's Delfina Restaurant. Mike is a research and development specialist for the bakery industry as well as a baker, instructor and cookbook author. He is at mkalanty@aol.com. And, Michael, where can I get Pane Romana in Connecticut? — N.C.

1975
NANCY QUAY BRADLEY
nancy.bradley6@gmail.
com

Classmate **DAN BRANNEN** has more in common with my runner husband than with me. In fact, Dan remembered my husband "winning the Bucknell Invitational in 1972, among other noteworthy performances." Dan's accomplishments in his field are truly amazing as evidenced by his induction into the 2022 Ultrarunning Hall of Fame. (Check out his achievements: ultrarunninghistory.com/hall-of-fame/dan-brannen/.)

By his own admission, Dan was an "average" cross-country and a "slow" track runner. Following graduation, he experimented with longer runs/races including half and full marathons. By 1980 he achieved an amazing feat: he won the JFK 50-miler, the country's oldest and largest ultra. (Another coincidence: one of my husband's former high school cross-country athletes turned ultra runner also won that same prestigious race in 2013.)

Then, Dan kept reaching for the stars, winning a 60-mile race and then a 200 miler, followed by multi-day ultras, including a six-day race in France where he ran 468 miles to rank as the no. 2 American in 1983. As if these running feats were not enough, Dan's accomplishments in the areas of administration and leadership enabled him to co-found the International Association of Ultrarunners, to lead the way for the U.S. National Ultra Championships and to found the American Ultrarunning Association.

Dan is president of his own event production company with clients such as the JPMorgan Corporate Challenge, the Philadelphia Marathon and the New York City Marathon as well as other events. Currently, his main

athletic pursuits are adventure racing and cross-country skiing. Our hats are off to you; your level of fitness is second to none. Thanks for sharing. – N.Q.B.

1976
GAIL WATERBURY FERRI
waterburyferri@gmail.com

MARY LOU KUPFER
maryloukpf6@gmail.com

STEVE and JEAN VALERIO STEWART attended the wedding of Marcia and **CURT GILLESPIE'S** son **RYAN '07** Nov. 9–10 in Charleston, S.C. Other Bucknellians in attendance were Lynda and **DAVE STUCKEY '75** and Debra

and **ANDY BLUNDELL '75**. **MARY LOU KUPFER** and **SHELLEY STERNAD DEMPSEY** attended the Bucknell Club of Naples (Fla.) Happy Hour Dec. 7. It was a well-attended event at Seasons 52. They enjoyed re-meeting and talking to **CAROL MALESARDI LITWAK '75** and **SUE STOREY KANZLEITER '75**.

GAIL WATERBURY FERRI reported that laughter made its way to her house as we FaceTimed with a group of DU alumni who were meeting in Hilton Head, S.C., this past October for golf and good times. Among those attending were Curt, **GARY GRAVES**, **PAUL MISCHINSKI**, Steve and **BOB FASCIANA**. Dave and **ANDY BLUNDELL '75** were there as was **SCOTT GUTHMAN '77**. **RAY** and I

would have loved to have been a fly on that wall.

BRAD CHAZOTTE writes, "My roommate of three years at Bucknell, **MARK BROWN**, passed away June 15. He'd been with the Fayetteville Public Works Commission in North Carolina since 2013 and was the chief customer officer at the time of his death. Mark graduated in 1977 after changing from a mathematics major to electrical engineering in his freshman year. The extra semester was due to when required engineering courses were offered.

"Nancy and I continue our retired life in Chapel Hill, N.C. Daughter Bryanna is finishing her second year of medical school in Florida and will be on clinical rotations the next two years." – G.W.F. and M.L.K.

1977
SUSAN HUNSICKER
Belsiemarie@gmail.com

BRIAN KNAPP
cbknapp@charter.net

PEGGY MATHIESON CONVER wrote that husband David passed away in May, so we missed her at Reunion. In their first time traveling together, Peggy "bopped" all over Europe with Caroline "CC" Conner, her daughter and great companion, where they enjoyed a Gilbert and Sullivan-themed cruise in Southern Spain. A trip to an Arizona dude ranch joined by many members of the Dave fan club followed. Up next was Australia and New Zealand for the wedding of a woman basketball player who lived with

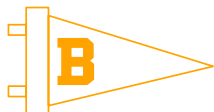


CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

April is National Volunteer Month. Bucknell volunteers play a critical role in the University's success. Each year, alumni and families lend their time, talent and treasure in countless ways to build a stronger Bucknell. Interested in giving back through volunteerism, but not sure what role would be a good fit?

Consider helping by:

- Promoting Reunion as a class volunteer
- Serving on a board
- Hosting a gathering
- Serving as a panelist or speaker
- Getting involved with your regional club



Learn more about the variety of volunteer opportunities available and express your interest at go.bucknell.edu/volunteer.

Peggy's family her senior year.

ROBIN SUYDAM and husband Paul Corkery moved into their newly restored 300-year-old family farmhouse in Somerset, N.J. Robin serves on the Franklin Township Environmental Commission, chairs the Development Committee of the State Theatre in New Brunswick, is involved in her Reformed Church in America denomination and is on the board of Creation Justice Ministries. Paul, an accomplished home brewer, turned the farm's old milk room into a brewery. Robin would be tickled to hear from classmates and invites drop-in visitors anytime, as there is always beer on tap.

AUDREY HARNIMAN discovered the June Reunion BJRE concert was posted to YouTube and can be viewed on demand. She retired 10 years ago after teaching second grade for 36 years. Audrey's last second grade charges are high school seniors. "One of the unanticipated delights of teaching is running into former students who range in age from 17 to 52. They mostly recognize me before I recognize them, but I do remember them once they identify themselves. What a gift to discover what they are doing with their lives and to think that I may have a small part in that."

In retirement Audrey has pursued several hobbies that got left by the wayside in the mad dash to fulfill teaching duties. She reads for pleasure, crafts and paints watercolors and attends many musical events in the Mercersburg, Pa., area,

from the Gettysburg Brass Band Festival to Art Garfunkel at the Luhrs Center at Shippensburg University. "I've found a group of 'old ladies' who like to exercise, so I get in some physical activity both in class and walking back and forth to class. Of course, I spend time with my retired teacher friends, eating out monthly – all in all, a pretty pleasant life."

CAROL CAMPBELL MCDERMOTT reported that at our 45th Reunion, **LORI UHLE** revealed that she and her long-time beau, Tommy Maloney, were engaged. Their wedding was held Oct. 2 in Rye, N.Y., the couple's hometown. Dancing the night away at the Coveleigh Club were several Bucknell friends including **MARY SUE TRIMBLE O'BRIEN, JOHN and DEIDRE MEHL KUKUCKA, DEBBIE YASKUS HARRISON, JAN BARTAK BAKER, Carol, CHRIS MONSON, BARB VENTURI and SARAH TODD GALLAGHER.** Later in July, Mary Sue, Debbie, Barb, Sarah and **DIANE LANGEVOORT RHODES** set sail on the alumni cruise to Alaska, which was an amazing experience.

We hope to hear from more of you for the next issue. Let us know what you're up to or what you've done, accomplished and are proud of over the last 45-plus years. Who do you keep in touch with or who have you run into lately? (Encourage them to share an update with us.) Remember: Class Notes are more interesting when lots of classmates are featured. Your participation to ensure **BRIAN and SUSAN** are not the class reporters with the blank column is greatly

appreciated.
– S.H. and B.K.

REUNION

1978
KATHY MCDONALD
ADELBERGER
tedkathy@comcast.net

I'm still wiping my tears over the demolition of the Mods. I remember them so fondly as I am sure many of you do. I somehow was assigned a very lucky no. 13 in the housing lottery and was able to secure a Mod for myself and my Pi Phi sisters **SHERI SAXER KOKEN, CAROL MULHOLLAND-MCBRIDE**

and **CARRIE THOR-WARTH BRUEY.** Our senior year there was a blast, and to this day, I fondly recall Mod bangs from the gang next door (which I hasten to add was them running full force into the side of our Mod). I'm sure many of you also will recall our 10th Reunion where we had a great kegger at the Mods. I'm pretty sure the University had to send people to round us up for our official class dinner. It's hard to believe we lived there 45 years ago. On that note, I hope you'll come back for Reunion June 2–4. I plan to attend and look forward to catching up with everyone. If you can't make it, please write to me and tell me about your grandkids, retirement, trips and life in general. My inbox has been too quiet.

On my end, I had a "small world" encounter in November. I was called to federal jury duty in Philadelphia, which meant

sitting in a large room with 300 people hoping not to be called for a jury panel. As the day wore on, everyone started talking with each other. I struck up a conversation with a guy near me, learned he came in from Lancaster and was associated with Franklin & Marshall College. I told him my daughter looked there but ended up at my alma mater, Bucknell, to which he exclaimed, "I graduated from there."

Sitting next to me was **ALAN CANIGLIA.** He has spent his career at F&M, first as a professor of economics, then as vice provost, vice president for planning and now as vice president for strategic initiatives. Sadly our reunion was cut short because he was called for a jury panel. So, Alan, I need you to write to me or better yet, come to Reunion and tell me what happened with your case.
– K.M.A.

1979
ALAN SCHRIGER
altam@netvision.net.il

I heard from several classmates and that is a very positive sign. **LINDA ROACHE DAVIS** is a retired teacher and snowbird, migrating between New York and Florida. She and husband Rick have been married for 42 years and have two married daughters, one living in Amsterdam and the other in Virginia. Linda and Rick have an 8-year-old grandson. She enjoys having more time to spend with family and friends.

Renee and **JIM SCHOTT** took a six-week trip to celebrate "that certain age" – I think we

all know what Jim is referring to. Among the places they visited was Doylestown, Pa., to see a former San Francisco roommate and fellow electrical engineer **JEFF MCQUAID.** From Doylestown, the couple traveled to Lewisburg on their way to visit with Miki and **GREG GRECO.** Greg designed and built a 200-yard-long cable car to cross the creek to his cabin. Other stops along the way were to New Jersey – Fanwood, Cranford, Hoboken and Summit – and California's Napa, Palm Desert and Manhattan Beach.

GEORGE "TRIP" OVERHOLT wrote that after he dropped out of the corporate world, he opened the first green store in North Carolina in 1991. Among other accomplishments, Trip was involved in real estate and building his own straw-bale house and natural swimming pool. He has two daughters.

