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CELEBRATING
THE REBIRTH OF
CAPRICORN
SOUND
STUDIOS

THE MERCERIAN, SPRING 2020

FEATURE

16 CAPRICORN RETURNS

DEPARTMENTS

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In Our Lens

In Celebration of Capricorn's Reopening — This guitar sculpture was purchased and installed outside the **Mercer Music at Capricorn** building by Bragg Jam, Macon's annual summer music festival, which maintains office space on the second floor of the 20,000-square-foot Capricorn complex. Read more about Capricorn Sound Studios, Music Incubator, Capricorn Museum, offices, co-working spaces and meeting rooms on page 16.

CHRISTOPHER IAN SMITH PHOTOS

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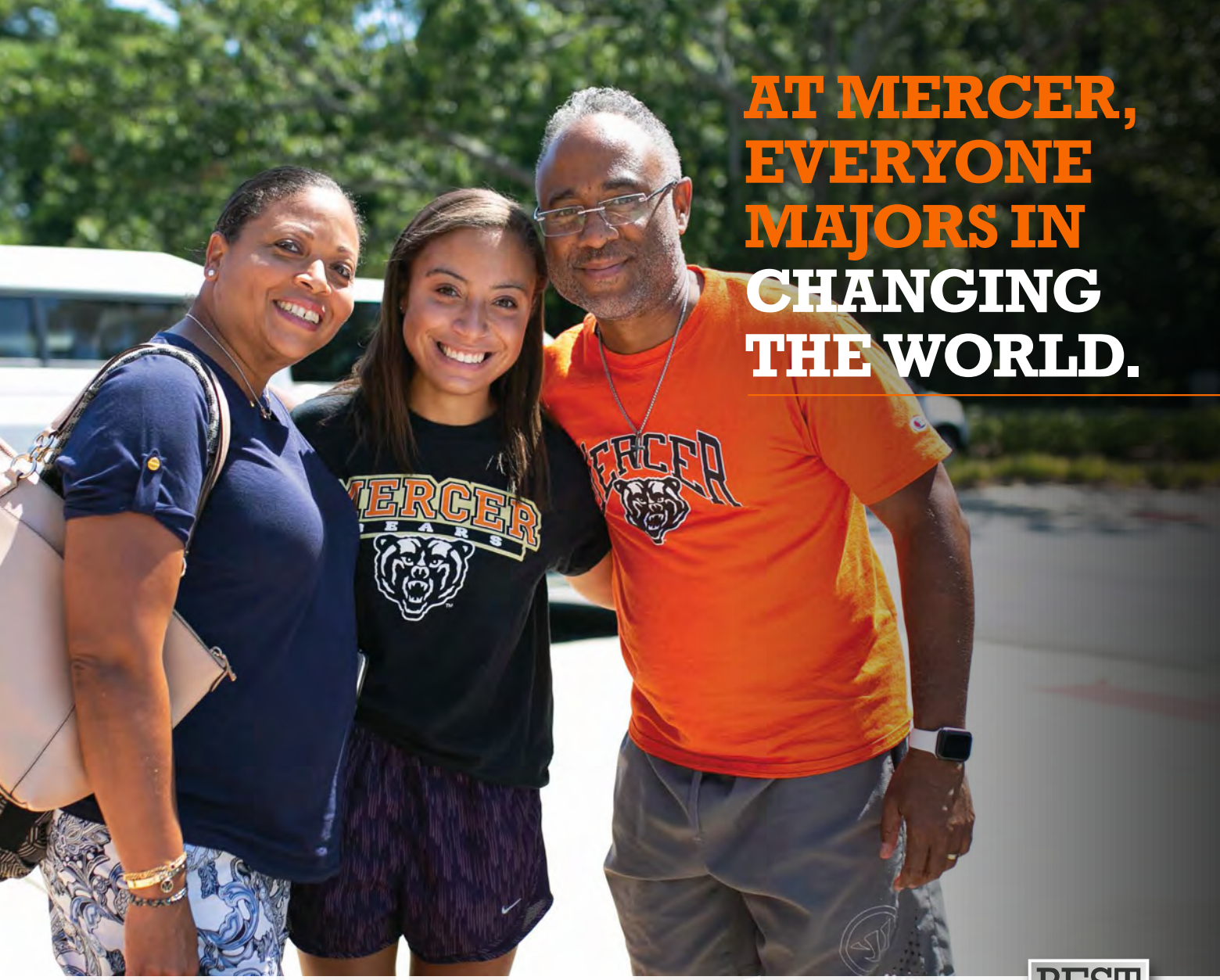
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B E A R I N G S

Wreck 'Flies' Again

By Andrea Honaker

Two men sit inside the cockpit of a C-5 plane, checking its many gauges as they fly the course. It feels like a real flight, but they're actually safe on the ground at Robins Air Force Base (RAFB).



The front end of a C-5 has been set up inside a building on base and wired to simulate outside elements, and Mercer alumni have played a key role in the project. The simulator is used to test software, so necessary adjustments can be made before the real planes go into the air.

“From the very beginning of this project when it was just an idea, we had Mercer graduates making the plans, doing the engineering, doing the software ... everything that was needed to build the cockpit itself,” said Todd Morris, who graduated from Mercer in 2000 with a bachelor’s degree in computer science.

Morris got involved in the project 15 years ago and leads the C-5 Systems Integration Lab (SIL) cockpit team. He was one of the first people to work on the plane and is among several Mercer graduates who had a hand in the project.

The C-5 used for the simulator crashed in Dover, Delaware, in 2005. The plane could never fly again, but it was perfect for the simulator project and was repaired for that purpose, Morris said.

The front end of the C-5 is filled with wiring and electronics, and the technology built to generate information like GPS data for the cockpit is housed in an open room directly under the plane. In offices nearby, teams work on software before it’s installed in the simulator.

Between Morris’ team and software and test teams, about 25 people work in the C-5 SIL, Morris said. Overall, eight teams are dedicated to the C-5 project, which is just one of the projects involving cargo and fighter aircraft that fall under the 578th Software Engineering Squadron.

Prior to the SIL’s creation, C-5 manufacturer Lockheed Martin had to take operational planes into the air to test software. It cost over a half-million dollars to fly a real plane to run the tests, and the process often required several flights.



▲
Brent Bitler, left, and Tony Kirksey, electronics engineers on the C-5 Systems Integration Lab cockpit test team, are shown inside the simulator at Robins Air Force Base. Bitler earned his master’s degree in software engineering from Mercer in 2016.

The simulator allows these tests to be done at a fraction of the cost and frees up operational C-5s for other duties. It’s easier to integrate new technology before it’s on a real airplane, and it normally only takes one simulated flight to get the software as accurate as possible, Morris said.

“What we do here helps the people who are turning wrenches on the plane do their job better. The better we do our job, the quicker they can make their fixes and get the plane off the ground,” said Shep Ladson, who earned his biomedical engineering degree from Mercer in 2010 and his Master of Business Administration from Mercer in 2012. He is the project manager for the team that develops diagnostic software for the C-5.

Many people don’t realize that the work being done on airplanes goes beyond fixing the wing, engine, tail or fuselage. Software and coding are required for the systems that run the planes, and that’s where talented engineers and computer scientists from Mercer are needed, said Allen London, Mercer’s senior associate vice president for the advancement and University liaison to Robins Air Force Base.

“There’s no other project like this within our software facility,” Morris said. “Nobody else has an actual piece of hardware in here that’s so much like what’s actually flying in the plane to help our program office partners accomplish their mission.”

FAST FRIENDSHIPS FORGED THROUGH NEW PROGRAM

By **Andrea Honaker**

They could have lived on campus with their peers, but two students chose to take up residence among an older and wiser crowd this year.

Junior **Ava Nguyen** (pictured next page left) and senior **Elise Colquitt** (next page right) are the first two Mercer students to participate in a new program where students are housed at Carlyle Place senior living facility in Macon. They spend 10 to 15 hours a week with the residents and have a budget to plan activities. Carson Outler and Anna Stallings, 2019 graduates, created the project as Mercer Service Scholars and used a program in the Netherlands as their model. With assistance



from Mercer psychology professor Dr. Tanya Sharon, they completed a feasibility project and then presented their idea to several senior living communities in the area.

“We finally found the right people at Carlyle Place to make that dream a reality,” said Outler, who earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology at Mercer.

Many residents at senior living communities don’t interact with others on a regular basis and become lonely, which can lead to negative health issues like depression, dementia, Alzheimer’s and cardiovascular issues, said Stallings, who earned a bachelor’s degree in philosophy, politics and economics at Mercer. The Mercer program aims to fight that problem.

Age-segregated communities can reinforce the sense of isolation, but an

intergenerational environment can help connect seniors back to the larger life cycle, Dr. Sharon said. Survey data suggests participation rates as low as 10 percent for resident activities at senior living centers, and students could be the encouragement that the seniors need to get more involved.

The goal is for the college students living on the Carlyle campus to create bonds with the residents, and for the seniors to see the students as family members they can turn to, Stallings said.

“We have a lot of residents whose grandchildren and great-grandchildren are not living nearby. When they have the opportunity to interact with someone of that age, they really enjoy it,” said Susan Bankston, Carlyle Place director of resident life.

The first two students chosen for the program needed to be outgoing, be able to easily step into conversations and think on their feet, and not be intimidated by an older population, Bankston said.

“We were looking for students who had that passion, who we thought would get along and connect with the residents there,” Outler said. “(Ava and Elise) are so wonderful. They’re extremely passionate, and they’ve had so many great ideas.”

In late August, Nguyen and Colquitt moved into an apartment on the Carlyle campus. They complement each other well. Nguyen is vivacious and talkative, while Colquitt is an easy listener, Bankston said.

“So many residents have told me that just us being bubbly and smiling all the time really helps them,” said Nguyen, a biochemistry and molecular biology major. “I want to have a personal relationship with everybody there.”

Nguyen and Colquitt, a sociology and criminal justice major, join in campus activities and eat meals with residents. They plan regular technology and arts events and have

organized movie nights, trivia nights and other activities.

The plan is to look at data on things like resident engagement, loneliness and participation later this school year, share the results and build on the program, Dr. Sharon said.

Bankston would like to have at least two Mercer students but preferably four — two men and two women — living on campus each year. The program also could be expanded to other senior living communities in the future, Stallings said.



New Facilities in Columbus, Atlanta

The Atlanta campus is getting a major new mixed-used development similar to Mercer Village on the Macon campus. Construction is underway on Mercer Village Atlanta, which will feature 124 student loft apartments, administrative offices and retail, including a new Barnes & Noble Mercer Bookstore. The new development is expected to open in fall 2021.

During its Homecoming meeting last fall, Mercer's Board of Trustees gave a green light to construction of a new 77,000-square-foot facility for the **School of Medicine in Columbus** and a new 65,000-square-foot **Pharmacy and Health Sciences Building** on Mercer's Cecil B. Day Campus in Atlanta. Work on both facilities began in early 2020.

The medical school facility, whose two floors will house research labs, instructional space and administrative offices, will be completed by August



2022 and is being built to accommodate the School of Medicine's expansion to a full four-year campus in Columbus. The expansion was announced last May. When full enrollment is achieved in the mid-2020s, the number of Columbus M.D. students will match enrollment on the School's Macon and Savannah campuses (240 each) and make Mercer one of the largest private medical schools in the nation.

The Pharmacy and Health Sciences Building, expected to be completed in 2021, will house administrative, teaching and learning space for the College of Pharmacy and other Mercer Health Sciences Center programs. The new building's design will further facilitate the University's inter-professional initiatives involving the College of Pharmacy, College of Nursing, School of Medicine and College of Health Professions. The \$36.8 million project also includes renovation of an additional 26,500 square feet of space in the DuVall Building to expand research labs for the College of Pharmacy's broadening research activities.



NEW NAMES FOR TWO ACADEMIC UNITS

Mercer's Board of Trustees in November approved name changes for the College of Liberal Arts and Stetson School of Business and Economics.

The College of Liberal Arts, the University's oldest and largest academic unit, has been renamed the

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The name change reflects the growing significance of the sciences within the University and provides clarity for prospective students who wish to study in the sciences.