KARIN WEGENER KNISELY retired Dec. 31 as lab director of core courses in the biology department at Bucknell. After graduation, she earned a master's in zoology at the University of New Hampshire and was awarded a fellowship to carry out research in freshwater biology at the University of Konstanz in Germany. Karin and husband **CHUCK '75, M'78** spent five of the first seven years of their marriage living and working in Germany and Japan. They returned to Lewisburg in 1989 when Chuck was offered a position as assistant professor in the mechanical engineering department. A chance meeting with her former biology professor, Richard

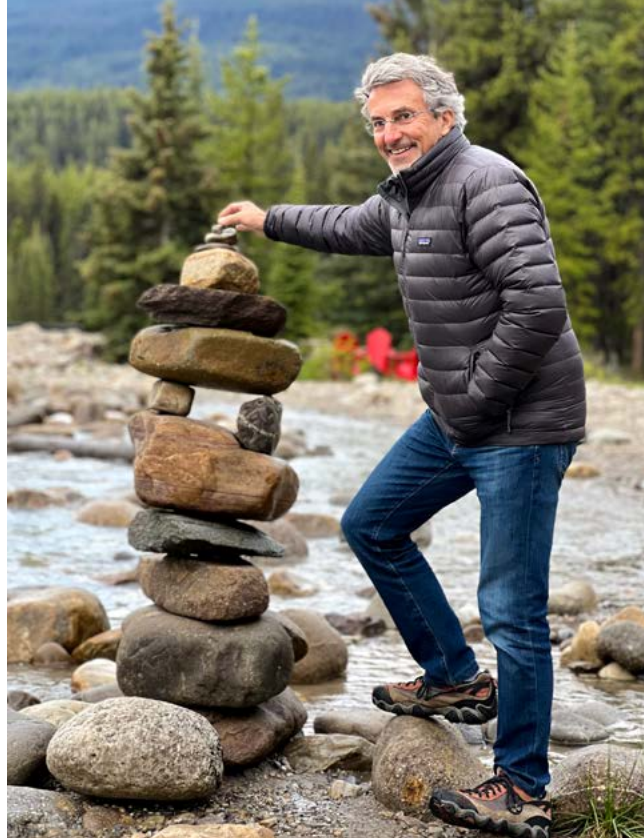
Ellis, in the local supermarket resulted in adjunct positions teaching biology labs at Bucknell once or twice a week until 1994 when Karin was offered the lab director position. This gave Karin the flexibility to have a career and raise a family.

Karin writes, "In 2019, I officially dipped my bicycle wheel into the Pacific Ocean at Florence, Ore., and followed the Trans-America Bicycle Trail to West Yellowstone, Mont. COVID-19 canceled the second leg of my journey in 2020, but we resumed at West Yellowstone in 2021, first following the TransAmerica trail to Walden, Colo., continuing on the Eastern Express to Connersville, Ind. In 2022, I finished the last 800 miles to Ventnor City, N.J. On about half of the final journey, I was joined by my three adult children [one of whom is Bucknell Class of 2014] along with brother **AL WEGENER '81** and other friends." Kudos to you on the accomplishment. — A.S.

1980

DEBORAH L. HENNEL
dhennel@aol.com

As COVID waned, 2022 seems to have been a year when classmates reconnected and the Facebook group showed mini-reunions from Upstate New York to Hilton Head, S.C., and Cape Cod, Mass., to Iceland and Tel Aviv, Israel. I was happy to finally travel to Maine to visit **CHERYL WEIN-SCHENK FREYE**, my 4th Harris freshman roomie who was in the process of moving back to Pennsylvania to be closer to family. It's a shame it took me so



ENTREPRENEUR SPOTLIGHT

Bob Bickel '79 (shown on a hike in Canada) learned the joy of pushing his physical limits and pursuing his passions at Bucknell.

RUNNIN' DOWN A DREAM

by **KATIE NEITZ**

When you spend four years running 100 miles a week, you build more than just physical endurance. As **Bob Bickel '79** discovered, you develop determination and grit, character traits that benefit someone who wants to launch and grow a business – and keep it alive through a pandemic.

As the founder and CEO of RunSignup, an online registration platform for endurance and peer-to-peer fundraising events, Bickel says his entrepreneurial mindset was cultivated logging miles on the rural roads surrounding Lewisburg.

Under the guidance of cross-country coach **Art Gulden P'03, P'05**, Bickel and his teammates tallied "5 and 10s" – 5 miles each morning, 10 miles each afternoon. Bickel says the experience shaped who he would become, and was the second-most influential thing that happened to him at Bucknell. (The first: meeting **Marlise Reinhold Bickel '79**.)

After graduation, the electrical engineering major became a software engineer for various tech startups through the 1980s and '90s. In the 2000s, he came to a career crossroads while working for Hewlett-Packard. Bickel had to lay off 600 employees, including himself. "It was a big emotional moment for all of us," he says. "I asked myself, 'What do I want to do with my life?'"

The answer led him back to an early passion: running. After working as a race director for a local race, Bickel became frustrated with the

online registration platforms and realized he could do better. In 2009, he applied his technical know-how to create RunSignup. It quickly found success. Today, RunSignup has a team of more than 70 employees and has helped participants raise more than \$1.8 billion.

Running a business based on in-person events for large groups of people didn't seem risky – until March 2020. Assuming his business wouldn't survive the pandemic, Bickel prepared for the worst. Fortunately, thanks to a team of employees who deployed software and support to help customers pivot to virtual and hybrid events, RunSignup not only recovered but gained significant market share. In 2022, Bickel launched a new platform called TicketSignup, which expanded his business into new markets, helping event directors manage ticket sales for activities like festivals, haunts and golf outings.

"Everybody – both employees and customers – worked really hard together to make a big pivot to pursue virtual events, and we made it work," Bickel says. "It comes back to this idea of teamwork that I learned at Bucknell. Some people think of running as an individual thing. But when you're part of a cross-country team you know that's not true. You're all in it together. Even if you're heading out for a run by yourself, you're putting in the work because you know your team is counting on you."

many years to get there but that shows how busy life has been. It's a bittersweet move for Cheryl after more than 40 years but being closer to grandkids will make it all worthwhile. She is a Forever Inc. consultant, so if you are finally ready to have old photos and videos digitized, she's your go-to to save all those memories. She and husband Ken can also give you great tips on stripping wallpaper and replanting cuttings from their Maine garden. She is at cwfrey@gmail.com.

No doubt there will be more Bucknell meetups this year. Keep us all informed about friendships, families and all the cool things that keep your lives happy and busy. — D.L.H.

1981
CAROL CHRISTIE
ROSNER
ccrosner@aol.com

I hope that 2023 has been/will be a great one for you and your families and that you will also find time to connect with Bucknell friends. I continue to be heartened by all the mini-reunions that classmates are having. Steve and I were looking forward to our own January mini-reunion with **JOHN "DIFF" DIFFENDERFER**, **AMY VIENER** and **AMY WEINBERG FELDMAN** and Amy's husband. This reunion started as lunch with just Diff as we were attending a wedding in Miami but then Amy and Amy joined us. Not a group I would have ever thought to be together back in 1981, but somehow we're all together.

In November 2022, we had several classmates successfully run for public office. **TED LIMPET** was elected a County Court judge for Onondaga County, New York. **SUE ATKINSON NOACK** was re-elected as a councilmember for the City of Pleasant Hill, Calif. Sue has served on the council since 2014 and as mayor in 2016 and vice mayor in 2020. **STUART BERGER** was re-elected as a judge on the Maryland Court of Special Appeals At-Large.

Thanks to Facebook and to children who were both Bucknellians, I have stayed in touch with **SARAH LYNCH**. She and husband Charlie live in the Harrisburg, Pa., area where Charlie is a pathologist (part time) with UPMC at Harrisburg/Carlisle, and Sarah is a dentist with her own practice. Daughter **CAROLYN '14** wed on Long Beach Island, N.J., in October with sister **EMILY '16** as maid of honor.

GWEN ENGLISH NIELSEN attended and the pictures show a beautiful and happy wedding.

Sarah wrote that she has connected with her freshman roommate **DEBBIE SAUERLAND STILLMAN** after Sarah found the curtains she made for their room on 3½ freshman year while cleaning out her beach cottage. I vividly remember sewing curtains for my own freshman room but would not have saved them. Sarah also shared that **JOANNA DIMARIO BORZA'S** son Joe was married in Pittsburgh the day after her own daughter's wedding. Joanna lived next door to Sarah freshman year.

Thanks for sharing your

news (at my prompting), Sarah. I hope others who never see their names in this column will do me a favor and share their own news with me. — C.C.R.

1982
BECKY GOODWIN
KANGOS
rgkang@aol.com

AMY FORTGANG CONNOR wasn't able to make it to Reunion because it was the same weekend as an awards ceremony where one of her students was being honored as best actress from among performers at 20 area high schools. She writes, "After a wonderful career as a professional performer that included time on Broadway and in regional theaters that took me to several countries and every state except Hawaii, and that cast me opposite the man who would become my husband, I took some time off to raise our three children. Luckily, I was able to keep my hand in performing at an Equity theater in Northport Village, N.Y., where we live. When I went back to work full time, it was as a director, and I run the theater program at a high school here on Long Island. I also serve as the executive director of the Northport Arts Coalition. Although we still have two children in college, my husband and I have started the countdown to retirement when we plan to move back to New York City, and I plan to pick up my performing career again." She is hoping to attend our next Reunion in 2027.

JOHN STEELE was named a Jesse H. Choper

Lecturer by the UC-Berkeley School of Law. He teaches there and at the UCLA School of Law. — B.G.K.

↓
REUNION

1983
TRACEY TRUSK EICK
tteick@bellsouth.net

EILEEN MCCARTHY BORN writes about her very memorable 2022, "We were thrilled to celebrate two weddings. Our oldest son, Drew, married **AMY ATKINS '13** in July at Cedar Lakes Estate, N.Y., after a 2021 mini-wedding and COVID postponement of the big celebration. It was a beautiful day and fantastic weekend at this 'camp' venue. Our oldest daughter, Madeline, married Tucker Weaver at Maquam Barn & Winery, Burlington, Vt., in mid-October, which also included a reunion of dear Bucknell friends. **TRACEY TRUSK EICK**, Tim and **STACEY BERNHARD SMOLLEN**, Dave and **CAROLINE DILLON MARREN**, **NANCY HARVEY WORRELL**, Scott and **MEG BARRON BORN**, Brian and **KAREN FRACAS MONAGHAN** and **LAURIE HOLBEN FINE** all made the trek to Vermont and were rewarded with a perfect fall day and glorious foliage." I need to add that Laurie and I took a relaxing, scenic drive to Vermont that included an overnight stop at the Fines' adorable Pocono lake house and lunch the next day in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. After three

decades in Atlanta, I forgot how spectacular the fall foliage is up North.

SCOT MINESINGER writes, "This year my youngest graduated from [University of Virginia (UVA)] and is launched, working and paying taxes like her two siblings before (UVA and Virginia Tech), which makes me tuition free — the kids are off my books.

"At the beginning of 2023, I'm moving to Puerto Rico and then in March remarrying in Puerto Rico. I will keep my house in Fairfax Station, Va., and travel back to visit friends and family frequently. Many from the States move to Puerto Rico because of the quality of life, food purity and climate (never hotter than 90°F or cooler than 70°F) are superior to most places in the States, while the cost of living is less. In the Walmart parking lot, you can see the ocean and the mountains. There is no rising sea level nor gator threat to deal with either, like in Florida."

Dave and Caroline also celebrated a wedding last year. "We were thrilled to have our oldest daughter, Katie, marry Peter Martin in July. Katie's siblings, **MOLLY '15**, **MEG '17** and **PETER '21**, were in the bridal party. It was a perfect summer day in Chatham, Mass., and we were fortunate to share it with family and friends, including **TIM '15** and **TAYLOR REEH MARREN '15**, **KAELYN LONG '21**, **PAUL** and **MARY STARK BAMFORD '85**, **GERRY '84** and **ANN JOYCE BERRIGAN**, **CATHERINE "CARI" CARDACI**, **STEVE GIRDEN**, **MARK** and **SUE DEKIMPE GLENN**, and Kim and **CHET SIMMONS**." The pictures

Caroline showed us in October looked absolutely beautiful.

May your 2023 continue to be healthy and include our 40th Reunion in June. – T.T.E.

1984 ALLISON ABOUCHAR CROSS

14380th@gmail.com

We've all just finished turning 60, and I can only imagine that the reason for my empty mailbox was that you all were simply too

busy with endless celebrations. But I know you are out there doing interesting things: wrapping up careers, starting new ones, traveling, volunteering, reigniting old friendships and enjoying new grandchildren. I look forward to seeing where 2023 takes us and catching up at our 40th Reunion next year. – A.A.C.

1985 CAROL RHEAM TEVIS

rheamtev@ptd.net

KARYN VISSCHER M'93 works as a polymer chemist for Ashland Chemical in Bridgewater, N.J., which makes additives for nearly everything – “we don't make things; we make them better.” She participates in her church's singing and bell choirs. In Karyn's spare time, she runs a home embroidery business –

Forget-Me-Not Embroidery – stitching logos and such on all sorts of sportswear, for all occasions. She's also very involved in various Masonic groups and in helping to run and curate New Jersey's Museum of Masonic Culture in Trenton. This museum was brought to life by her dad; her mother, **BARBARA THOMPSON VISSCHER '57**, and brother **GLENN VISSCHER '89** continue this labor of love. They even have a YouTube channel (Masonic Unity – The Rite Stuff) with posts about exhibits and

interviews with prominent Masons.

Thank you to **DAN KANE '86** for sharing the story about **JON ROSKY** in the December issue of *Egg Harbor Township Living* and his commitment to giving back. Congratulations, Jon, on this recognition.

I hope all is well with all of you. Please send updates on what is going on in your corner of the world. – C.R.T.

PROFILE

A NOBLE CAUSE

Scott Uebele '00 protects patient rights

by KATIE WILLIARD

UP UNTIL 1979, unknowing victims of the medical industry suffered for science – most notably in the famous thalidomide scandal and the USPHS Syphilis Study at Tuskegee. It wasn't until the release of the Belmont Report by the National Commission for the Protection of Human Subjects of Biomedical and Behavioral Research that year that subjects' rights were legally protected.

Scott Uebele '00 helps see to it that those protections remain at the forefront of medical research. In his role as chief operating officer at Advarra, he is responsible for strategy and operations for review services, including its institutional review board (IRB) work, the flagship function of the company. “It's human research protection,” he says. “If you're involved in clinical research, you have to agree to be a willing participant.” The IRB oversees all facets of documentation and provides proof that the guiding principles set by the Belmont Report are being upheld: respect for persons, beneficence and justice.

Uebele, who was an economics major and first-generation college student, also leads other initiatives including the institutional biosafety committee, consulting services and Advarra's customer success teams. He consistently sees the benefit of his interdisciplinary, liberal arts education. “It made me adaptable,” he says. “It gave me the perspective to look at things differently – to not be rooted in a singular thought process.”

Uebele believes deeply in the company's mission. “What we're built on is really noble,” he says. “It's about protecting people.” For example, Advarra is working on a pediatric glaucoma project. In



Scott Uebele '00 supports the development of safer, smarter clinical research.

addition to overseeing regulatory adherence, the company's work with community advocates resulted in identifying the need for a smaller gauge needle for the testing procedure. “Little things like this are part of a feedback loop aimed at making a positive difference in the child's experience,” Uebele says. “That matters.”

In addition to its work as an IRB, Advarra has a technology arm to build software to help facilitate clinical trials. It also has a division focused on investigator and patient training, which creates animations that increase the adoption of materials through instructional design. “We're taking care of a real purpose,” Uebele says. “We're working in an industry that's trying to facilitate cures while ensuring clients protect trial participants. We take that very seriously.”

1986

JOAN DAUGHEN CADIGAN

jcadigan@mac.com

DAVID STRAUSS sends this update, "I celebrated 20 years at Wayne State University in Detroit, this past January where I serve as dean of students. It's a great place, and I love it and my students. My family is doing great. Amy and I celebrated our 34th wedding anniversary this past August. Son Nate is the assistant director of the Michigan State University Hillel-Jewish Student Center, and daughter Caroline is in her final year of her master's in social work at the University of Michigan. Both kids are Michigan State Spartans, but we proudly hang the Bucknell flag every football Saturday."

By the time you read this the Mods will be history. They are being razed after 50 years to build new student housing. Are there any memories from the Mods you want to share? Or are we grateful there was no social media in the '80s? — J.D.C.

1987

LAUREN SLAVIN WROBEL

laurenwr@optimum.net

WILLIAM "B.J." BOSCHÉ writes, "Having seen **DAN JONES** and **ANDY LOVE M'89** write in, I thought I would keep the 3rd Trax theme going. After Bucknell, I went to graduate school at Syracuse University for biology where I met wife Marjorie. We will celebrate our 30th wedding

anniversary this November. We have three children, Marcus, Cecelia and Natalie. I've had an amazing life, raising my children, coaching sports, leading both Boy and Girl scouts (the kids have all earned their Eagle Scout or Gold awards) and announcing at Catocin High School, Thurmont, Md., sporting events when my kids played. With the youngest in college, I'm looking forward to the next life chapter, as we, too, are well on our way to empty-nest status. I'm an associate scientist for Leidos Biomedical Research at the Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research in the AIDS and Cancer Virus Program, where I've been involved in HIV research for the past 28 years.

While I don't frequently meet other Bucknellians, I do occasionally talk with them. For example, at the NCAA Lacrosse Championships, I was saddened to hear about the demise of WVBU but understand the reasoning; listening to the radio just isn't what it used to be, but I'll always be thankful for the friends I made there and from 3rd Trax."

JON SERPER writes, "I am vice president of sales at Nokia. My wife, Carole, and I have been married since 1998 and live on Long Island, N.Y. My kids Brett and Lauren are 23 and 19, respectively. Brett is CEO and co-creator of social media startup Wayve, and Lauren attends Hofstra University's communications program."

On Jan. 8, my family and I attended the Bucknell v. Lafayette basketball game. Unfortunately, the Bison lost in overtime, 67-74. It

was great to see a large turnout of Bucknellians showing their support. — L.S.W.



REUNION

1988

STACIE VELISARIS DE LA PARRA

svdelaparra@yahoo.com

It's a Reunion year for us, and I hope you are planning to return to campus June 2–4. Between now and then, classmates will be reaching out for donations, and I hope we get a great level of participation.

JILL TOWNLEY

MERCURIO retired this past year after a career as a public works director/city engineer for three cities. She was awarded the Public Works Leader of the Year by the American Public Works Association Northern California Chapter. She is doing "a little consulting on the side" but is enjoying retirement with her husband now that both of their daughters are in college. Since retiring, they have been traveling with more trips in the wings.

IN MEL BLOUNT'S

winter notes, he caught everyone up with his goings-on through Labor Day. The following weekend he and wife **KAREN BAILEY BLOUNT** went back to Goose Rocks Beach, Maine, to see **LINDA FLEMING ZOLPER** and **DAVE FEHNEL** and **ANDE GABRIEL**, and also ran into **ANNE MCDUGALD '91** at a Kennebunkport

restaurant.

Then it was on to Bucknell Parents Weekend where Mel and Karen saw **ANDREW HUNTLEY-ROBERTSON '85**, **BILL '82** and **BETH REHAK RUTLAND '84**, **ROB** and **CORINNE COLE RYAN**, **JOHN LANGE '89**, **MEG SAMEK-SMITH**, **ERIN O'CONNELL LANGTON**, Dave and Ande, **KRISTIN BUTT MAY '89**, **PAT D'AGOSTINI PERAZZINI '82**, **SUE HOLBACK EVANS**, **JOSH '90** and **SUE DEAN TRAGER '90**, **MATT DELOCA**, **BRUCE '87** and **CYNTHIA CIATTO BOWER '87**, **CHIP BROWN '87** and **JOHN WALLACE '85**. The couple rented a downtown house with Dave and Ande and had a great pre-Super Saturday party with their daughter, **KATHRYN '26's**, freshman hall. They also saw **JEFF '90** and **ROBIN WEISBERGER HEUER '87** who'd come to see their nephew.