Well over half of the 2,000 students enrolled in the College of Liberal Arts are majoring in science-related disciplines. The name change aligns Mercer with the nomenclature used by the region's other leading private comprehensive research universities.

The Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics has been renamed the

Stetson-Hatcher School of Business to recognize a longtime supporter and trustee.

Mercer's business school was named in 1984 for Stetson, a Mercer graduate and prominent banker who was credited with developing the leveraged buyout concept. His grandson, Macon businessman Robert F. Hatcher, has served multiple terms on the Board of Trustees over a period of decades, including serving as chair, and has been a longstanding supporter of the University.

NATHAN DEAL APPOINTED DISTINGUISHED UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR

President William D. Underwood on Oct. 18 announced the appointment of two-term Georgia governor and Mercer alumnus **Nathan Deal** to the position of Distinguished University Professor of Government, effective Jan. 1. The highest academic rank available to a Mercer faculty member is Distinguished University Professor.

“Governor Deal has had a long and highly distinguished career in public service,” said Underwood. “At Mercer our aspiration is that every Mercerian will positively change the world. That aspiration is fully realized in the life of Governor Deal. His presence on our faculty will be an inspiration to Mercer students.”

Deal, who earned his undergraduate and law degrees from Mercer, was twice elected to serve as Georgia’s governor, holding office from 2011 to 2019.



FOURTH CLASS OF WOODROW WILSON FELLOWS ANNOUNCED

Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp in August at the State Capitol announced Mercer’s

fourth and final class of Woodrow Wilson Georgia Teaching Fellows. The successful partnership between the state and the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation has strengthened Georgia’s ongoing commitment to close the achievement gap and provide all students with high-quality teachers.

Mercer’s fourth class of fellows consists of nine recent graduates or career-changers with strong backgrounds in the STEM disciplines. They include (pictured above) **Jamie Hurd Baggett**, Fayetteville, North Carolina; **Laurice Chao**, Arcadia, California; **Rodney Davis**, Cleveland, Ohio; **Alexa Gaston**, Atlanta; **Brianna Harris**, Chicago, Illinois; **Adam Landin**, Albany; **Alec Powers**, Thomson; **Erik Sylvain**, Jackson; and **Akinmayowa Akinkunmi**, Douglasville. Sylvain (CLA ’18) and Landin (CLA ’19) previously earned undergraduate degrees in math and chemistry, respectively, from Mercer.

NEW TRUSTEES RECOGNIZED DURING BOARD MEETING

Mercer’s Board of Trustees elected nine new members, whose terms began at the conclusion of November’s meeting. They include **Nathan Deal**, Demorest; **Heather Darden**, Atlanta; **Gene Gabbard**, Cary, North Carolina; **Kevin Head**, Roswell; **Stanley Jones**, St. Simons Island; **Yvette Miller**, Atlanta; **James Thomas Jr.**, Arlington, Virginia; **Marc Treadwell**, Forsyth; and **Bradley Turner**, Columbus. Deal, Darden, Jones, Miller, Thomas and Treadwell are Mercer alumni.

Trustees who rotated off the board and were recognized for their service include Marshall Butler, Forsyth; Ashley Amos Copelan, Macon; Patty Bridges Dash, Big Sky, Montana; Andy Haggard, Coral Gables, Florida; David Hudson, Augusta; Julie Whidden Long, Macon; Louis Sands, Albany; Ed Schutter Jr., Marietta; and Dan Speight, Pinehurst.

Cathy Callaway Adams of Atlanta and William A. (Tony) Moye of McDonough were re-elected as board chair and executive committee chair, respectively.

MERCER UNIVERSITY PRESS RECIPIENT OF GEORGIA GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES

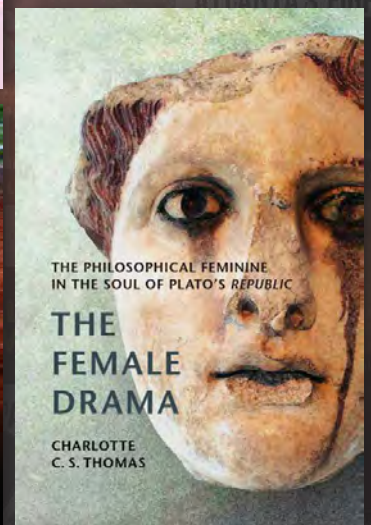
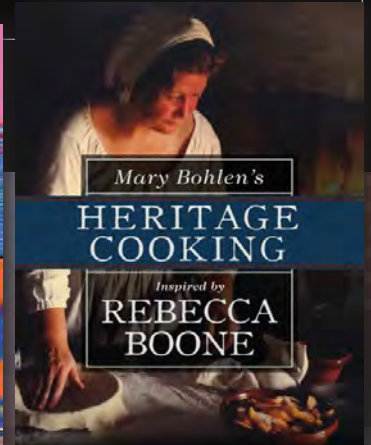
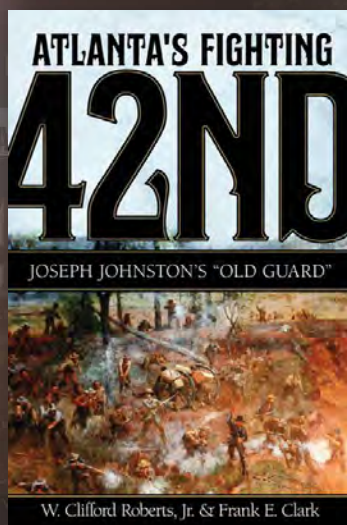
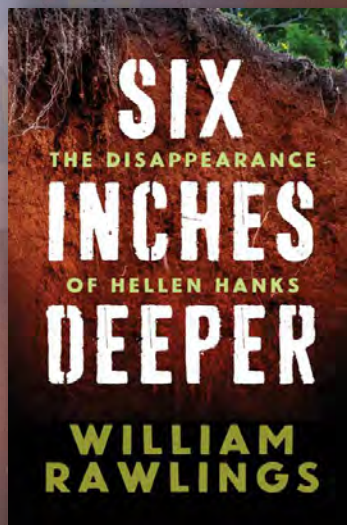
GEORGIA HUMANITIES, IN PARTNERSHIP with the Office of the Governor and the Georgia Council for the Arts, named Mercer University Press one of 10 recipients of the 2019 Georgia Governor's Awards for the Arts and Humanities. These awards recognize and honor individuals and organizations who have made outstanding contributions to the civic or cultural vitality of the state.

MERCER UNIVERSITY PRESS

SPRING & SUMMER 2020

IN A SPRING/SUMMER 2020 SEASON filled with memoir, fiction, poetry, history, philosophy, religion, and literary offerings, highlighted titles include: **Understanding the Short Fiction of Carson McCullers** edited by Alison Graham-Bertolini and Casey Kayser, essays illuminating the iconic Southern author's deep investment in the social and political state of the world; **Six Inches Deeper: The Disappearance of Hellen Hanks** by William Rawlings, a Southern true crime story set in Valdosta, Georgia; **Atlanta's Fighting Forty-Second: Joseph Johnston's "Old Guard"** by W. Clifford Roberts Jr. and Frank E. Clark, the first comprehensive history of this Civil War regiment; **Mary Bohlen's Heritage Cooking Inspired by Rebecca Boone**, a wonderful collection of history, memoir, and colonial recipes with instructions for today's cooks; **The Female Drama: The Philosophical Feminine in the Soul of Plato's Republic**, by Mercer professor Charlotte C.S. Thomas, a bold new interpretation of the role of women in Plato's most famous dialogue; and **Bells for Eli: A Novel** by Susan Beckham Zurenda, a coming of age story set in a small South Carolina town. This debut novel has been named a 2020 OKRA Pick by the Southern Independent Booksellers Alliance.

VISIT WWW.MUPRESS.ORG to see a complete listing of titles or to download a catalog. Books are available from independent bookstores, major online retailers or wherever fine books are sold. Order from Mercer University Press directly and receive a **40% Mercer alumni discount** by calling **(478) 301-2880**. Shipping charges and taxes will apply.



U.S. NEWS RANKS MERCER A

top **40** BEST
VALUE

AMONG TOP-TIER NATIONAL
UNIVERSITIES,

AND **No. 34** — tied with Harvard —
among best colleges for
undergraduate teaching.

The School of Engineering's undergraduate
program, consistently ranked among the nation's
top engineering programs that
have bachelor's or master's as
their terminal degrees, is tied for **No. 52.**

PRINCETON REVIEW LISTS MERCER A 'BEST COLLEGE,' FOR 17TH STRAIGHT YEAR.

Only about 13% of America's 3,000 four-year colleges
and universities are selected for review.

Fifth Annual Alumni Awards

Nine Mercerians were
recognized for their
contributions to the University
during the fifth annual
Alumni Awards Dinner held
Nov. 8 during Homecoming.

Alumni by Choice recipients were **Kay Nelson** of Macon and **Aileen Rosso** of San Juan, Puerto Rico. The Thomas Sewell Plunkett Young Alumnus Award was presented to **Shane Buerster** of Pooler, the Meritorious Service Award to **Babs Baugh** of San Antonio, Texas, and the Distinguished Alumnus Award to the Hon. **Robert Reichert** of Macon. The Mercer Athletic Hall of Fame, which originated in 1971, welcomed four new members in baseball players **Michael and Mark Mimbs**, women's soccer player **Kacie Hudson** and play-by-play announcer **Rick Cameron**.

MERCER INNOVATION CENTER'S NEWEST FELLOWS

Mercer Innovation Center (MIC) in August announced its fourth class of fellows — four new businesses that will launch with funding and support from the MIC — in addition to two companies-in-residence that will be provided office space and additional resources by the Center. These six promising new and developing companies will maintain operations in Macon, with one relocating from Atlanta.

This year's four fellows — **KalMed Healthcare**, **KRS MedTech**, **Angled** and **Royalty Headwear** — bring the total number of fellowship recipients to 13 over the first four years of the program. Two of this year's fellowship applicants — Hickman Marketing and Independent Laundry Company — were selected as companies-in-residence and will receive support from the MIC, such as office space and interns.



(From left) Michael and Mark Mimbs, Rick Cameron, Kacie Hudson, Kay Nelson, Aileen Rosso, Shane Buerster, the Hon. Robert Reichert and President William D. Underwood



Commander of Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex Brig. Gen. John Kubinec, Commander of the Air Force Sustainment Center Lt. Gen. Donald E. "Gene" Kirkland, Mercer President William D. Underwood, Macon-Bibb County Mayor Robert Reichert and Robby Fountain, chair of the Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority, were among those in attendance for a Feb. 13 ribbon-cutting to celebrate the opening of Blue Sky Software Development Lab in downtown Macon.

MERCER-ROBINS AFB SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Mercer and Robins Air Force Base in October announced a partnership that will bring an innovative software development center and 50 new high-tech jobs to downtown Macon. The center, which opened in February, develops software for the U.S. Air Force in a corporate laboratory setting.

Housed in the ground floor of The Lofts at Capricorn at the corner of Plum Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. and modeled after the Kessel Run Experimentation Lab in downtown Boston, the center will create a pipeline between the 402nd Software Engineering Group at Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex and the computer engineering and computer science departments at Mercer.

PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT \$1 MILLION GRANT FROM DEPT. OF ED.

The College of Professional Advancement recently received its second grant of nearly \$1 million from the U.S. Department of Education to help address personnel shortages faced by vocational rehabilitation agencies in Georgia.

The five-year, \$984,963 Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) long-term training grant will support the College's Master of Science in Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling program offered on the Cecil B. Day Graduate and Professional Campus in Atlanta.

Grant funding will support scholarships for a total of 40 RSA Scholars who will be recruited and trained by Mercer and employed by the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency and other disability-related agencies to address shortages across the state.

MERCER, GWINNETT COUNTY, FBI DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAM

Mercer, Gwinnett County Public Schools and the Federal Bureau of Investigation Atlanta Division have partnered to offer the innovative new Cybersecurity Dual Enrollment Program during the 2019-2020

academic year for students at Paul Duke STEM High School in Norcross.