The following weekend the Blounts were back for Homecoming where Mel ran into some of his "old Alumni Association brethren including **SUE WALLACE M'93**, **CHRISTINE ZAPOTO-CZKY KELLEHER '91**, **SUSIE HOPPER '90**, **JOEY MARTIN '12** and **PAT D'AGOSTINI PERAZZINI '82**."

Over Halloween weekend, Mel was on campus for the Bucknell v. Colgate football game, where he saw **ALEX BROWN '26** in his "first action of the season at QB." His enthusiastic support was noticed by Alex's uncle, **STEVE BROWN**. After the game, Mel headed over to the Men's Soccer pre-game tailgate for a quick hello with **GREG PRIME '89**, **DAVE DOMSOHN '89** and

SCOTT PARIS '89. Next, he went to the "Super" to find daughter **KATHRYN '26** and hundreds of her friends in their Halloween best. He had dinner with **ED ROBINSON '86**, **MARK '86** and **JILL BARLOW BLOOM '87**, **SCOTT STIELER '87** and **JEFF PERLMAN '86**.

In early November, Mel and Karen went to the New York City Marathon to see **LESLIE NORTHRUP LONG '87's** daughter, Christine, run. Afterward, Leslie's family hosted a party that included **KAREN HUME '87**. Wearing his Bucknell orange, Mel ran into **GRAYSON BURNS '20**, who was at the post-marathon bar, saw Mel through the window, came out and took Mel to a Bucknell Men's Lacrosse party happening there, too.

The Blounts went to a Rutgers home football game in mid-November to support coach **GREG SCHIANO** and joined up with **JIM MARSHALL**, **GARY SCOTT '86**, **HARRY and JANINE FERRELL BUELL**, and **JON** and **HEATHER MCBRIDE LEEF**.

Mel went to a Dolphins v. Bills NFL game in Buffalo, N.Y., with **BOB NESSEL-BUSH '86** and **DONNY DIMITROFF '87** where Mel's beloved Dolphins lost on a last-second kick.

In early 2023, Mel had a great happy hour with **STEVE WEISS '89**, Jon Leef and Matt DeLoca in Morristown, N.J. He also crossed paths in Morristown with **CHIP WILKINSON '87** and **JED PETTY '87** a few weeks later.

"As I write this *Bucknell Magazine* submission, I received a text from **ROB CANESTRARI** who was back on campus showing oldest son Robby his old

PROFILE

WELL-TOLD

Anushka Mehrotra '16 contributes her skills and cultural experience to award-winning dramatic series

by KATIE WILLIARD

DESCRIBED BY CRITICS as “gripping,” “poignant” and “sensitive,” Amazon Prime’s *Mumbai Diaries 26/11* depicts the Nov. 26, 2008, terrorist attack on India’s largest city in which nearly 200 people were killed. The show dramatizes the event and its aftermath in a hospital, with a script – co-written by **Anushka Mehrotra '16** – that propels the award-winning performance.

Nominated for numerous accolades, the series has secured the titles of Best Series at the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne 2022 and Best Original Programme By A Streamer/OTT. Mehrotra and two co-writers earned the 2022 Screenwriters Association of India’s Web Original-Best Screenplay Award for Best Original Screenplay and the coveted Filmfare OTT Award 2022 for Best Adapted Screenplay, Series. These honors are major accomplishments for a writer under 30.

As a child growing up in Mumbai, Mehrotra filled notebooks with stories. “I grew up with a lot of Western influences – reading Enid Blyton and Roald Dahl, watching Nickelodeon and the Disney Channel. And I have always loved to write,” she says. “But most colleges here don’t offer creative writing as an option. The more general English major is better suited for those hoping to become teachers.” But Mehrotra didn’t want to become a teacher – she wanted to study writing. So when it came time for college, she intentionally chose to pursue her schooling in the States.

“In the creative writing program at the first college I attended, I felt I was just expected to stand out from my peers,” she says. “But I hadn’t been taught the rules yet. Bucknell helped me learn the mechanics of writing and how to bring ideas to life.” Under the guidance of Professor Robert Rosenberg, English, Mehrotra began uncovering a new side of her voice. “I realized I had been



Anushka Mehrotra '16 led the writing team that delivered a moving series depicting a Mumbai terror attack.

giving my characters Western names and writing about snowy days, which I had never experienced. I wasn’t writing about my culture, and I only realized it when I got to America.”

Her awareness of the ways she can ground her writing in her culture led her, ultimately, to the *Mumbai Diaries 26/11* writing room. During the four-year journey to create the show, Mehrotra, along with well-known directors Nikkhil Advani and Nikhil Gonsalves, spent months conducting interviews and research so the writing could be as authentic as possible. The writing team has been lauded for its ability to navigate the details of the events and present a nuanced, unbiased perspective. “It was such a difficult time for so many people,” Mehrotra says. “We worked hard to ensure that it came across sensitively and didn’t villainize any religion.”

With the success of the awards season run, Mehrotra is moving forward with new projects while maintaining her focus on creating honest work that conveys the real-life experience of her culture.

stomping grounds. Rob retired from the U.S. Secret Service in late 2022. I have a nice little Bison story involving our best friends in Madison, N.J. The Andersens are a Colgate family ... But I just kept working their youngest son with Bucknell propaganda. He had a great visit to campus over the summer and then I set in for the kill. **TIM ANDERSEN '27** committed to Bucknell in November.”

Lastly, Mel got together with **BILL CLINE '85**, who he hadn’t seen in 15 years, at The University Club in NYC. The

mini-reunion happened from a random text. – S.V.P.

1989
RENEE LEAVITT BARLOW
reenebarlow999@gmail.com

There is some sad news to report. **BECKY STAUFFER PUTERA'S** husband, Tom, passed away in October due to complications from a heart infection. They’d celebrated 30 years of marriage the previous March. The couple was extremely involved in their

church and community, so his passing leaves a void in many lives. Their oldest daughter, Halle, graduated from Franklin & Marshall College in 2020 and is a geotechnical engineering technician for Geo Technology Associates. Their youngest daughter, Sydney, is a sophomore at Lafayette College. If anybody would like the contact information for Becky, please let me know.

Also very sad, and deeply personal to me, is the November death of **MAUREEN “MO” SULLIVAN**. She was my friend, roommate and travel companion, and we

stayed in touch for all the 30-plus years since graduation. Several of us gathered for her memorial service, sharing stories of our times together, including **LAURA STARK, ANGELA GILBERT, DAVE HOSTETTER, SCOTT BRIGHTON, RONALD ANDREW BROADHURST, and JIM '90 and JANINE CASSIDY KEARNEY**. Mo’s humor and loyal friendship will be sorely missed.

JIM KALES was named CEO of the Braille Institute of America in Los Angeles and will be the seventh person to lead the 103-year-old organization.

The institute helps more than 20,000 children and adults annually, through a range of educational and social services. Programming is offered at seven Southern California centers, hundreds of community outreach locations and online. For the past 15 years, Jim had served as CEO of Aspire, one of the Midwest’s leading nonprofits serving people with disabilities. – R.L.B.

PROFILE

ENGINEERING CREATIVITY

Kellen Haile '18 builds smarter robots and stronger communities

by HEIDI HORMEL

AFTER EXPLORING a few different career avenues, **Kellen Haile '18** says he's landed where he belongs: working in robotics.

Haile is a senior manufacturing engineer at TE Connectivity in Harrisburg, Pa., a company that designs and manufactures sensors and connectors for major industries including automotive, energy, broadband communications, health care, aerospace and defense. As part of TE's automation manufacturing team, Haile develops industrial and collaborative robots used to automate manufacturing processes.

"I'm glad to be at a point in my career where I'm finally doing robotics engineering," Haile says. "In addition to being the lead on a recent project, I was the one to set up, program and condition the robots."

Beyond letting him do work that he loves, TE has also provided Haile with an opportunity to make an impact in the local community. As co-chair of its African Heritage Employee Resource Group's community pillar, Haile has created STEM-related educational activities for two area schools and helped the city of Harrisburg plan its Juneteenth commemoration.

It took a few steps to get here — including a stop at the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Bethesda, Md., where he worked on materials science and thermal technologies for Navy ships after graduating. That position came with a SMART (Science, Mathematics and Research for Transformation) scholarship, which Haile received in 2017 from the U.S. Department of Defense. It's a highly competitive award — only 14% of the students who applied that year were selected.

Although Haile learned and grew tremendously in that role, he says the work he does today is better aligned with his core interests. "When the maker movement gained momentum on campus, it was the perfect outlet for me," says Haile, who majored in mechanical engineering. He also served as president of the



Tinkering in Bucknell's makerspaces helped Kellen Haile '18 develop a passion for robotics.

Bucknell chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers and was a member of the Mobile Autonomous Robotics Club.

Outside engineering, Haile took a Digital Sculpture class with Professor Joseph Meiser, art & art history, that was particularly impactful. "The class used 3D modeling and computer-aided design software to create art projects," he says. "Some pieces would be fabricated using equipment in the Makerspace. It gave the technical aspects of engineering an artistic twist."

Today, he's still leaning into that creative side: He recently painted an eight-foot textured piece of art and handcrafted a wire-art trellis. He's also exploring entrepreneurial interests. He recently relaunched his clothing brand, KEY (Keep Empowering Yourself), which he initially launched while at Bucknell, and is working with other Bucknellians on a business idea for a pet grooming product.

"I aim to further my career by gaining engineering, project management and leadership skills," he says. "I hope to follow my passions, build upon my creative ideas and make an impact on the world."

1990

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

1991

**JENNIFER COCK-
CROFT ROTH**
jroth2007@gmail.com

It was great to hear from **DAVE PRINCE**, including an amazing tribute he and friends have planned in memory of **DOUG HALL**.

Dave writes, "After 30 years in NYC, wife Allison and our twin 9-year-old boys have moved 'back home' to Greenwich, Conn. I'm taking up ice hockey, watching my son play a lot and stalking more '91ers (and '93ers) here than in the city, like **CHRIS LODGE, MATT MCCABE, CAROLYN PETERSEN PERERA, LANA SMILJANIC WELSH, JAMIE STITZER CAHILL '93, CHRIS RETZLER '93 and LESLEY HATHAWAY CAGNON '93**.
"I've also helped shape

a terrific new way to remember Bison Doug Hall. It's been 25 years since he perished in a Utah avalanche while ice climbing. He embraced all that nature and its creations could offer. His always-positive, careful and serious approach to challenges seldom failed to inspire and his trademark smile was infectious.