The cohort program, held each Friday on Mercer's Cecil B. Day Graduate and Professional Campus in Atlanta, is one of only four such programs in the nation, with others located in Arlington, Virginia; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and Weston, Florida. Courses are led by faculty members in the University's College of Professional Advancement with special presentations by FBI agents.

FACULTY HONORS & RECOGNITION



EMORY MCDONALD DISTINGUISHED FELLOW

Mercer Law Associate Professor and Associate Dean of Academic Affairs **Sarah Gerwig-Moore** was named a McDonald Distinguished Fellow by the Center for the Study of Law and Religion at Emory University.

FACULTY FELLOWSHIP EXCHANGE IN ISRAEL

Stetson-Hatcher School of Business assistant professor of finance **Dr. Kenneth Tah** was one of 25 faculty members from around the U.S. selected to participate in a 12-day fellowship program to Israel sponsored by the Jewish National Fund and Media Watch International.



ALL-SOCON FACULTY AND STAFF TEAM

Mercer is represented by **Dr. Sybil Keesbury**, associate professor of education, and **Myra Cameron**, Athletics administrative/eligibility coordinator, on the All-Southern Conference Faculty and Staff Team, announced in December.

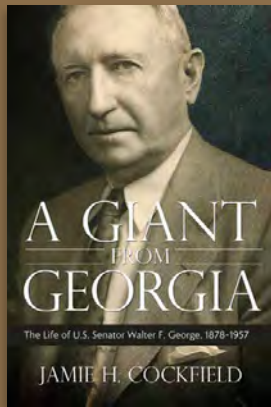


Dr. Keesbury



Cameron

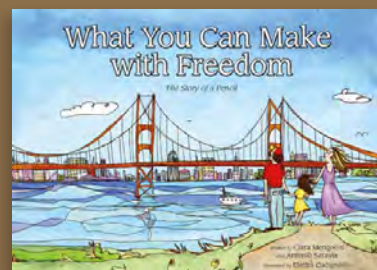
MERCER FACULTY AUTHOR NEW BOOKS



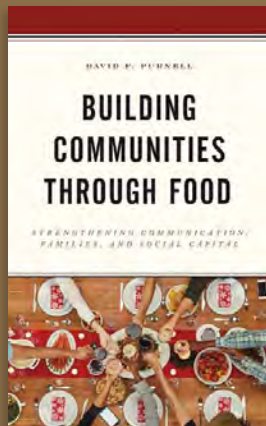
DR. JAMIE H. COCKFIELD, professor emeritus of history, authored *A Giant from Georgia: The Life of U.S. Senator Walter F. George, 1878-1957* (Mercer University Press). This biography concentrates on the numerous legislative and diplomatic achievements of U.S. Senator Walter F. George, the son of a tenant farmer, who rose to become one of the most powerful men in the U.S. His successes as a legislator (agricultural legislation, vocational education, work on the Bricker Amendment) and later in his role as a major authority on foreign policy made him a Senate leader.



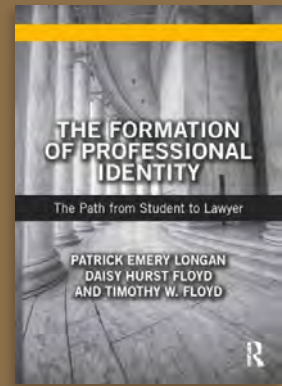
DR. MATT MARONE, associate professor of physics, authored *Teaching Physics through Ancient Chinese Science and Technology* (IOP Concise Physics). The field of Asian studies is rapidly growing and the traditional study of Asian philosophy, art, language and literature is branching out into scientific realms. At the same time, there is a growing need to educate our young people in science technology and mathematics (STEM). Reaching non-science majors with the basic principles of physics presents a particularly unique challenge. The topics presented in this work are designed to appeal to a wide range of students and present scientific principles through the technology and inventions of ancient China.



DR. JARED CHAMPION, assistant professor of writing and interdisciplinary studies, edited *Cliffs and Challenges: A Young Woman Explores Yosemite, 1915-1917* (University of Kansas Press). *Cliffs and Challenges* is the story of Laura White Brunner, Yosemite's most fascinating person whose story has never been told. A woman living at the turn of the century, White had a long career as a journalist, traveled the country for both work and pleasure, and, most significantly, was the second woman ever to climb Yosemite's Half Dome.

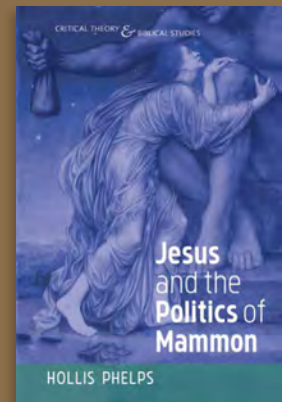


DR. DAVID PURNELL, adjunct professor of communication studies, authored *Building Communities through Food: Strengthening Communication, Families, and Social Capital* (Rowman and Littlefield). *Building Communities through Food* examines the power of food as a communicative tool to bring people of diverse backgrounds together. David F. Purnell argues that food enables people to look past differences and focus on similarities, creating a stronger sense of community via sharing meal. The preparation, presentation, and ingredients reflect a representation of our individual identities and offer others an opportunity to share and take part in those identities.



PATRICK LONGAN, professor of law, **DAISY HURST FLOYD**, professor of law, and **TIMOTHY FLOYD**, professor of law, co-authored *The Formation of Professional Identity: The Path from Student to Lawyer* (Routledge).

Becoming a lawyer is about much more than acquiring knowledge and technique. As law students learn the law and acquire some basic skills, they are also inevitably forming a deep sense of themselves in their new roles as lawyers. *The Formation of Professional Identity* is a straightforward guide for law students on how to cultivate a professional identity that will allow them to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others and to flourish as individuals.



DR. HOLLIS PHELPS, assistant professor of interdisciplinary studies, authored *Jesus and the Politics of Mammon* (Cascade Press). In *Jesus and the Politics of Mammon*, Phelps uses contemporary critical theory, continental philosophy and theology to develop a radical reading of Jesus. Phelps argues that theological traditions have on the whole blunted Jesus' teachings, particularly in regard to money and related concerns of political economy.

DR. CLARA MENGOLINI, assistant professor of Spanish, and **DR. ANTONIO SARAVIA**, associate professor of economics, co-authored *What You Can Make with Freedom: The Story of a Pencil*. *What You Can Make with Freedom* is a picture book based on the famous essay "I, Pencil" published by Leonard Read in 1958. "I, Pencil" describes the complex process of making a pencil listing the different material components and the many workers involved in it. In *What You Can Make with Freedom*, the authors don't describe the technical process of making a pencil but rather they highlight the invisible key ingredient present in it – freedom. *What You Can Make with Freedom* allows young readers to understand basic economic ideas and the miracles that free people can accomplish.

SCHOLARSHIPS & FELLOWSHIPS



GILMAN SCHOLARS

A total of 17 Mercer students recently received Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarships from the U.S. Department of State to study or intern abroad. Sophomore Alexis Evans studied in Thailand in the fall, and 16 additional students were selected in December to travel abroad during the spring, summer or fall of 2020, which was a record number for the University during a single selection cycle. They include **Mikayla Alves** (South Korea),

Ashley Anderson (South Korea), **Geneis Crime** (Thailand), **Mary-Angel Ekezie** (South Africa), **Justin Henry** (Spain), **Jada Johnson** (Spain), **Blessed Jordan** (Tanzania), **Damangeliz Martinez Lugo** (France), **Jaylin Mitchell** (Vietnam), **Ama Osei** (Japan), **Ashley**

Pettaway (South Korea), **Clifford Quianoo** (Vietnam), **Brianna Ramsay** (Spain), **Yasmine Sheik** (Morocco), **Orion Watson** (Japan) and **Natalie Yaeger** (Guyana).



PICKERING FELLOW

Senior **Donald Williams Jr.**, an international business and economics double-major from Columbus, received the Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowship to pursue a master's degree in international economic policy before beginning work for the U.S. Foreign Service.



INAUGURAL GLOBAL LEADER SCHOLARSHIPS

Mercer's Office of International Programs awarded inaugural Global Leader Scholarships to 14 students who are studying abroad this spring. The annual scholarships are intended for students who wish to engage in long-term study abroad to deepen disciplinary subject matter from a new perspective and also have the experience of being immersed in a foreign culture for an extended period of time.

The inaugural recipients included **Suzanna Arul** (England), **Helena Berry** (South Korea), **A'tiana Cooper** (Japan), **Iran Hernandez Imbert** (England), **Caroline Jackson** (Spain), **Angelo Malacapay** (Sweden), **Palesa Molapo** (South Korea), **Riddhi Nirmal** (England), **Awuraa-Ama Osei** (Japan), **Alexis Quarcoo** (England), **Mary Katherine Taylor** (Thailand), **Erika Thomas** (England), **Sonora White** (Spain) and **Johna Wright** (England).

RHODES FINALIST

Senior **Sachin Khurana**, a finance, economics and management triple-major from Macon, was a finalist for the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship, the oldest and most well-known award available to American college students for international study.



PEACE CORPS

Senior **Nidhi Shashidhara**, an environmental studies major from Jacksonville, Florida, was selected to serve the Peace Corps in Malawi beginning in June 2020.



CBCF EMERGING LEADER INTERNSHIPS

Seniors **Macire Aribot** and **Nassim Ashford**, both from Lithonia, were awarded Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF) Emerging Leaders Internships and will spend the spring semester working on Capitol Hill. Aribot is

an international affairs and global development studies double-major, and Ashford is a global health studies and global development studies double-major.

GSPE ENGINEERING STUDENT OF THE YEAR

Senior **Ariel Dornisch**, an environmental engineering major from Charleston, South Carolina, is the recipient of the 2020 Georgia Society of Professional Engineers Engineering Student of the Year Award.

BINARY BEARS FIRST IN ACM SOUTHEAST

Mercer's **Binary Bears** computer programming team brought home three first-place medals from the ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest held in November at Kennesaw State University. The five-hour competition, involving 86 teams from the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia and South Carolina, was coordinated via the internet at four separate locations.

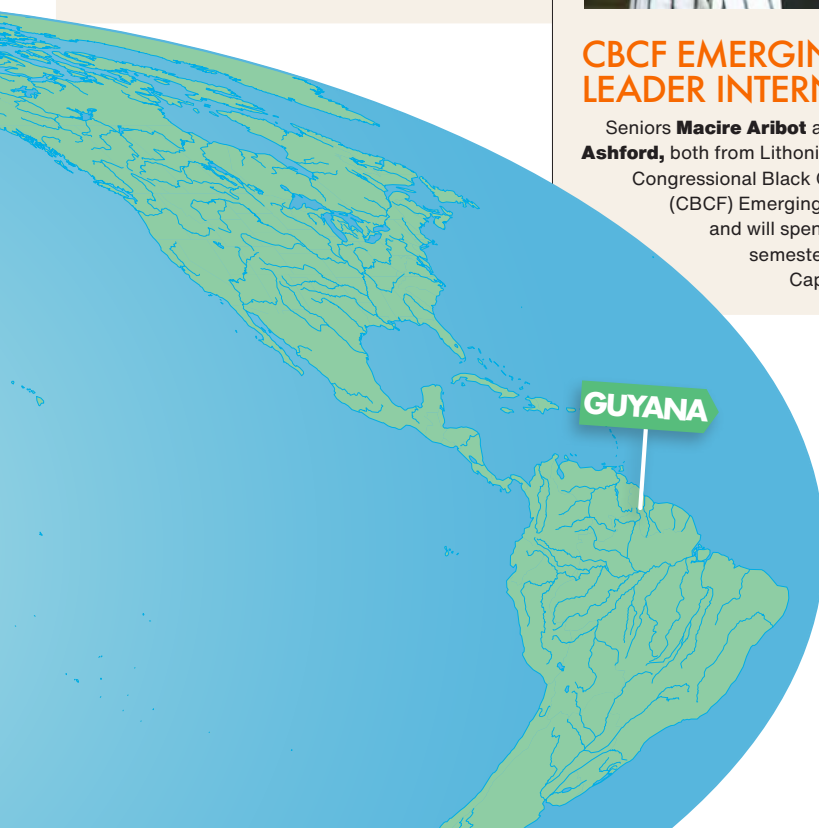
PROJECT ASD GRANT

Recent alumna **Katie Sidor** began graduate work last fall on a grant program funded by the U.S. Department of Education that provides financial and academic support to students preparing to serve the increasing numbers of children identified with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Project ASD at the University of Central Florida has supported more than 300 scholars in earning master's degrees and full certification in Exceptional Student Education and state endorsement in autism.