"Many alums have contributed to a fund in his name to support Bucknellians pursuing their outdoorsy passions. We

have a one-time shot at 'bronzing' his legacy with a physical memorial: a boulder climbing park in a marquee spot on campus. This man-made structure will mirror a natural boulder field where climbers can learn and refine technical skills, or casual passersby can see what they think (no equipment needed). The University's tired indoor climbing wall has a long waiting period for sign-ups. Special thanks to Doug's parents, Nancy

and **GERRY HALL '61**, and friends **JON MCKEON, JOHN ZEIGLER, GEORGE RALEIGH '92** and a Haverford School friend for making this a reality.

"We're halfway to funding our \$300,000 project that will include three climbing boulders, additional hardware for changing the routes and landscaping. It will provide multiple, different-sized boulders in a 'natural' setting with options for variable climbing routes — enough to keep the

project fresh, appealing and challenging. If you have questions, email me at davidcprince@gmail.com or gifts@bucknell.edu." – J.C.R.

1992 LISA BLOCKUS BROWN

lisa.blockus.brown@gmail.com

LINDA MASSA SAFFLE
lindaoncapecod@gmail.com

DANIELLE SPINA started a new job last spring as a digital project/production manager, working as a consultant in the financial services industry. She manages digital content marketing and updates in various countries and the U.S. Danielle has an MBA and over 10 years of digital marketing experience in various industries including financial services, consumer packaged goods, real estate and retail.

After living in Pennsylvania for all but two years of his life, **KEVIN PALMER** and wife Stacy moved to Dallas. They're planning to continue the expansion of their cashew nutshell liquid (CNSL) business by investing in a second U.S. factory, situated in northeast Texas. CNSL is a renewable substituted phenol that shows promise in bio-applications. Kevin was looking forward to any Bucknell events in the Dallas area and would love for

Bucknellians to reach out to him. His new address is 5350 McKinney Ave., Apt. 919, Dallas, TX 75205, and his email is kpalm@palmerint.com. – L.B.B. and L.M.S.



REUNION

**1993
CHRIS ZACHARDA**
chris.zacharda@gmail.com

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

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

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

PROFILE

A MAJOR IN ACTION

Lindsay Garfinkel '19 wants to make your day better

by KATIE WILLIARD

Lindsay Garfinkel '19 is obsessed with experiences. But her focus isn't only on her own personal experiences – it's also on the experiences she can create for others.

As a senior business consultant in the innovation and experience design group at EY US, Garfinkel is a strategist focused on improving the experience a customer or employee has with a brand. She brings creativity and attention to each project, focusing on trends, technologies and business markets. Through it all, she keeps her sights firmly set on all things human-centered – a passion she developed studying markets, innovation & design (MIDE) at Bucknell.

As a MIDE major, Garfinkel learned valuable lessons about the consumer experience and how to predict, understand and meet customer needs. The MIDE program focuses on the interdisciplinary nature of marketing, examining how creativity, analytics and technical processes combine to shape our culture. Along the way, students cultivate a habit of envisioning how their work can improve the world.

"Being a MIDE major set me up for success in my career," says Garfinkel. "It allowed me to learn how to take ideas all the way through the development process while keeping positive interactions and experiences at the center."

But Garfinkel says that classes outside her major were just as influential. "I don't feel like I just went to the Freeman College of Management – I went to Bucknell as a whole. I think that's the evidence of a really powerful business program within a strong liberal arts education. I was able to take courses and have experiences outside my major that directly influenced who I am and what I'm doing today."



Lindsay Garfinkel '19 credits her MIDE major and the holistic Bucknell experience for helping her find professional success.

From studying criminology and digital privacy to leading Bucknell's chapter of Colleges Against Cancer, Garfinkel used her Bucknell pursuits to gain a better understanding of how she could apply her expertise to improve the human experience.

Now, Garfinkel uses all these insights to help her clients think strategically about the future of their business operations, consumer perception and interactions, and designing for optimized experiences. She first gains an understanding of their current state, then leads future state design, encouraging the most aspirational "blue-sky thinking." She then builds them a strategic roadmap to implement experience-focused initiatives.

She carries her care for experiences into her personal life as well, constantly focusing on the things she can do to "make somebody else's day better."

"No matter what I'm doing, I just want to help make people happy," she says. "I'm hopefully putting a smile on someone's face."

1997

SARA BLOOM BRUCE
sarabloombruce@gmail.com

REUNION

1998

HEATHER MURPHY LOUDON
heather_loudon@yahoo.com

1999

STACEY MACKES
stacey.mackes@gmail.com

2000

If you are interested in being the Class of 2000 Reporter or have news to share, please email Heidi Hormel, Class Notes editor, at hjh006@bucknell.edu.

2001

HEATHER POLLARD ADRIAN
hdpollard@aol.com

2002

KATY ZACHRY VANDEGRIFT
kzvandegrift@gmail.com

S. BETSY HECKMAN TORRES shares, "I was elected New York State Supreme Court justice in 2021 and took my place on the bench in January 2022."

Please continue to share your 2002 class news. I'm excited to take over as class reporter and look forward to receiving your updates. My

husband, Tyler, and I have three daughters and live outside Philadelphia. He works in real estate, and I work in local news. I'm looking forward to hearing from classmates. — K.Z.V.

REUNION

2003

PAIGE NICOLE WIEDERSPIEL BASKWILL
pnjacobson@gmail.com

This May marks 20 years since we graduated. I have spent time thinking about my most influential professors (and there were quite a few) and how grateful I am to have had the opportunity to learn from them. For the next issue, perhaps you can drop me a line about a professor who impacted you in some meaningful way. — P.W.B.

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.com
jcamann@alum.bucknell.edu

REUNION

2008

On Sept. 2, **DEREK** and **COURTNEY LYNCH RICE**, along with their 2-year-old son, Theo, welcomed twins Hudson Mark and Josephine Marie. **MICHAEL RAKSZAWSKI** and wife Chelsea had Andrew Michael July 13. Sisters Cecilia and Emma were very excited.

If you are interested in being the Class of 2008 Reporter or have news to share, please email Heidi Hormel, Class Notes editor, at hjh006@bucknell.edu.

2009

NIKKI SEAMAN ISELIN
nseaman006@gmail.com

Congratulations to **CONOR JUDGE** who is board certified in internal medicine.

After working 10 years at the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities in Boston as an energy analyst, **MORGANE TREANTON** is now an assistant director in the agency's electric power division.

MARC HENRY M'10 and **ADRIENNE JENSEN-DORAY** had an eventful fall in Lewisburg. They bought a house on Market Street; Marc accepted the position of alumni adviser for the Chi Phi-Phi Lambda Theta fraternity on campus, and they had their first child, Ivy Elizabeth, in November. They invite their fellow Bucknellians to visit Purple

House and Ivy.

I am sad to report that **SEAN BLUMBERG** passed away in August. I received notes and memories from **KELSEY HERRMANN** and Marc about their beloved friend. Sean played water polo throughout high school and was recruited by Bucknell only to be sidelined by a preseason injury. That didn't stop him from diving into the Bucknell experience by being a foundational member of the Latino Dance Corner, restarting the fencing club and being a clueless heartthrob who didn't understand the women around him weren't in it for his cheesy magic tricks. He was an active and respected member of TKE fraternity, serving one year as their risk manager. Following his time at Bucknell, Sean earned a master's of psychology from the University of the Pacific and was a board certified behavior analyst. He worked around the San Francisco Bay area improving the lives of people with autism, developmental disabilities and behavioral challenges. Sean loved to entertain and travel, providing friends with his hand-crafted cocktails on journeys through national parks, Hawaii and beyond. He passed away Aug. 31 after a multiyear fight with melanoma. — N.S.I.

2010

JENNIFER HIRSCH MANN
jenniferhirsch@gmail.com

DAVID ISELIN
dtiselin@gmail.com

It was so good to hear from members of the Class

of 2010. After 12 years working in network radio, **JORDAN BRODSKY** left the industry and will open three martial arts schools over the next couple of years in the Charleston, S.C., area.

After 12 years in Pittsburgh, **KEVIN DROZIN**, wife Megan and their twin 3-year-old daughters relocated to Cleveland and bought a house in Mentor, Ohio.

Sam and **NICOLE MOTT BURNIM** had second child, daughter Amelia Molly, in September. Their son, Oliver (2), loves being a big brother and they are settling in well as a family of four. Nicole and Sam live in northern Virginia where she is a marketing director for Salesforce.

MICHELE LEDDY married Antonio Paz in October at the Inn at Pound Ridge, N.Y. **KERRI DUNIGAN** and **HILARY WEINSTEIN '11** attended the intimate 18-person wedding.

Will and **WENDY SCHIBENER MCMULLEN** had their fourth child at the end of May. The new baby boy was welcomed by siblings Adelaide (4), Jameson (2), Everett (2) and a 100-pound Bernese mountain dog, Winnie.

CHELSEY MUSANTE PINE married Adam Pine in June 2021 and had their first child, Zeke Pine, in October.

We hope all of our classmates are doing well. Please reach out if you have any updates you'd like to share. — J.H.M. and D.I.

2011

LINDSAY MACHEN
lindsay.machen@gmail.com

2012

SONALI BASAK
sb051@bucknell.edu



REUNION

2013

MASHA ZHDANOVA
mz008@bucknell.edu

Can you believe that we are coming up on 10 years since graduation? Our Reunion is June 2–4. Remember to book your off-campus lodging as soon as possible. Official registration information should come in April; you also can visit go.bucknell.edu/reunion to help you plan.

I always look forward to receiving updates from classmates, so drop me a note and let me know what you're up to. If we haven't connected before, Reunion year is the perfect time to send a note.

KELLI BRUNO'S big 2022 milestone was releasing her second album Nov. 29 called *Company*. It's available on all streaming platforms and online stores as well as on CD and vinyl. Check out KelliBruno.com for more about this album and her career. Kelli had an even bigger milestone on April 22: she's getting married. She and Amie Kirman will be tying the knot in Milford, Pa. Amie has been to Bucknell with Kelli several times (Kelli says, "She's a big fan and has already amassed more Bucknell sweatshirts than I have."),

and Amie will also be at Reunion. Kelli performed at her mom's rescheduled Reunion this past June and hopes to play at our Reunion as well.