FRANCES B. HUGLE SCHOLARSHIP

Senior **Caitlyn Patton**, an electrical engineering major from Durham, North Carolina, is the recipient of the 2019 Institute of Electric and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) Frances B. Hugle Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded each year in the amount of \$2,500 to one female student who has completed two years of undergraduate study at an ABET-accredited U.S. institution.



THE HOME OF SOUTH

DEC. 2-3, MERCER
CELEBRATED THE
REBIRTH OF THE
ORIGINAL CAPRICORN
SOUND STUDIOS AS
MERCER MUSIC AT
CAPRICORN...

IS



Studio B —
The Randall Bramblett Band
performed during the grand reopening on Dec. 2.

ERN ROCK

BACK

AND THE
BEST IS
YET TO
COME.

By Jennifer Borage





Studio A Control Room —
Chief Sound Engineer Rob Evans, BUS '00
(center), was on hand during the grand reopening
to answer questions about the 40-channel API Sound Console.



HUNDREDS OF SUPPORTERS, INCLUDING
MUSICIANS, DONORS AND FANS, CAME
TOGETHER DEC. 2-3 TO CELEBRATE THE GRAND
REOPENING OF THE STUDIO THAT PRODUCED
THE MUSIC OF LEGENDS SUCH AS THE ALLMAN
BROTHERS BAND, THE MARSHALL TUCKER
BAND, THE CHARLIE DANIELS BAND, WET
WILLIE, ELVIN BISHOP AND MANY OTHERS.
THE TWO DAYS OF EVENTS FEATURED A VIP
PARTY, DEDICATION AND

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

LEAH VETTER PHOTO





MERCER MUSIC AT CAPRICORN'S API SOUND CONSOLE MERGES CLASSIC AND MODERN FEATURES

BY JENNIFER BORAGE

PRESERVATION MEETS INNOVATION IN MERCER MUSIC AT CAPRICORN'S CUSTOM-BUILT, STATE-OF-THE-ART ANALOG SOUND CONSOLE.

The API 40-channel 2448 Series console is the centerpiece of Capricorn Sound Studios, which was reborn as part of the larger Mercer Music at Capricorn complex on Dec. 3.

"They've only been making this console for a couple of years now, and this is the first one made in the 40-channel format," said Mercer alum Rob Evans, the studio's chief engineer and manager. **"SO THIS IS THE ONLY ONE IN THE WORLD RIGHT NOW, AND IT'S LIVING RIGHT HERE AT CAPRICORN SOUND STUDIOS IN MACON, GEORGIA."**

The new console is like a modern-day version of what used to crank out the original studio's Southern rock hits of the 1970s, Evans said.

"We can do automation. We can do all types of digital processes but still have that analog, fat sound," said Steve Ivey, a Grammy-nominated producer and Mercer alum from Nashville who worked with Evans on customizing the console. "Rob and I have worked very hard to have a nod to what was done here, but also to be able to create music in a new way."

Getting the console into the control room was a major undertaking. It took six members of Mercer's football team to lift and move the massive console, which weighs over 1,000 pounds.

The sound console serves both the historic Studio A and the larger Studio B, which are part of the Mercer Music at Capricorn complex.

UP ABOVE THE STUDIO ON THE ROOF OF MERCER MUSIC AT CAPRICORN, SIX SOLAR PANELS GENERATE ENERGY FOR THE COMPLEX. Each panel is 500 watts; in total, they have the capacity to produce 3,000 watts of power.

That green energy is enough to offset what is used by the console.

"It will be enough power to literally power the recording going on here at Capricorn Sound Studios," Ivey said.

Ivey introduced the idea of using solar energy at the complex. After spending 30 years in the music business, he entered the solar industry. He opened Simon Solar, a solar energy company, with his sons.

Using green energy at Capricorn seemed like the perfect fit, Ivey said. "We wanted to make Capricorn a very innovative place," he said. "And part of that innovation is powering this studio with new, smart, renewable energy."

Ivey invited Mercer environmental engineering students to be a part of the project. Dr. Michael MacCarthy, assistant professor of environmental engineering and director of the engineering for development program, and two environmental engineering students, junior Michelle Graham and sophomore Esha Shah, helped move and install the equipment.

Mercer Music at Capricorn officially opened for business in January, and musicians can book time in Studios A and B now. More information on rates and studio capabilities is available at capricorn.mercer.edu/sound-studios.

open house, and a sold-out Capricorn Revival concert.

Capricorn Sound Studios ushered in a new style of music, defining the Southern rock sound of the 1970s. Now Mercer Music at Capricorn will use that rich legacy to continue the tradition of fostering new talent while honoring those who came before.

"There is no place quite like the Capricorn complex — no place in the world quite like it for developing talented young musicians," President William D. Underwood said during the Dec. 3 dedication.

The 20,000-square-foot complex features a music incubator where musicians can rehearse and collaborate; state-of-the-art commercial studios and production rooms for recording; a museum that tells that Capricorn story through digital, visual and audio exhibits; and offices, co-working space and meeting rooms for nonprofits and creatives.

**IT'S JUST A MIRACLE
THAT WE CAN WALK
IN HERE AND SEE
THAT IT'S THE SAME
THAT IT WAS IN THE
'70S WHEN I FIRST
CAME HERE."**

— CHUCK LEAVELL

Back from 'certain destruction'

The opening has been a long time coming.

The building, located at 530 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., is actually four historic structures that were assembled into one complex. It was purchased in 1967 by Redwal Music, a company founded by Mercer graduate Phil Walden, his brother Alan Walden, and soul singer Otis Redding, whose career was beginning to take off. Redding's death in a plane crash delayed the studio's opening until 1969, when Capricorn Records and the Allman Brothers Band were established in Macon.

The building changed hands several times after Capricorn's collapse in the '80s and fell into disrepair in the 2000s. In 2010, the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation named it one of the state's most endangered historic buildings.

Then, in 2015 Mercer announced a partnership with NewTown Macon, Sierra Development and SPP Commercial to bring the historic building back to life as part of the largest market-rate residential development in the history of downtown Macon. With the recent grand reopening, that vision is becoming a reality.



*Capricorn Museum —
More than 1,200 square feet of
artifacts, murals and interactive digital kiosks
featuring music, video and text brought Capricorn's
story to life for guests during the grand reopening.*





A painting of Capricorn recording artists The Allman Brothers Band (top) by Macon native Steve Penley hangs in Studio B.

Macon legend Robert Lee Coleman (right) performed in Studio B after the dedication on Dec. 3.

Capricorn recording artist Jimmy Hall and Wet Willie (next right) performed during the dedication.





"This place has come back from what we thought was certain destruction. It was going to either be a parking lot or torn down and made into offices or something," said Chuck Leavell, a former member of the Allman Brothers Band and current Rolling Stones keyboardist and music director, as he stood in the control room of the historic Studio A. "And it's just a miracle that we can walk in here and see that it's the same that it was in the '70s when I first came here."

While most of the complex underwent major renovations, Studio A looks mostly the same as it did in the 1970s. The walls are covered in maroon burlap and wood shakes cover the lights. A groovy curtain in the control room — which houses a cutting-edge, custom-built API 40-channel 2448 Series console — was cleaned and rehung.

While Leavell could see himself returning to Capricorn for certain projects, "more than anything," he said, "I would like to see young people coming in here and making records."

A place for musicians to grow

Wet Willie lead singer Jimmy Hall recalled the mentorship he received at Capricorn when he was a young musician.

"When we first got here and hung out with the Allman Brothers, they were very



MERCER ENGINEERING STUDENT BUILDS BOUTIQUE TUBE GUITAR AMPLIFIER FOR REVIVED CAPRICORN STUDIOS

BY JENNIFER BORAGE

Inside Mercer Music at Capricorn, a locally made guitar amplifier sits alongside amps made by some of the best names in the business.

Maison Clouatre, a sophomore electrical engineering major, built a tube guitar amplifier for Capricorn studio musicians to use.

While mass-produced guitar amplifiers are made with printed circuit boards, Clouatre wired this amp by hand.

In a hand-wired amplifier, "the full spectrum of frequencies flowing through the amplifier are allowed to breathe," Clouatre said. "That translates to a very open and natural sound that guitar players love."

MUSICIANS WILL HAVE A NUMBER OF GUITAR AMPLIFIERS TO CHOOSE FROM,



INCLUDING THOSE BY MESA/BOOGIE, VOX, PAUL REED SMITH, FENDER AND ALSO ROLAND LIGHT CO. — THE NAME UNDER WHICH CLOUTRE BUILDS HIS AMPS.

Clouatre started hand-wiring guitars when he was about 15 years old. As a musician who plays guitar, bass, mandolin and piano, he wanted a boutique tube amplifier guitar for himself, but the price tag was out of his budget.

So he read a book and learned how to build one.

"A few months later, I had ordered my first bunch of parts and started soldering one together," he said.

He's since made tens of amplifiers, including those for the Atlanta-based Whispering Gypsies band and Free Chapel, a megachurch in the Atlanta area.

Building guitar amplifiers led Clouatre to major in electrical engineering, but he views it more as a hobby than a future career.

"My engineering that I focus on in school is purely theoretical," he said. "I want to pursue a Ph.D. in control theory and teach at a national university."

Clouatre, a Stamps Scholar, heard about Mercer Music at Capricorn from his Stamps adviser, who, knowing that Clouatre built guitar amps, joked he should build one for the studio. After learning more about the project, Clouatre reached out to Mercer President William D. Underwood.

"A few emails got sent around, and one thing led to another, and now I'm honored to have built an amplifier for Capricorn," he said.

"What a great way to come right out of the gate encouraging talent of all varieties to come to Capricorn, whether it be in engineering, songwriting, performing, producing or just as a fan," said Rob Evans, BUS '00, chief engineer and manager of Mercer Music at Capricorn. "Who knows — this could be the start of something big for him."



Capricorn Complex

helpful,” Hall said from a room at the Macon City Auditorium, where Leavell was leading a Capricorn Revival concert rehearsal. “They mentored us in a lot of ways and would give a helping hand, just like, ‘Come on, we’ll show you how we did it. Maybe what we did can work for you.’ ...

“Our little band in Mobile, Alabama, had gotten as far as we could go in that town, on that level. And the Allmans and Capricorn were like a beacon to us.”

If not for Capricorn, “I wouldn’t be here right now. I wouldn’t have the success that I’ve had,” Hall said.

Hall was just one of the artists from Capricorn’s past to perform in the Capricorn Revival concert, which also featured John Bell, lead singer and guitarist of former Capricorn recording band Widespread Panic; Grammy Award-winning blues musician Taj Mahal; Allman Brothers Band founding member and drummer Jaimoe; and former Capricorn recording artist Bonnie Bramlett.

Performing aside these legends were up-and-comers, including Grammy-nominated country singer-songwriter Brent Cobb; Duane Betts, son of former Allman Brothers Band member Dickey Betts; Berry Oakley Jr., son of late Allman Brothers Band bassist Berry Oakley; and Marcus King, a 23-year-old guitar phenom and band leader from Greenville, South Carolina.

King grew up on Capricorn music.