Since June 2020, **EDWARD LOUIE** has worked at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, one of 17 U.S. Department of Energy national labs. He does research in the Building Systems Group that includes testing the efficiency and performance of heat pumps, heat pump water heaters, triple-pane windows and insulated secondary windows. Edward would like to encourage anyone interested in sustainability, climate change, energy efficiency, water security, resiliency to extreme weather, the future of the electric grid, energy equity and more to consider a career at a national lab.

Outside of work, Edward was finishing the inside of his super energy-efficient tiny house on wheels and drafting architectural plans for five- and six-plex housing (see P. 27). He is a board member and active volunteer for the nonprofit Solar Oregon. He is also seeking partnerships with organizations and companies interested in middle-density housing, urban planning, elimination of single-family zoning and affordable, sustainable, mixed-income and multi-generational housing.

He urged us to remember that we have one generation to transition our energy and infrastructure to renewable energy sources, decarbonize and sequester carbon. It's a massive call to action with a huge amount of change that will need to take place. The consequences of lackluster action are also huge.

Edward remembered a guest speaker at Bucknell who presented survey data that showed that compared to the 1970s, a far higher percentage of college students ranked "making a lot of money" above "contributing to society" on what they hoped to gain from a degree. His hope is that the data has reversed course. He writes, "We need all the help we can get working on the different components and solutions to allow all people on this planet to live fulfilling lives in a way the Earth can sustain." Edward is at epl008@bucknell.edu.

What a great aspiration for 2023 and beyond. As always, share your updates anytime. I look forward to connecting with all of you. – M.Z.

2014

LIZ WALKER
ecw012@gmail.com

2015

COLIN HASSELL
cmh027@bucknell.edu

2016

REBECCA MOORE
rebecca.moore016@gmail.com

EL MCCABE and Amber Palmer-McCabe married Oct. 9 surrounded by family and friends.

RACHEL PEARSON RAJAN '14 and **ERICA BLANCHARD** were members of the bridal party, and **SOPHIA REEDER**, **KAITLIN SCAGLUSO** and **DANARE-NAE DONATO** were in attendance. – R.M.

2017

AVID KHORRAMIAN
avidkhorramian@gmail.com



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

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.

1943

WILLIAM ANDERSON, Aug. 9, Palm City, Fla.

VIRGINIA "JINNY" MCCABE, Jan. 30, 2022, Fuquay-Varina, N.C.

ELAINE NEWBERGH SAMUELS, Jan. 26, 2022, Miami

1944

ELMO "SUNNY" PASCALE, Sept. 21, Harrisonburg, Va.

1946

LOUISE HAZELTINE, Sept. 29, Dallas, Pa.

1947

DUKE LANDEW P'74, Nov. 14, Eden Prairie, Minn.

1948

MEADE ABBOTT, Sept. 26, Arvada, Colo.

WELLS "PETE" COLBY, Oct. 4, Staunton, Va.

ARTHUR HARRIMAN, Dec. 2, Stillwater, Okla.

GERTRUDE VOGEL GRAHAM G'21, G'24, Jan. 18, Tucson, Ariz.

1949

LAURIE PETSCHOW FITCHETT P'71, Oct. 9, Green Brook, N.J.

ROY JACKMAN, Oct. 24, Glen Allen, Va.

PEG HOLLOWAY MANCHESTER, Oct. 27, Ambler, Pa.

ANDREW OLSON, Sept. 6, Saranac, Mich.

1950

JEAN MCDONALD CONCKLIN, Dec. 17, Willow Street, Pa.

RALPH DREESE, March 30, 2022, Mifflinburg, Pa.

BETSY KOCH SUMMER, Oct. 13, Chapel Hill, N.C.

1951

BOB BABBITT, Dec. 8, Delmar, N.Y.

JACK HENDERSON, Dec. 23, Davidson, N.C.

HAL MILLER, Nov. 5, Lansdale, Pa.

DOROTHY "DOTTIE" CLARK PARISH, Dec. 20, Mason, Ohio

BARBIE LEWIS SHAW, Oct. 13, Edgewater, Fla.

1952

PEGGY GARRETT, Oct. 30, Washington, D.C.

NORMAN GRUBB P'77, Dec. 9, Sarasota, Fla.

REV. JAMES HAMMERLEE



Former Bucknell chaplain, steadfast student supporter and lover of the arts Rev. James Dean Hammerlee died Nov. 26, 2022, in Meadville, Pa., at age 92.

In 1966, Hammerlee began a prolific 26-year career at Bucknell. Over the course of his tenure, he served as executive secretary of the Christian Association (CA); adviser to international students; director of student activities and the University Center; coordinator of cultural events and summer conferences; director of the Weis Center for the Performing Arts; University chaplain; and assistant to the president. He received the Burma-Bucknell Bowl Award in 1978 in recognition of his outstanding contributions.

As a pastor, Hammerlee officiated many Bucknell weddings, including **Jim Morrell '74**

and **Karen Olsson Morrell '74**, who established a scholarship in Hammerlee's honor in 2000. The Morrells developed such a lasting relationship with Hammerlee that both of their daughters (including **Katherine Morrell Munneke '04**, who married **Ryan Munneke '04**) requested he officiate their weddings.

"Jim always had his door open and a pot of coffee going," Karen says. "He was welcoming, enthusiastic and positive, so you just wanted to spend time with him and get on board with whatever he was doing. He and his wife, Betty, always invited students into their home. After we graduated, we kept in touch with them and visited regularly. He was part of some of the most special occasions of our lives."

The Class of 1970, who were first-year students when Hammerlee arrived at Bucknell, dedicated its 1970 yearbook to him, writing, "He is one of the warmest, most understanding, least pretentious human beings [we] have ever met. His work with Bucknell students in the CA, his enthusiasm and his concern for active, interpersonal involvement all serve to provide each BU student with the opportunity to give of himself, expecting no other satisfaction than that of working, doing and caring with other people."

Off campus, Hammerlee volunteered for the Lewisburg Prison Project and Habitat for Humanity. He served as president of the Lewisburg chapter of the Arc, an organization that supports people with intellectual disabilities. An avid singer, Hammerlee performed in various choirs in Lewisburg and beyond, was a lifetime member of the Barbershop Harmony Society and sang with Bucknell friends in a foursome called The Academic Quad.

Born in Polk, Pa., Hammerlee earned a bachelor's degree from Grove City College in 1952 and a master's from Yale Divinity School in 1958. Following his Grove City College graduation, Hammerlee enrolled in a Methodist Church program that was a precursor to the Peace Corps. While stationed in Pakistan, he taught English to village students and worked in a hospital.

Hammerlee is survived by his wife of 59 years, Elizabeth Snyder Hammerlee, three children, four grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and his brother, Bob Hammerlee, a former men's tennis coach at Bucknell.

ROCCO MASCIOLI P'77, G'18, G'20, G'22, Dec. 8, Aston, Pa.

DAVID NORWINE, Aug. 17, Alexandria, Va.

1953

JANE BANKER BOWEN, May 13, West Chester, Pa.

PAUL DEAR, Sept. 26, Woodbury, N.J.

JIM HEINRICH P'88, Oct. 21, Southern Shores, N.C.

RUTH OWEN SHERIDAN, Oct. 15, Sarasota, Fla.

MARSHALL WIGGINS P'83, Oct. 19, Setauket, N.Y.

1954

GRETCHEN HENDRICKS DAVISON P'84, Feb. 5, 2022, Naples, Fla.

ROBERT KELLER, April 25, Chicago

PATRICIA BROWN ROBERTS, Nov. 19, Greenwood, Del.

SHELDON ROE, Dec. 28, Cape Coral, Fla.

BOB SCHRIMMER, Aug. 24, Newport Beach, Calif.

JULIE THOMPSON SNYDER, Oct. 3, Elizabethtown, Pa.

1955

JOY COOPER FERNANDES, Oct. 10, Carlisle, Pa.

JIM GEILING P'78, G'04, Jan. 2, Allentown, Pa.

BILL GOLIGHTLY, Sept. 8, Martinsville, Va.

ELLEN DIEFENBACH JACKSON, Oct. 24, Newtown Square, Pa.

BILL KOELSCH, Nov. 5, San Diego

RALPH LEWIS, Jan. 3, Macungie, Pa.

ROBERT RUPERT, Sept. 3, Flagler Beach, Fla.

BETTE JONES ULRICH, Dec. 15, Harleysville, Pa.

1956

VIRGINIA PECK LAWRENCE, Nov. 17, New Canaan, Conn.

JOAN SPENDLOVE LAWSON P'92, P'94, Sept. 30, Paramus, N.J.

1958

JANE BOLTE KOWALSKI P'84, P'93, Aug. 8, 2021, Brewster, Mass.

FAITH BONSALE KRUM, Sept. 17, Tipp City, Ohio

PHYLLIS GILMAN SCOTT P'85, Sept. 11, Berwyn, Pa.

1960

JUD EDEL, Oct. 15, Dadeville, Ala.

BRIAN KESSLER, Dec. 3, Binghamton, N.Y.

BARBARA "BABS" GOOD REYNOLDS, Sept. 17, Mooresville, N.C.

DONALD SALTZMAN P'87, Dec. 27, Cedar Grove, N.J.

1961

SUSAN KILGORE AOKI, Dec. 2, Sacramento, Calif.

PETER HARRISON, March 6, 2022, Hooksett, N.H.

THOMAS KRAMM, Sept. 26, Belleville, Pa.

SUE BRADLEY MEINERT P'89, Nov. 9, Freeport, Maine

1962

PRISCILLA POLLACEK, Oct. 10, Gillette, N.J.

STEVE RADDING, Dec. 12, Larchmont, N.Y.

EDGAR ROBERTS, Nov. 23, Charlottesville, Va.

1963

BARBARA FULLERTON SWEENEY, Oct. 20, Chestertown, N.Y.

DICK TYRRELL M'67, P'88, Dec. 9, Sun City Center, Fla.

1964

JOHN COYLE, Sept. 13, Beach Haven, N.J.

KAREN MCMORRIS ERDLEY, Nov. 19, Lewisburg, Pa.

SPENCER ROBERTS, Nov. 22, Southern Pines, N.C.

1965

DOUGLAS MCNAIR, Dec. 24, Reston, Va.

SALLY SCHROEDER STEPHENSON, May 12, Herndon, Va.

STEVEN WHITESIDE, Sept. 28, Gettysburg, Pa.

1966

CLINTON "SKIP" CHAMBERLIN, Dec. 22, Mountain Top, Pa.

CLAIRE ALFANO HILL, Dec. 23, Stuart, Fla.

1967

BOB TATE, Nov. 8, Chanhassen, Minn.

1968

RICHARD REEVE P'98, Oct. 6, Cutchogue, N.Y.

BILL REINHART, Nov. 3, Virginia Beach, Va.

RANDOLPH "RUSS"

ROGGE P'19, Dec. 12, St. Michaels, Md.

LOUISE POWELL

WHITNEY, March 10, Penfield, N.Y.

1969

JIM BAKER P'01, Oct. 30, Wilmington, Del.

ALAN KEHEW, Oct. 14, Harpswell, Maine

STEPHEN KETCHAM, Nov. 8, Middlebury, Vt.

MICHAEL SUDZINA, Dec. 6, Daniel Island, S.C.

1970

CHARLENE PLONOWSKI JENSEN, May 15, Tempe, Ariz.

INGRID OTTOSON

WILLIAMS, Nov. 11, Ellicott City, Md.

1972

BOB FEMOVICH, Dec. 20, Hellertown, Pa.

BOB NACHSHIN, Oct. 14, Los Angeles

WILLIAM ROBERTS, Nov. 14, Brentwood, Tenn.

1973

PAUL BIKO, Aug. 29, Dunmore, Pa.

GRACE HAMMESFAHR HOWE, Sept. 26, Whitestown, Ind.

1974

DAVID SMITH, July 23, Landisville, Pa.

1976

MARK BROWN, June 15, Wilmington, N.C.

BILL GATTIE, Oct. 30, Sterling Heights, Mich.

BOB KELLER, Dec. 16, Port Washington, N.Y.

SCOTT TEMPLE, Nov. 1, Ozark, Mo.

1977

LARRY JOHNS, Dec. 21, Monticello, Ind.

1980

PATRICIA MORROW, Aug. 31, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

1987

JAMES TOPOR P'16, Jan. 8, Morristown, N.J.

1989

ROBERT RECKENBEIL, Nov. 27, Egg Harbor Township, N.J.

MO SULLIVAN, Nov. 30, Washington, D.C.

1990

ALLISON GRIMM BALENTINE, Nov. 5, Lynn, Mass.

1993

BARRY GEISLER, Sept. 14, Douglassville, Pa.

2001

JEREMY EDWARDS, Nov. 13, Millstone Township, N.J.

2009

SEAN BLUMBERG, Aug. 31, Oakland, Calif.

2016

STEPHANIE PINO, Oct. 4, Berwyn, Pa.

2019

JACOB ADENIRAN, Sept. 27, Philadelphia

MASTER'S

RICHARD DAPRA M'68, Dec. 18, Clinton, Conn.

ROBERT ECKROTE M'60, June 3, 2021, Bloomsburg, Pa.

DWIGHT EVANS M'72, Nov. 19, Newtown Square, Pa.

RICHARD EWING M'59, Dec. 4, Bethlehem, Pa.

JOSEPH FEIFER M'57, Sept. 9, Lancaster, Pa.

RUSSELL GILBERT M'59, Jan. 6, Danville, Pa.

IN MEMORIAM

VIRGINIA 'GINNY' MORIARTY P'79, P'86, P'94, G'11, G'19



Long-standing supporter of Bucknell University Virginia "Ginny" Moriarty died Jan. 22, 2023.

She and her husband, Edmond N. Moriarty Jr., served as University trustees – Ed from 1984 to 1997, and Ginny from 1999 to 2002, when she was named a trustee emerita. During her years of service, Ginny provided insight and counsel as a member of trustee committees on Complementary Activities, Educational Policy, Greek Affairs and University Relations.

After she graduated from Syracuse University in 1951, Ginny worked as a home economist for General Foods. She met Ed in 1956, and they began building a life together that would include seven children, 17 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. She and Ed were married for 41 years when he passed away in 1997.

Although neither Ginny nor Ed attended Bucknell, they developed a deep affection for the University while three of their children – **Kathleen Moriarty Skiff '79**, **Patricia "Trish" Moriarty Parisi '86** and **J.D. Moriarty '94** – were students. After Ed's passing, Ginny and her children organized a family foundation that supports charitable and academic institutions, including Bucknell.

The Moriarty Investment Center was dedicated in 2001, first residing in Taylor Hall. In 2021, the investment center found a new home with the opening of Holmes Hall, where it continues to enhance learning opportunities for all students, particularly those in the Freeman College of Management. This state-of-the-art facility provides Bucknell students in-depth experience with leading technology and software used by investment professionals.

In addition, the Moriarty family also established the Edmond N. & Virginia H. Moriarty Scholarship for students with demonstrated financial need, especially those who need assistance due to sudden financial loss.

WILLIAM HIGGINS M'75, Dec. 3, Milton, Pa.

BERNARD JOHNS M'61, Oct. 18, Nanticoke, Pa.

BARBARA WHETSEL MARQUETTE M'66, Nov. 24, Indiana, Pa.

DONALD "JIM" RENN M'65, Oct. 7, Edinboro, Pa.

RICHARD SMITH M'67, Dec. 5, Muncy, Pa.

JONATHAN STECHHOLZ M'80, Oct. 17, East Islip, N.Y.

WILLIAM VANCE M'58, Dec. 11, Selinsgrove, Pa.

FACULTY AND STAFF

ROBERT BURCHELL, Sept. 25, Montgomery, Pa.

CINDY CONNELLEY, Sept. 4, Lewisburg, Pa.

JAMES HAMMERLEE, Nov. 26, Meadville, Pa.

DAVID LU P'81, P'85, Dec. 26, Bel Air, Md.

DEBORAH MURPHY, Dec. 16, Millmont, Pa.

TUCKER ORBISON, Dec. 6, Lewisburg, Pa.

FRIENDS

DEIDRE ALLISON P'24, May 25, Wellesley, Mass.

BILL BUCKNELL, Sept. 30, Chesterfield, N.H.

DANIEL CULLEN P'26, Dec. 1, Glen Ridge, N.J.

ANITA PERRICELLI P'94, P'98, P'02, G'25, Dec. 17, Murrysburg, Pa.

DO

NOMINATE A BUCKNELLIAN

The Bucknell University Alumni Association is seeking nominations to join its board, a diverse group of passionate alumni who care about maintaining a strong bonds among alumni, the University and its students.

➞ [Learn more and make a nomination at bucknell.edu/BUAA](https://bucknell.edu/BUAA)

GET CAREER COACHING

Considering making a career move? Schedule a free, confidential meeting with our alumni career coach to develop your search strategy.

➞ [Get started at bucknell.edu/ACS](https://bucknell.edu/ACS)

Mark Your Calendar

The Center for Alumni & Family Engagement is excited to bring the entire Bucknell community together **Sept. 22-24, 2023**, for Bucknell's inaugural Homecoming & Family Weekend. Join us for an expanded on-campus experience featuring your favorite Bucknell traditions.

From student performances and shows to affinity gatherings, the tailgate and Homecoming football game, there will be no shortage of reasons to 'ray.

➞ [Find more information at go.bucknell.edu/homecomingandfamilyweekend](https://go.bucknell.edu/homecomingandfamilyweekend)

ANSWER THIS:

WHAT BOOK CHANGED YOUR LIFE?

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK TO SUBMIT YOUR ANSWER

➞ facebook.com/bucknellu

CROWDSOURCED

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SPRING MEMORY OF BUCKNELL?

The daffodils in front of Olin Science Building.

Patricia Kaufold '70

Listening to BJRE (Bucknell Jazz and Rock Ensemble)! I'm a musician's daughter and loved BJRE from the first time I heard them. My favorite was when they played "Where is the Love."

Carol Ann Moon '84

Playing House Party Weekend with my band Random Motion.

Mike Harvey '88

Sitting on the lawn in front of the library.

Beth Ashby '69

Golf season.

Glenn Hertzberg '92

CAPTION
CONTEST



Photo: Courtesy of Special Collections/University Archives/Terry Wild

SUBMIT YOUR CAPTION BMAGAZINE@BUCKNELL.EDU / [FACEBOOK.COM/BUCKNELLU](https://www.facebook.com/BUCKNELLU)
Compose a clever caption. The five best sent by May 12 will win a cool Bucknell T-shirt.

SUBMIT A PHOTO HAVE A VINTAGE BUCKNELL IMAGE THAT DESERVES CAPTIONING?
Send high-resolution (at least 10 megabytes) images to bmagazine@bucknell.edu for consideration.

TUNE IN

Commencement

Jay Wright '83 — a CBS Sports college basketball analyst and celebrated former head coach of Villanova University's men's basketball team — will deliver the keynote address at Bucknell's 173rd Commencement **Sunday, May 14.**

➔ Watch a livestream of the ceremony at bucknell.edu/commencement

BIZPITCH COMPETITION

Each year, student entrepreneurs have the opportunity to present early-stage concepts for new products or services, or their own startup companies, to a panel of judges as part of Bucknell's Small Business Development Center's BizPitch Competition. This year for the first time, PBS affiliate WVIA will broadcast the *Shark Tank*-style event live.

➔ Watch a recording of the event at wvia.org

B(ucknell) Proud



We look forward to celebrating the achievements of the Class of 2023 at the University's 173rd Commencement May 14!



From the anticipation of move-in day to the satisfaction of turning in that final assignment, you have witnessed each step in your student's journey to this milestone. We invite parents to honor their graduate's accomplishments by making a gift to an area of Bucknell that is important to you and your family. All parents who choose to honor their graduate by making a gift this year will receive a commemorative Class of 2023 pin to wear at Commencement.

Visit give.bucknell.edu/HonorYourGrad
alumniandfamilies@bucknell.edu

Photo: April Bartholomew

Witty Winners



Here are our favorite caption submissions from the last issue.

“It was right at that moment that Matt began to realize what his physics professor meant by the statement, ‘Everything which goes up must come down.’”