“I don’t think it was a concerted effort in my



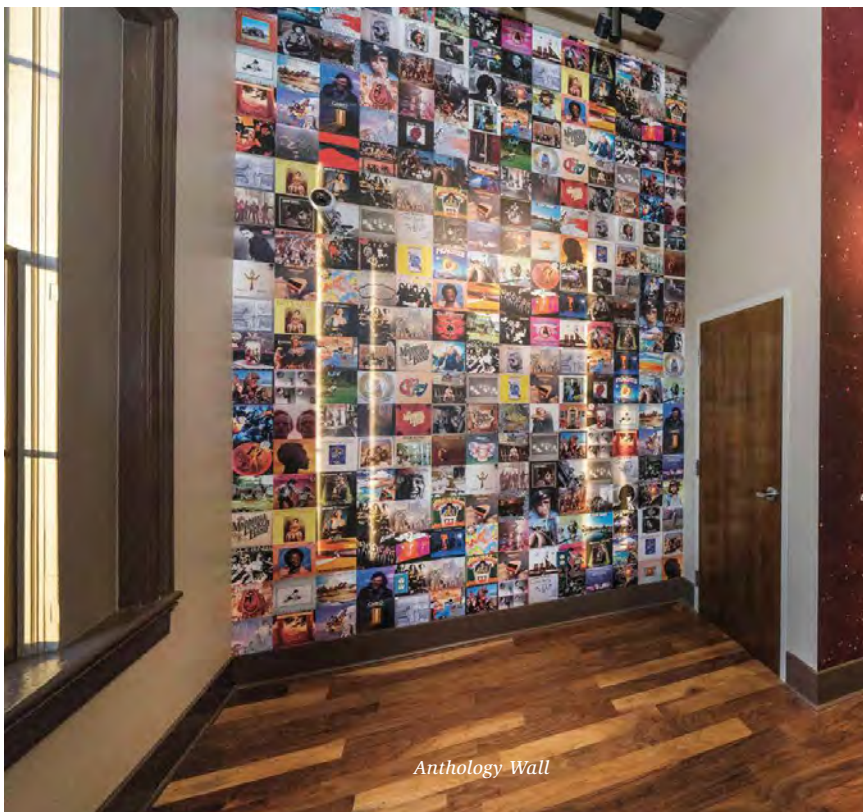
Incubator



Green Room



Lounge



Anthology Wall



MERCER MUSIC AT CAPRICORN MADE POSSIBLE WITH DONOR SUPPORT

Mercer Music at Capricorn would not be possible without the generous support of more than 340 donors. The \$4.3 million renovation project was funded by historic tax credits, grants and gifts from businesses and individuals.

THE UNIVERSITY RECEIVED LEAD GIFTS FOR THE PROJECT FROM THE PEYTON ANDERSON FOUNDATION AND THE JOHN S. AND JAMES L. KNIGHT FOUNDATION.

Peyton Anderson Foundation made grants to purchase the building out of foreclosure and stabilize it after the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation placed the building on its "Places in Peril" list in 2010, bringing the foundation's total support to nearly \$2 million. The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation provided more than \$1 million in funding, including a \$50,000 grant for the development of an interpretive plan for the studio.

Sierra Development, which built the \$30 million mixed-use Lofts at Capricorn project in the same block, purchased the building and donated it to the University in 2016, along with a significant cash gift.

To date, the project has raised more than \$4 million in gifts, grants and pledges.

Capricorn donors who contributed \$1,000 or more were recognized during a VIP party and concert by the Randall Bramblett Band that kicked off the grand opening festivities on Dec. 2.

To contribute to the rebirth of Mercer Music at Capricorn, visit capricorn.mercer.edu/donors or contact the Office of University Advancement at (478) 301-5548.



Historic Studio A

household to have all the Capricorn catalog, but we came very close, between Delaney & Bonnie and Wet Willie and the Allman Brothers,” King said. “Macon, Georgia, sounds were always in the household.”

The Capricorn sound has influenced King’s own music, which he hopes to record at Capricorn in the future.

“It’s just a subconscious thing,” he said. “You know you always pull from the place that was most sincere to you and spoke to you the strongest. ...

“Music can bring you back to a memory or a place in time, and that’s what’s so special about it. And that’s kind of like what we’re doing here this week, bringing people back to a memory they may have had.”



**OUR PRAYER IS THAT
THIS PLACE WILL
INSPIRE OTHER
GREAT MUSIC BY
GREAT ARTISTS IN
THE YEARS AHEAD.”**

**— PRESIDENT WILLIAM
D. UNDERWOOD**

A living history

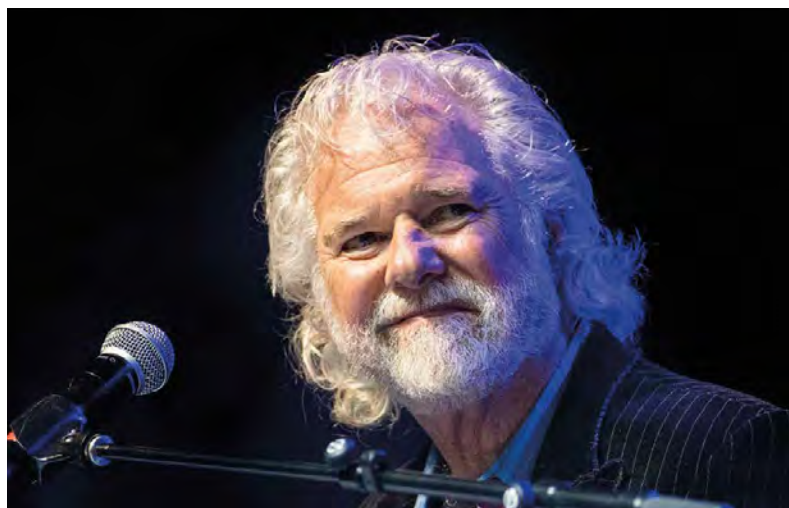
Even for people who don’t know the music that came out the historic studio, Capricorn can be a place that teaches that.

“It’s important for us to preserve the past in a way that we can move forward, as a way to understand where we came from and move into the future,” said Amantha Walden, daughter of former Capricorn President and Mercer graduate Phil Walden. Having the new incarnation of Capricorn “as a learning resource and as a place where bands can also produce music, I think is just such a powerful thing for the South and for this town.”

Mercer Music at Capricorn officially opened to the public on Jan. 2.

“When you visit the Capricorn Museum, you’ll see on the second floor a wall that includes the complete Capricorn anthology,” Underwood said during the dedication. “You’ll also see a blank wall. It’s blank today, but our prayer is that this place will inspire other great music by great artists in the years ahead — music that future generations will find inspiring and will want to be memorialized in this place on that wall.

“We want the history of Capricorn to be an ongoing, living history.”





The sold-out Revival concert in Macon City Auditorium on Dec. 3 featured Capricorn recording artists and special guest artists such as (clockwise from top left) Taj Mahal and Jimmy Hall, Drew Smithers and Marcus King, Chris Hicks (center stage), Berry Oakley Jr. and Duane Betts, and Musical Director Chuck Leavell. The Revival Concert poster was created by Evan Warren.



Mercer University **HOMECOMING**

N O V E M B E R 6 - 8 | 2 0 2 0



Save the Date

We're busy planning the most epic Mercer weekend yet! Mark your calendar and watch for registration details in late summer.

Featured Events Include:

9th Annual Alumni Career
Speakers Series

Recognition of the Classes of 1970,
1980, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2010

50th Class Reunion Dinner

Half Century Club Luncheon

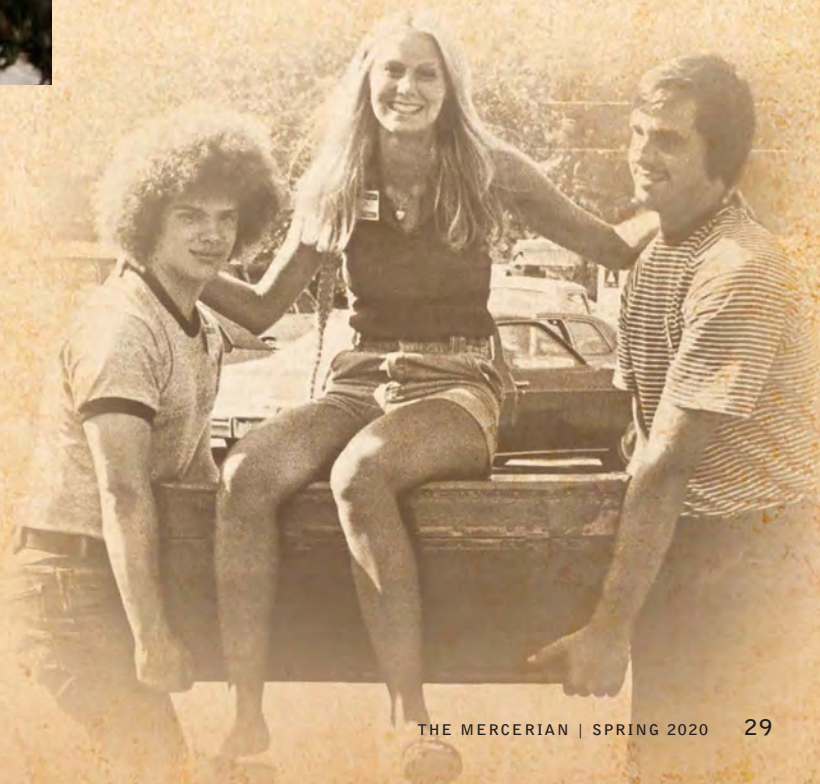
6th Annual Alumni Awards Dinner

Campus-Wide Tailgating
... and much more!



Plan a tailgate, visit with old friends
and rekindle your Mercer memories.

Bring your family and cheer on the Bears
when they face ETSU on the football field ...
Homecoming is great for all ages!



To view photos from
Homecoming 2019, visit
homecoming.mercer.edu.

FOOTBALL PLAYER RAINES TABBED CoSIDA ACADEMIC

MERCER REDSHIRT SENIOR

Jack Raines

WAS NAMED TO THE 2019 ACADEMIC
ALL-AMERICA FIRST TEAM, AS ANNOUNCED
BY THE COLLEGE SPORTS INFORMATION
DIRECTORS OF AMERICA (CoSIDA).

Raines (No. 57 pictured) is the second Mercer football player to receive Academic All-America honors, joining former Bear standout Tee Mitchell in 2015. He joins an impressive roster of 13 different Mercer student-athletes across all sports to be named Academic All-Americans — nine of whom were first teamers — and is the only Southern Conference player on this year's first team.

A former walk-on turned scholarship student-athlete, Raines emerged as one of the leaders defensively for the Bears in 2019, starting all 12 games at defensive end or outside linebacker. He recorded 53 tackles with six

tackles for loss and 1.5 sacks during his senior campaign, while also adding a forced fumble at No. 15 Furman in September.

The Tifton native was named to the President's List every semester at Mercer and graduated with a 4.0 GPA with his undergraduate degree in finance and Spanish. He continued his education in January in Columbia University's Master of Business Administration program.

To be eligible for Academic All-America team consideration, a student-athlete must be a varsity starter or key reserve, maintain a cumulative grade-point average of at least

3.30 on a scale of 4.00, have reached sophomore athletic and academic status at his/her current institution and be nominated by his/her sports information director.

To earn a chance to be a CoSIDA Academic All-American, a student-athlete must earn Academic All-District honors. The Bears are in District IV, which includes Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Puerto Rico and South Carolina. This past fall Mercer had Tucker Cannon (football), Dorian Kithcart (football) and Roberta Todd (volleyball) along with Raines earn CoSIDA Academic All-District honors.



SPORTS INFORMATION PHOTO

MERCER ATHLETICS HAS CONTINUED ITS EFFORT TO CREATE THE BEST EXPERIENCE FOR ITS STUDENT-ATHLETES BY PROVIDING TOP-OF-THE-LINE FACILITIES. RECENTLY, THE BEARS HAVE UPDATED **FIVE STAR STADIUM** (FOOTBALL AND LACROSSE), **BETTS FIELD** (SOCCER) AND **SIKES FIELD** (SOFTBALL).

FIVE STAR STADIUM

Mercer completed the installation of its new **state-of-the-art video board** prior to the 2019 football season. The new board measures 72 feet wide and 30 feet tall (2,160 square feet), approximately six times larger than the previous board. Additionally, it has the ability to show high-quality resolution, live action and full-screen replays.

Five Star Stadium was recently named one of the top venues in the Football Championship Subdivision and has served as the home of Mercer's football and lacrosse programs since 2013.

BETTS FIELD

The Bears held a dedication of their soccer stadium, named in honor of the **Betts Family** of Brenham, Texas, in early November to honor the major donors to the stadium upgrade. The project was the widest ranging facility project in Mercer soccer history, which included a new press box, new state-of-the-art benches, new fencing around the stadium, netting behind the goals, a new scoreboard, renovations to the restrooms, the addition of brick entryway columns, championship signage, new plaza furniture, graphics and photo additions as well as landscaping and hardscape throughout the facility.