Cary Champlin '94

“And that my friend is where the X-Games started.”

Gary Bartlett '82

“Worried about running late for class? Here’s Peter ... with a solution.”

Lou Ross '86

“THE THRILL OF VICTORY OR THE AGONY OF DEFEAT? STAY TUNED!”

Tad Lawson '88

“Heading into the new semester like ...”

Lauren Gillaspy '26

“Little did I know the look on my face during graduation would be the same as I had during this jump.”

◀ Peter Cree '75

Yes, this is me, **Peter Cree '75**, in 1972 behind Trax Hall and Roberts Hall. I recall this wonderful day well!

I grew up skiing in New England. I’ve been a skier since I was 6 years old. Ironically, I didn’t really ski much in Pennsylvania, but during Bucknell’s winter break, I’d go to Vermont and work at Stratton Mountain so I could ski for free. This must have been right after winter break, and I still had my skis with me.

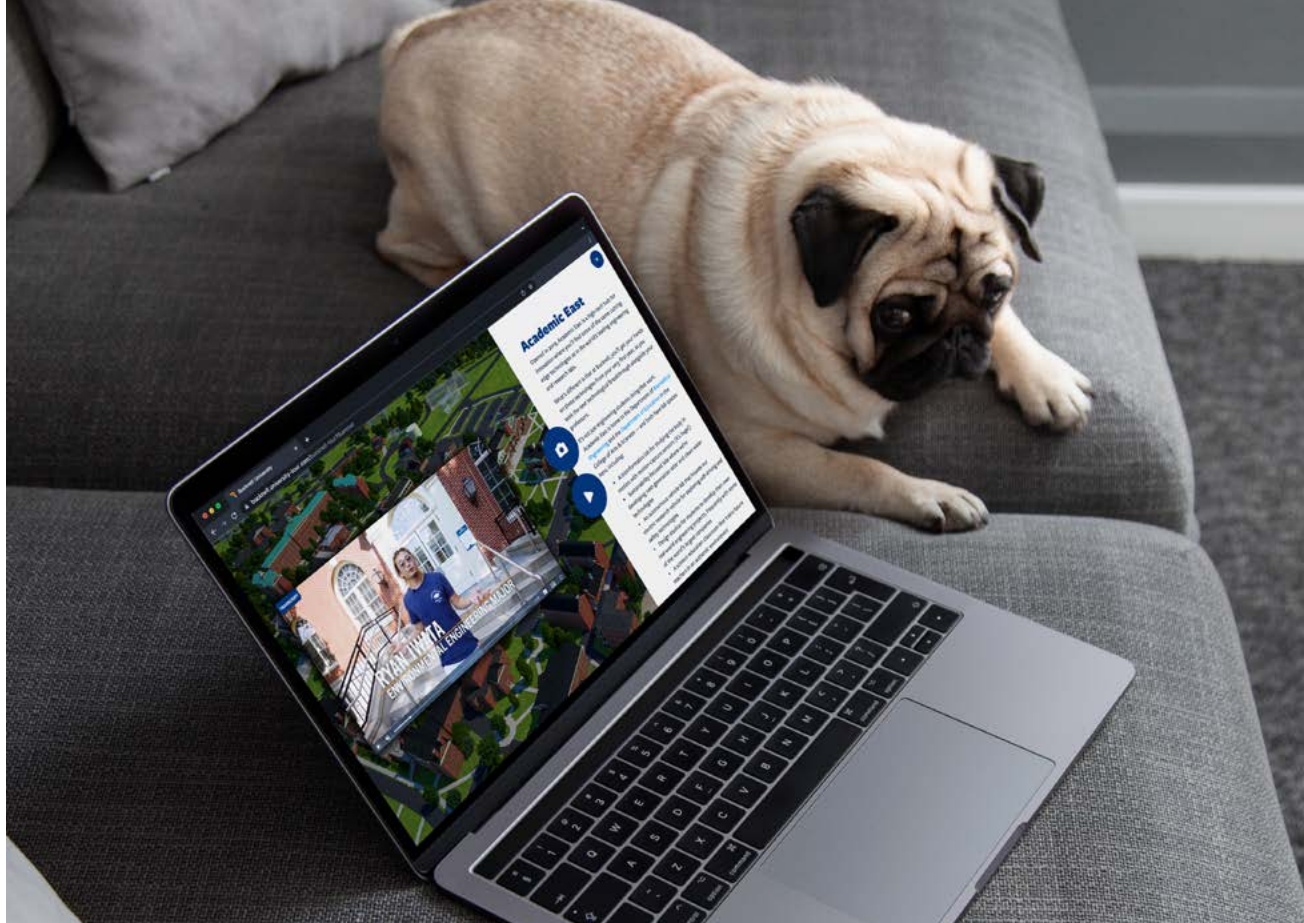
This was a spur-of-the-moment kind of thing — there wasn’t a big plan. I remember it was a really good-sized ramp, and there were probably about eight to 10 of us who took turns going off it. I had pledged at Kappa Sig and recall there were lots of skiers there. Looking at the picture, I see a number of frat brothers present. I seem to recall **Bill Lundgren '75** helped build the jump. Also in the photo are **Dennis Lanzoni '74**, **Alan Dorman '74**, and my first roommate, **Rand Johnson '75**. (Rand passed away last summer.) We were all trying to outdo each other, as guys do. In this photo, I’m catching a “surprising” amount of air.

My caption suggestion reflects how I’d been feeling about graduation. It was a crazy time. I was initially a history and economics double-major. Then I got drafted to serve in Vietnam. I remember we had a big party, and my number was the second to get pulled out of the hat. There weren’t college deferments then, so I started training with Bucknell’s ROTC. Fortunately, I didn’t have to go to Vietnam, but the whole ordeal made it a chaotic time.

Then my priorities shifted. I wasn’t really excited about history or economics, and during my junior year, I decided I wanted to go completely into art. So I graduated with a history degree and a partial arts degree. At the time, it was anxiety provoking, to say the least.

It’s worked out. Somehow I survived and have been a professional artist since leaving Bucknell. I’ve traveled the world and lived in London, Australia, Maine, New York, Colorado, California and New Mexico. Currently, I live in Nazareth, Pa., after being a visiting artist with C.F. Martin Guitar Company. Today, you’re more likely to find me mountain biking or kayaking than skiing, but it’s a fantastic memory and a hysterical photo, and I’m grateful for the memories.

➔ Submit your caption for the retro photo on page 61 to bmagazine@bucknell.edu or facebook.com/bucknellu by May 12.



➔ See for Yourself

New videos enhance Bucknell's virtual tour

by BROOKE THAMES

BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY'S virtual campus tour is far more than a map. With dozens of interactive location markers, true-to-life 3D renderings of historic Georgian buildings and detailed descriptions of the features and opportunities that lie inside, the dynamic experience enables prospective students to picture themselves on Bucknell's beautiful campus from wherever they are.

This past fall, 12 new videos were added to the collection, as well as Spanish-language captions and transcripts for the full tour, rounding out the virtual experience as a complete and inclusive look at what being a Bucknellian is all about – from the food to the clubs to the endless avenues for academic and artistic discovery.

Accessible by clicking or tapping on a marker on the

map, the virtual tour's fresh video content features real students walking viewers through innovative learning and living spaces across the University. Step inside an active chemistry lab in the Rooke Science Center. See the view from center stage at the Weis Center for the Performing Arts and Harvey M. Powers Theatre. Or scope out the cardio stations, weight machines and Olympic-sized pool in the Kenneth G. Langone Athletics & Recreation Center.

But the enhanced tour doesn't stop at state-of-the-art facilities. Guided by students from all three of Bucknell's colleges, high schoolers and their families can gain a live-action glimpse at the transformative educational experiences they'll explore through the humanities,

engineering, social sciences, the arts and more.

Head to Holmes Hall to watch markets, innovation & design major **Gabe Gross '23** show off projects from the Freeman College's signature Management 101 course. Or scroll over to Hildreth-Mirza Hall, where **Emma Battle '22** – a triple-major in women's & gender studies, theatre and English – discusses exciting research opportunities, both on campus and around the world.

The new videos also provide insight into on-campus housing, student organizations, health and wellness, and diversity, equity and inclusion.

"There's so much Bucknell offers to students from all backgrounds, with an array of interests, passions and ambitions," says **Kevin Mathes '07**, assistant vice president & dean

of admissions. "What better way to get a feel for the endless possibilities at Bucknell than to see them in action?"

That sense of immersion is all the more important for those who may not be able to visit campus in person before applying or enrolling. Launched in 2020 amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the virtual tour was designed so students could imagine strolling through Bucknell's lush hillside Grove, taking on the competition in Christy Mathewson-Memorial Stadium or watching the sun set over Malesardi Quad.

"Now, students can do more than imagine what it's like," Mathes says. "They can see all there is to experience here, frame by frame."

Your giving powers **THE BUCKNELL EXPERIENCE.**

Annual Fund gifts from alumni, parents and friends make an immediate impact on the lives of Bucknell students every day. Whether it's used to help students perform research, provide high-tech tools, empower creative discovery or strengthen the competitive edge, your support fuels the experiences that help our students thrive.

DIRECT YOUR SUPPORT TO THE AREA OF THE UNIVERSITY MOST IMPORTANT TO YOU.

BUCKNELL FUND

Gifts support the University's highest priorities immediately, making this one of the most powerful ways to impact students.

FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS

Your support helps ensure the best and brightest students have access to Bucknell.

BISON ATHLETICS FUND FOR EXCELLENCE

Provides vital support for our 750-plus student-athletes and all 27 Division I Athletics programs.

COLLEGE FUNDS

Directing a gift to any of Bucknell's three colleges provides resources to support targeted, strategic priorities and fund key initiatives.

STUDENT NEEDS FUND

Supports the immediate needs of our students when unexpected circumstances arise.



"Scholarships made it possible for me to not only become a leader in computer science & engineering at Bucknell, but also to experience the wonderful community here — from my professors to my classmates to the community of Lewisburg. Bucknell has become my home."

—TWITY GITONGA '24

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Bucknell engineering students Emma O'Shea '23, Will Carcieri '23 and Grace Adams '23 are helping Doug, a three-legged golden retriever, live his best life. You'll get to read about this special pet project in the summer issue of the magazine.

photograph by EMILY PAINE