All-American



HAGAMAN FAMILY PLAZA

Named in honor of **Kristen Hagaman**, a member of the 2010 women's soccer A-Sun Tournament Championship team and member of the 2014 women's soccer team, which won the first SoCon Tournament Championship in Mercer history.

UPSON SUITE

This suite has been named in honor of **Patricia-Anne ("P.A.") Upson** (BUS '13, LAW '16), a leader on the field, in the classroom and on campus. As a member of the women's soccer team, Upson was a two-time All-Conference selection (2011, 2012) and a member of the All-Freshman team in 2009. A starter on defense in all 79 matches of her career, she scored three goals — two of which were game-winners. Upson also served as team captain during her junior and senior years. Perhaps her most impressive honor, however, was earning All-Academic team selections each year of her career.

SWIFT FAMILY BENCH

The home bench has been given in honor of the past, current and future Mercer soccer athletes who compete here each and every day by the **Thomas P. Swift Jr.** family. Tom Swift is a 2003 graduate of Mercer Law School and a generous leader in the Macon community. He serves as president/COO of ASP — America's Swimming Pool Co.

CLASS OF 1989 SCOREBOARD

Named in honor of the **men's soccer Class of 1989**. The purchase of the scoreboard was made possible by a generous gift by a member of that team.

SIKES FIELD

Mercer recently upgraded its softball facilities at Sikes Field thanks to generous support from **Dr. Doug Skelton**, dean emeritus of the Mercer School of Medicine, and his wife, **Jane**. The project started as a renovation of the bullpen and grew to include a new entryway with brick columns, landscaping and hardscape, a VIP viewing area, new exterior fencing and the retrofitting of existing interior fencing.

The softball families responded to a challenge by the Skeltons to "put a bow on the bullpen" and funded the final pieces of the project, including challenger turf softball mats with catchers' extensions, a backpack leaf blower, new softballs and pitch tracker balls.

Q&A

WITH MERCER HEAD FOOTBALL COACH **DREW CRONIC**

On Dec. 10, Drew Cronic was named the new head football coach at Mercer. Coach Cronic was asked a few questions of interest to Mercerians.

Q What is your ideal recruit?

&A We are looking for student-athletes who are good academically. We want athletes who like to play football and want to play football. We will talk to high school coaches about what kind of competitor they are, how they work in the weight room, and do they love the grind of being a football player. We want culture-building players who love to play and want to win. We want the biggest, fastest, strongest players we can find.

Q What should fans be excited about for next season?

&A We will be a fun team to watch. Our style of offense is unusual and we play with tempo. Defensively, you will see players playing hard and flying to the ball. Our motto has been to cause turnovers, get three-and-outs, and cause lost-yardage plays. The main thing I want people to see this fall is our team playing hard, playing together and having fun on the field.

Q What attracted you to Mercer?

&A Many things. I was not just looking for the next job. This move made a lot of sense for me. It is my home state, I moved up a level, and it is a chance to work with many great people who want to win.

Q What is your favorite part of coaching?

&A I love to compete, and I love to work with the staff. I have had moments where I have to pinch myself because I



cannot believe they pay me to do this job. The biggest thing is seeing a young man figure things out. Seeing a player who was struggling and then see his success on and off the field.

Q How long do you feel it will take to build this team into one that can compete regularly for a Southern Conference championship?

&A We want to win the Southern Conference this fall. That is the goal. Period. Our goal will never be less than that. The only way we will do this is if we learn to be the best. We need to build a culture that way. I believe in these young men, and I believe they can win the SoCon. A lot depends on how quickly they buy-in and jell. This fall, win the SoCon, that is our goal.

ROBERT E. "COACH" WILDER DIES AT AGE 87

Retired Mercer professor, coach, athlete and author **Bobby Wilder** died March 17, 2019, at the Carl Vinson Veterans Hospital in Dublin at the

age of 87. Wilder, a native of Fort Valley, graduated from Mercer in 1952 and later obtained his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Peabody College, now a part of Vanderbilt University. After serving in the Army and a stint as head basketball coach at Bass High School in Atlanta, Wilder returned to Mercer in 1957 where he coached the men's basketball team from 1957 to 1970.



Wilder founded and chartered the Mercer Athletic Hall of Fame and was inducted in 1974. He taught at the university for 40 years, retiring in 1997. He married Mercer graduate and later Mercer English professor Mary Roberts Wilder in 1954. They had two sons, Rob (CLAS 1980; LAW '86) and David (CLAS '85).

"Coach," as he was always called, was the author of *Gridiron Glory Days: Football at Mercer 1892-1942*, published by Mercer University Press in 1982. He also self-published *Records and Remembrances, Mercer Basketball 1950-1970*, a collection of letters, newspaper articles and short biographies.

His basketball playing days at Mercer were in 1951 and 1952. As starting guard and team captain in 1952, he led the squad to a Dixie Conference championship and was voted Most Valuable Player in the tournament.

After coaching basketball from 1957 to 1970, posting a record of 147 wins and 168 losses, Wilder continued down another basketball path and became a collegiate women's basketball referee.

On and off during his teaching career at Mercer, Dr. Wilder coached the men's and women's tennis teams. Tennis took Dr. Wilder down several paths. With his sons involved in tournament play, he served two terms as president of the Georgia Tennis Association. After Wilder pitched Macon's central location, Georgia High School athletics officials chose Mercer to host the state high school tennis championships for many years. In 1968, Dr. Wilder's good friend, the late Fred Hill, included him as part of a Macon group that organized the Macon Open indoor tennis tournament at the Macon Coliseum, a Grand Prix Circuit event that spanned from 1968 to 1972 and brought to Macon professionals and top amateurs from around the world.

The 2019 Mercer **WOMEN'S LACROSSE** team advanced to the NCAA Tournament for the second consecutive year



The team narrowly defeated Southern Conference foe Furman in a nail-biting 15-14 double-overtime win in the Southern Conference Championship game. Freshman Hailey Rhatigan scored the game-winning goal to earn Mercer's automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament. The Bears' season ended in Jacksonville with a first round NCAA loss to

Jacksonville University. Mercer also earned its first-ever regular season Southern Conference title after posting a 4-1 league record.

The Bears finished with a 7-3 record in Five Star Stadium, the best mark in program history.

The team won an abundance of postseason awards in 2019. They included **Audrey Robertson**, Southern Conference Defensive Player of the Year; **Hailey Rhatigan**, Southern Conference Freshman of the Year and Tournament MVP; senior **Kendall Garrett**, Pinnacle Award; and head coach **Samantha Eustace**, Southern Conference Coach of the Year. Five Bears were named to the SoCon

All-Tournament team: **Kelly Hagerty, Hannah Lind, Iseabal Cryne**, along with Rhatigan and Robertson. Robertson and Rhatigan also earned spots on the All-SoCon First-Team, while Hagerty, **Catie Snee** and **Michaela Lucas** were recognized on the All-SoCon Second-Team. Rhatigan and Lind added All-Freshman honors.

The 2019 Bears finished the season within the top-20 in two statistical categories, while six players closed out the season in the top-20 individually.

Coach Eustace and the Bears look forward to the 2020 season. The Bears will play two top-20 teams, opening against No. 18 High Point, who lost to Navy in the first round of the 2019 NCAA Tournament. Later in the season, the Bears will go head-to-head with the UNC-Chapel Hill, currently ranked No. 1, who lost to Boston College in the semifinals of the NCAA Tournament.

MEN'S & WOMEN'S Div. 1

MERCER WAS AMONG THE ELITES IN DIVISION I SOCCER IN 2019 AS ONE OF ONLY SIX SCHOOLS IN THE COUNTRY WITH 30 OR MORE COMBINED WINS BETWEEN THE MEN'S AND WOMEN'S PROGRAMS.



On the men's side, the Bears' 14-7-0 record matched their program record for wins with the 2014 squad en route to their third SoCon Tournament title in the last four seasons (2016, '17, '19). Mercer has won a total of five conference championships in the last six years, including

a pair of regular season titles in 2014 and 2018. Head coach **Brad Ruzzo** guided the team to its fifth 10-win season in the last six years. He passed Tom Melville to become the program's winningest coach with 115 victories this season, and his .538 winning percentage is the highest among coaches who were at Mercer for at least three seasons.

Ruzzo orchestrated one of the most dominant decades in history for the Bears, leading them to 106 wins since the start of the 2010 season. Mercer ranked 25th nationally and 10th among private institutions with its first 100-win decade. Mercer made its fifth appearance in the NCAA Tournament on Nov. 21 as it traveled to UNC-Charlotte.

The Bears were recognized for their efforts both on and off the pitch with five postseason honors, led by **Trevor Martineau** who garnered Third-Team All-South Region and First-Team All-SoCon honors. **Leo Toledo Jr.** collected Second-Team All-SoCon recognition in addition to being named to



SOCCKER Elites

the Scholar All-South Region Third-Team. Freshman midfielder **Dylan Gaither** was named to the SoCon All-Freshman Team.

On the women's side, the Bears set a new program record with a mark of 16-4-0 on the season and a perfect 11-0 record at Betts Field. Mercer was one of eight teams in the nation with 15 or more wins in the regular season, ranked 10th nationally in winning percentage (.800) and tied for 18th in the country in total wins. The Bears finished the year ranked 59th out of 338 teams in the RPI, the team's highest ranking in program history.

Mercer rattled off eight straight wins that carried into SoCon play following a setback against 10th-ranked Tennessee. This was the most consecutive wins for Mercer since 2009 and the third undefeated streak of at least eight games in head coach **Tony Economopoulos'** tenure.

Mercer's win over Furman in the regular season finale marked the 100th victory in Economopoulos' career. Under Economopoulos' tutelage, the Bears have posted six 10-win seasons and captured the SoCon Tournament crown in 2014.

The Bears had plenty to celebrate at season's end as the team earned nine postseason honors from the Southern Conference. Freshman forward **Nicole Icen** and Economopoulos highlighted the awards by being named the SoCon Player and Coach of the Year. Icen is the first Mercer player to earn Player of the Year honors since Mirela Ninic was named ASUN Player of the Year in 1998. Additionally, Economopoulos joins Grant Serafy (2007, '08 ASUN Coach of the Year) as the only Mercer coach to garner conference Coach of the Year accolades.

Icen put together a phenomenal rookie campaign for the



Bears, leading the SoCon in points (23) and goals (10). The Marietta native was one of 12 freshmen in the country with 23 or more points and 10 or more goals. She is also one of seven Bears to reach double-digit goals in their first season at Mercer.

Icen and **Abigail Zoeller** collected First Team All-SoCon honors, while freshman forward **Ciara Whitely** and senior defender **Megan Delmonico** were recognized on the second team. Icen, Whitely and freshman forward **Amaya Evans** were also named to the SoCon All-Freshman Team.

MEDICINE, HEALTH PROFESSIONS

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROJECT RECEIVES \$403K FEDERAL GRANT

School of Medicine professors **Bowden Templeton**, Ph.D., and **Morgan Stinson**, Ph.D., received a \$403,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to equip eight rural and medically underserved Georgia counties with telehealth technology to address behavioral and mental health needs.

The Integrated Telebehavioral Health Project will provide telebehavioral health and psychotherapy services to residents of Johnson, Washington, Telfair, Warren, Hancock, Sumter and Clay counties. All eight are among 151 Georgia counties currently listed as Mental Health Professional Shortage Areas by the U.S. Department of Health Resources and Services Administration.



Dr. Stinson



Dr. Templeton

MUSM PROFESSOR A PARTNER ON \$200K GRANT

Andrea S. Meyer Stinson, Ph.D., associate director of the Master of Family Therapy Program and associate professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences/pediatrics in the School of Medicine, will serve as a partner and consultant on a two-year, \$200,000 grant from the Pittuloch Foundation,



in partnership with Resilient Georgia, to integrate trauma awareness into the Central Georgia community.

The grant project will focus on

building awareness and a common language around trauma, adversity, Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and resilience in Bibb and other Middle Georgia counties.

• PHYSICAL THERAPY PROFESSOR HIGHLIGHTED ON CDC WEBSITE

David Taylor, PT, DPT, GCS, clinical associate professor of physical therapy in the College of Health Professions, is highlighted on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website for “STEADI: Stopping Elderly Accidents, Deaths, and Injuries.” Dr. Taylor is part of a multi-institution and multi-disciplinary team researching best practices in geriatric education for healthcare providers. This work is funded by a five-year grant from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration.



MERCER IN PEACH, MEDICINE CLAY RURAL COUNTIES CLINICS

Following up on the successful launch of Mercer Medicine Plains in July 2018, the School of Medicine is carrying out plans to open two additional rural health clinics to continue delivering on its commitment to meet the healthcare needs of rural Georgians.

Mercer Medicine, the primary care practice and division of the faculty practice of MUSM, established a comprehensive healthcare facility in **Fort Valley**



in **Peach County**, which opened in October,

MERCER **Medicine**
Peach County



(478) 825-3317

and plans to open another in **Fort Gaines** in **Clay County** in 2020. In addition to provision of care through in-person and telehealth services, these clinics offer an educational component for rural physicians, management services and help in the placement of future physicians.

(From left) M.D. student Pedro Escobar, Dr. Michael Early, State Rep. Patty Bentley, State Sen. John F. Kennedy, School of Medicine Dean Dr. Jean Sumner, President William D. Underwood, M.D. student Dante Zanders and M.D. student Belinda Bell participate in the ribbon-cutting for Mercer Medicine's new rural clinic in Peach County.

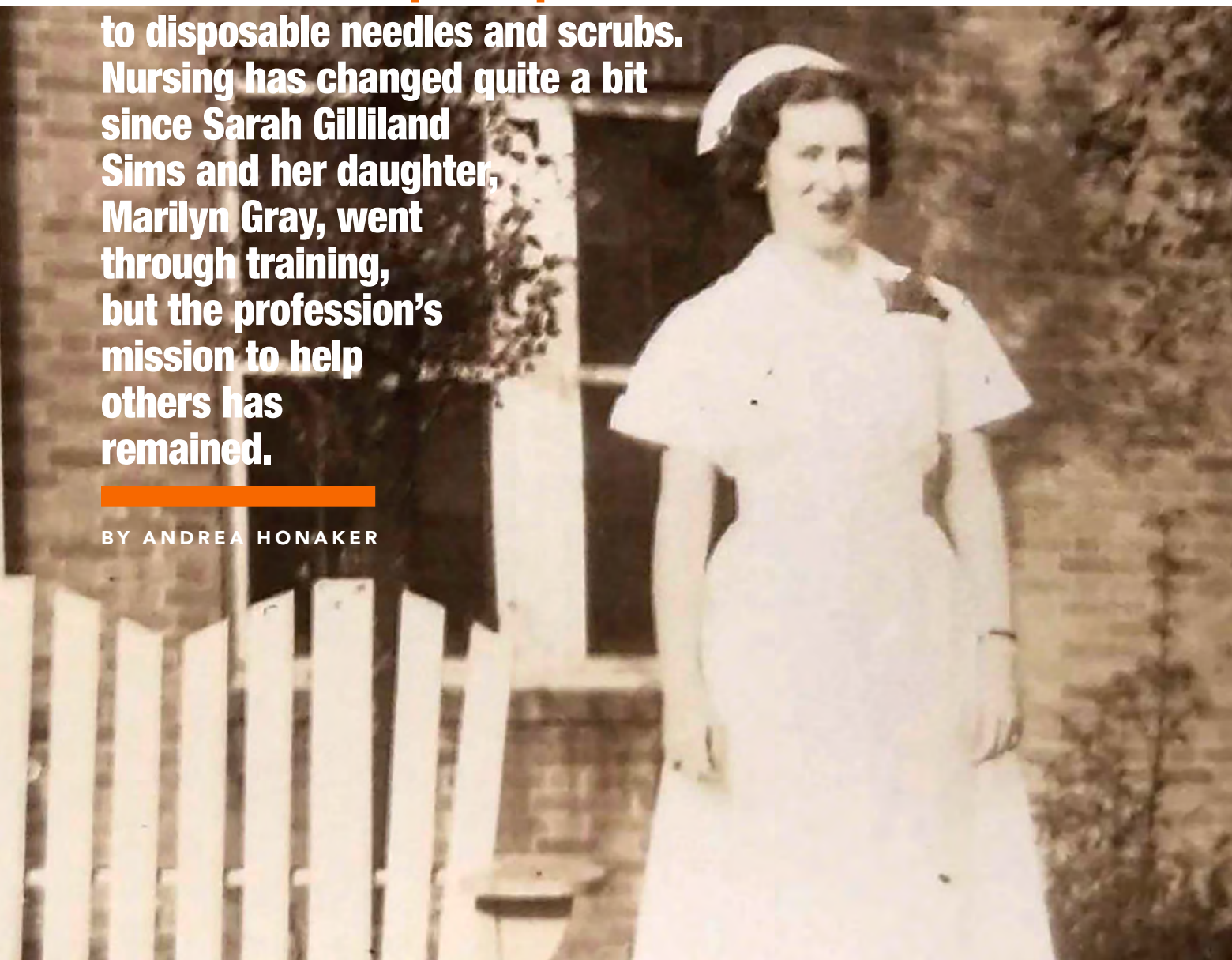


Mother-Daughter Nursing Alumnae Mark **79 & 50** Years Since Graduating

**From reusable glass syringes and
white starched caps and polished shoes ...**

**to disposable needles and scrubs.
Nursing has changed quite a bit
since Sarah Gilliland
Sims and her daughter,
Marilyn Gray, went
through training,
but the profession's
mission to help
others has
remained.**

BY ANDREA HONAKER



S

ims graduated from the Georgia Baptist Hospital School of Nursing — now Mercer’s College of Nursing — in 1940 and is believed to be Mercer’s oldest living nursing alumna. Gray just celebrated her 50th class reunion, having graduated in 1969.

The Baptist Tabernacle Infirmary Training School for Nurses opened in Atlanta in 1902 as a two-year diploma program. The school changed to a three-year program a few years later, and by 1913, it was known as the Georgia Baptist Hospital School of Nursing

to reflect the hospital’s change in ownership. It transitioned to the Georgia Baptist College of Nursing in 1989, merged with Mercer in 2001 and moved into a new academic building on Mercer’s Atlanta campus in 2002. All that history makes the Georgia Baptist College of Nursing at Mercer the longest established nursing program in Georgia.

Sims turned 101 on Oct. 29 and has two children, Gray and Paul Sims Jr.; four grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren. She was admitted to the nursing school in August 1937, one of 37 students in her class. Sims said she was a Baptist by faith and had heard about the school growing up in College Park, so she decided it was the place for her to go.

“I hadn’t thought about doing anything else. That was all I wanted to be,” Sims said about going into nursing. “(Nursing school) was a good experience. The three years were up before I could realize. It gave me so much experience, and it was so helpful.”

Gray followed in her mother’s footsteps when it came time to choose a profession and a school.

“I decided that nursing suited me more than anything. I decided since Mother was a nurse and it was a good occupation, I would be the same. I wanted to be a helper, a server for others,” she said. “The school did have a great reputation, better than other nearby schools. I mainly went there because that’s where she went.”

Sims and Gray, who now live just a few miles apart in Marietta, recalled working at Georgia Baptist Hospital when they were students. The student nurses staffed much of the hospital and received the best clinical education possible, Gray said. They learned to do everything and knew how to run the floor by the time they graduated.

After finishing school, Sims worked at children’s hospitals in Atlanta and then Washington, D.C., before marrying Paul Sims Sr., who passed away in 2005. The couple traveled throughout the United States as Paul



Sarah Gilliland Sims and daughter Marilyn Gray

was stationed in various cities during World War II, and Sims took up private duty nursing after returning to College Park. She retired from nursing in 1970 and lived in College Park until about three years ago.

“(Nursing) teaches you so many things about responsibility. You can be helpful for years to come,” Sims said. “I’m still thankful that I went into this work and did it for many years. I know that it was the right thing to do at the time.”

Gray, who has lived in Marietta for 40 years and has two children and nine grandchildren, went on to work on the orthopedics floor and then the stroke unit at Georgia Baptist Hospital; was a nurse in a doctor’s office for about 20 years; and worked with Aetna and similar companies until she retired in 2016.

“I just enjoyed taking care of the different patients. I really just enjoyed nursing ... period,” she said. “Being a nurse, you learn so many things in so many areas. I think it’s just a rewarding experience that you carry with you through life.”

DR. FAYTH M. PARKS RURAL HIV INNOVATION AWARD



Dr. Stephens



Dr. Smith



Dr. Ahmadi

School of Medicine faculty members **Jeffrey L. Stephens, M.D.**, and **Betsy E. Smith, Ph.D.**, and recent graduate **Sahra Ahmadi, M.D.**, were selected to receive the Dr. Fayth M. Parks Rural HIV Innovation Award at the seventh annual Rural HIV Research and Training Conference in September in Savannah.

Dr. Stephens, Dr. Smith and Dr. Ahmadi were selected for the award, which recognizes innovative ideas and solutions in the fight against the HIV epidemic in rural communities, for their project, titled “Assessing Cardiovascular Disease Risk in a Southern/Semi-rural HIV Clinic Population.”



GEORGIA SCHOOL BOARD ASSOCIATION LEADING EDGE AWARD

A collaborative reading and literacy project involving School of Medicine professor **Keisha Callins, M.D.**, as well as Twiggs County Public Schools, Twiggs County Health Department and Twiggs County Public Library was named a recipient of the inaugural Georgia School Board Association Leading Edge Awards presented in December at the Renaissance Waverly Hotel in Atlanta.

“Vitamins R (Reading) and L (Literacy)” aims to increase the “language nutrition” of 2- and 3-year-old siblings of Twiggs County Public School students identified as having literacy challenges. The project was one of 48 that received \$20,000 Early Language and Literacy Mini-Grants from the Governor’s Office of Student Achievement and the Sandra Dunagan Deal Center for Early Language and Literacy at Georgia College in February 2018.



GUNBY AWARDED DEAN EMERITA STATUS

Mercer’s Board of Trustees in November voted to award Dean Emerita status to **Susan S. Gunby, RN, Ph.D.**, who served as dean of Mercer’s Georgia Baptist College of Nursing from 1987 to 2009. Since retiring as dean, she has continued to teach in the College of Nursing, where her tenure stretches for almost half a century.

ACHIEVEMENTS

1970s

Johnnie Early, PHA '73, was awarded the College of Pharmacy Distinguished Alumni Award on May 10.

Walter Fitzgerald, PHA '79, was named dean at the Idaho State University College of Pharmacy.

Jack Greene, PHA '71, owner of Jefferson Drug Store & Soda Fountain in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, recently celebrated 75 years in business. Jefferson Drug Store & Soda Fountain is now the oldest operating pharmacy and the oldest restaurant in Oak Ridge, having been in business since 1944.

Richard E. Hyer, CLAS '66, EDU '74, is administering the University of Georgia Rotary International District 6910 Literacy Project for Children's Libraries and Elementary and Secondary Education. The project provides book donations which honor Rotary Club speakers and Rotary district leaders. The first-year pilot activities will contribute more than 3,500 books. The project for 2020-2021 will raise about 10,500 books for distribution throughout Georgia. Hyer is currently engaged in speaking to clubs in North Georgia for literacy support. It is expected that next year more than 150 clubs will participate. Hyer's efforts were recognized at the 2019 Librarians and Media Specialists annual conference at the UGA Continuing Education Center in Athens. Hyer was an instructor in the Mercer Education Department from 1970-76 and retired as superintendent of the Georgia Academy for the Blind in the Georgia Department of Education.

The Hon. J. Carlisle Overstreet, LAW '70, retired as chief judge of the Augusta Judicial Circuit on Dec. 31, 2016. A portrait made possible by contributions from members of the Augusta Bar Association and friends of the judge was unveiled in March. **Bill Pou**, CLAS '78, was appointed as chairman of the Top 100 Company, Badcock Home Furniture & More. He will be responsible for 368 corporate and dealer stores in eight southeastern states selling furniture, electronics, appliances and other home goods.

Capt. Donna Price, CLAS '76, LAW '79, JAGC, USN (Retired) has been elected to the board of supervisors for Albemarle County in Charlottesville, Virginia. She is the

first openly transgender individual to be elected to the board.

Ron Stephens, PHA '78, State Representative of District 164, received The Good Samaritan Award from The Kirk Healing Center for the Homeless in Hinesville on Oct. 3 during a presentation event at the Liberty County Performing Arts Center.

Earl Ward, PHA '78, received the College of Pharmacy's Carlton Henderson Award for his contributions to the reputation and enhancement of the pharmaceutical profession in the state of Georgia. Ward recently co-authored *No More Smoking* in the July/August 2019 edition of the *American Medical Group Association Group Practice Journal*. The study highlights drivers and challenges facing comprehensive tobacco treatment programs in health systems.

1980s

Elizabeth K. Bobbitt, LAW '89, was named the 2019 Assistant District Attorney of the Year by the District Attorneys' Association of Georgia at the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council annual summer conference. Bobbitt is chief assistant district attorney for the Towalliga Judicial Circuit.

Rebecca "Becky" Blalock, BUS '84, was keynote speaker at the 2019 CIO of the Year ORBIE Awards. Blalock is managing partner at strategic consulting firm Advisory Capital. She is former senior vice president and CIO of Southern Company, the third-largest utility company in the world. Under her leadership, Southern Company was recognized as one of the 100 Most Innovative Companies by *CIO* magazine and one of the 100 Best Places to Work in IT by *Computerworld* magazine. In 2009, *Energy Biz* magazine named Blalock CIO of the year in the electric utility industry. She is listed in *Who's Who in Science and Engineering*, and in 2006, was named one of *Atlanta Business Chronicle's* 100 Most Influential Atlantans.

William S. Briggs, CLAS '84, recently published his first book, *C++ for Lazy Programmers*. The book, a text for beginning for programmers, was released on Oct. 3. The book is available for purchase on Amazon.

Daniel Buffington, PHA '87, was keynote speaker at Marshall University School of Pharmacy's White Coat Ceremony in Huntington, West Virginia, on Aug. 30.

J. Christopher Clark, LAW '89, was inducted into the American College of Trial Lawyers in Vancouver, British Columbia, on Sept. 27, for his distinguished trial practice, his leadership in his local community, his high ethical and moral standards and the intangible quality of his collegiality. **Mark W. Clark**, LAW '82, has been included in 26th edition of the *Best Lawyers in America* for more

than 10 consecutive years. Clark is president and managing partner of the firm Clark Fountain LaVista Prather and Littky-Rubin in West Palm Beach, Florida.

Joan G. Crumpler, LAW '88, was promoted to director of legal services for the Georgia Department of Public Safety (DPS) on Aug. 1. DPS includes the Georgia State Patrol, Georgia Motor Carrier Compliance Division and the Georgia Capitol Police.

Crumpler served as DPS deputy legal director for the prior six years.

T. Martin Fiorentino, LAW '83, was recognized in the second edition of *Florida Trend's* Florida 500 list, which highlights the 500 most influential executives in different economic sectors throughout the state. Fiorentino serves as president of The Fiorentino Group, one of the largest government affairs and business development firms in Florida.

Susan P. McWilliams, LAW '82, has been listed in the *Best Lawyers in America* for Employment Law Management, Labor Law Management, and Litigation Labor and Employment, since 2005.

Jackie Saylor, LAW '83, has again been named a 2019 Super Lawyer in Estate Planning & Probate. A founding partner of The Saylor Law Firm LLP, she practices estate planning, wills and trusts, probate

REMEMBERING...

Former Board Chair and Trustee

Tommy Malone

Thomas "Tommy" William Malone Sr. died Oct. 1, 2019, after a long and courageous battle with cancer. He was 77. He attended the University of Georgia from 1960 to 1963, and was admitted to the Georgia Bar in 1965.

After graduating from Mercer Law School in 1966, Malone returned to his hometown of Albany to join his father-in-law's

practice. When his father was appointed director of the State Game and Fish Commission by Gov. Carl Sanders, Malone founded Malone Law and began his career as a tenacious legal pioneer. Throughout his 50-year career, Malone earned a nationwide reputation for having the highest standards of character and integrity, skill in the courtroom, and an incredible talent to simplify, solve and explain the most complicated and complex problems.

In addition to being a legal giant, Malone was a leader in numerous state, national and international legal organizations, as well as several non-legal organizations including the Carter Center Board of Councilors, Shepherd Center Foundation Board of Trustees and Mercer Board of Trustees. He served as chairman of Mercer's board from 2015-2017 and was an ardent supporter of Mercer Law School, endowing the Tommy Malone Distinguished Chair in Trial Advocacy.

Although Malone loomed large in the legal community, his true passion was his loving wife of 32 years, Debbie, his sons and deep-sea fishing. Everyone who knew Malone knew the only place to find him during the month of May was with Debbie and their Pomeranians on the 70-foot Striker, aptly named "Justice," fishing the crystal-clear waters of the Bahamas.



Submit your personal Accomplishments, Marriage/ Births/Anniversary or In Memory announcements for *The Mercerian* in the Alumni Class Notes section to Erin Lones, director of Advancement Communications, at lones_ep@mercer.edu.

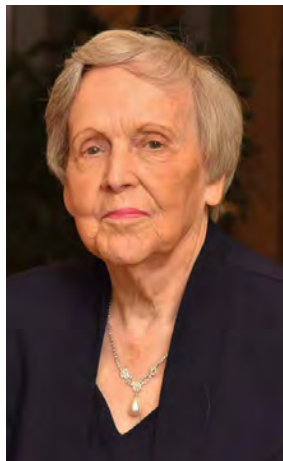
REMEMBERING...

Friend and Generous Supporter

Mary Wasden

Mary Garner Reagan Wasden died Dec. 10, 2019, at the age of 94. Born in Winter Park,

Florida, Wasden spent her school years in Burke and Jenkins County, graduating from Millen High School in 1943. She was a loving daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She was always devoted and faithful to her family, friends and her beloved Millen Baptist Church where she taught Sunday School and sang in the choir for many years. Her other joys were her yard and garden club but most of all her bridge club. In 1996, Wasden established the W. T. Wasden Memorial Scholarship to honor the memory of her late husband, William Thomas Wasden, who was a 1937 graduate of Mercer's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Wasden was a Life Member of The President's Club. Wasden's daughter, Beth Wasden, and her granddaughter, Sallie Douthitt Sullivan, are both Mercer graduates.



REMEMBERING...

Board Member and Generous Supporter

Kerry Gough

Kerry Howard Gough died July 22, 2019, at the age of 84. After graduating from high school in Vicksburg, Mississippi,

Gough served with the U.S. Army Security Agency and was stationed in Baumholder, Germany. Following military service, he married Mary Catherine (Cathi) Maske in 1961 and graduated from Mississippi College in 1962. Gough worked for the Western Union Telegraph Company and Mississippi College before beginning a long career with Travelers Insurance Company. In 1975, Gough was appointed as the regional manager for the southeast in the Medicare Claim Division of The Travelers and was transferred to Augusta. He served in that capacity until he retired in 1993. Following his retirement, Gough served on several governing boards in support of healthcare, including the Board of Visitors of the Georgia Baptist College of Nursing. In 2005, the College of Nursing presented him with the Hall of Honor for Excellence in Mentoring Award for his support of nursing education. He and his wife established the Kerry H. and Cathi Gough Endowed Scholarship Fund in the School of Nursing in 2007. Gough was also a longtime member of the First Baptist Church of Augusta, holding many leadership positions including chairman of the deacons and served faithfully as an adult Sunday School teacher.



and estate administration, estate and trust disputes and will contests in Atlanta. Saylor is currently the immediate past chair of the Atlanta Bar Association's Estate Planning & Probate Section.

Sharon Sherrer, PHA '84, co-owner of Poole's Pharmacy in Marietta, was named Preceptor of the Year by the National Community Pharmacists Association Foundation at their annual meeting in October.

J. Daniel Speight, LAW '82, was appointed as chief executive officer and general counsel of Planters First Bancorp. Speight was formerly a partner at James Bates Brannan Groover in Macon.

Sandra H. Taylor, LAW '86, was appointed by Gov. Brian Kemp as solicitor general for Troup County. Taylor has served as the county's chief assistant solicitor since 2013 and serves as vice chair for the board of the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice.

J. Henry Walker IV, LAW '86, chair and CEO of Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP, was named one of Atlanta's Most Admired CEOs by the *Atlanta Business Chronicle* at the awards dinner on Aug. 22. The award recognizes leaders who have made significant contributions to the community and who demonstrate a strong record of leadership, innovation, stellar financial performance and a commitment to workplace diversity.

1990s

William "Larry" Adams, EGR '97, received the National Defense Industrial Association's John Slattery Professional Achievement Award for contributions to improving the state of automatic testing in support of the national security posture of the United States. The award was presented at IEEE Autotestcon.

Cedric Baker, PHA '91, spoke at the Harvard Medical School FFC 27th International Conference on Sept. 21 on the topic of "Hormetins and Xenohormetins in Functional Phytochemical Patterns."

M. Brian Blake, EGR '97, was named provost and executive vice president for academic affairs at George Washington University in November.

Bruce E. Carney, BUS '86, LAW '91, was appointed by Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis as Citrus County judge, a newly created judgeship passed in the 2019 legislative session. Carney bested 11 other candidates for the position. He was sworn in and began his new position in December.

Yvette Carter-Jackson, BUS '92, was appointed supervisor of counseling and mental health by Maury County Public Schools.

Mary Hereford Cooper, PHA '96, was promoted to national account manager at Novo Nordisk.

Walt Davis, CLAS '98, was tapped by Gov. Kemp as the first judge of Georgia's statewide business court on July 15.

Margaret E. Heap, LAW '92, was awarded the 2019 District Attorney of the Year by the District Attorneys' Association of Georgia and the Georgia Association of Solicitors General at the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council annual summer conference. Heap has served as district attorney for the Eastern Judicial Circuit since 2013.

Daniel Hornickel, CLAS '94, began work as Pemberton Township business administrator on Aug. 1.

Bradford Loo, PHA '91, received the College of Pharmacy's Alumni Meritorious Service Award at the annual alumni dinner in June.

Jeffrey N. Powers, LAW '95, was selected as a 2019 Georgia Super Lawyer for personal injury litigation. Powers practices personal injury and workers compensation in Macon.

T. Mark Sandifer, LAW '97, joined the law office of Moore, Clarke, DuVall & Rodgers PC, which acquired his practice in Tifton, effective Oct. 1. Sandifer is a firm partner in charge of its Tifton office providing a full range of business and real estate-related legal services.

Christina Ray Stanton, CLAS '91, recently published a historical biography about 9-11. The book, *Out of the Shadow of 9-11: An Inspiring Tale of Escape and Transformation*, was released in May and reached No. 56 as a bestseller in the country. The book is available for purchase on Amazon and other retailers.

Capt. Mason Spencer Weiss, LAW '97, retired from the Army after 20 years in the JAG Corps.

2000s

Brittany Lavalley Adams, LAW '08, began serving as disciplinary counsel for the Board of Professional Responsibility of the Supreme Court of Tennessee in July.

Claire A. Battle, CLAS '09, became a board-certified behavior analyst and serves students with autism in Washington, D.C., Public Schools.

Ken Blair, CLAS '10, received the 2019 Young Entrepreneurs and Professionals in Middle Georgia award from the Macon-Middle Georgia Black Pages. Blair was also elected to the 2019 executive board of the Macon Democratic party and serves as the vice president of Epsilon Beta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, seated in Macon. Blair is the academic coordinator for the Mercer University Upward Bound program.

Bradley Graham Bodiford, BUS '07, in October joined the Jacksonville law firm of Terrell Hogan Yegelow to represent injured victims.

Matthew Brooks, LAW '08, was elected as a new partner at Troutman Sanders in Atlanta in January. Brooks has a bankruptcy and restructuring practice, representing public and private companies, financial institutions, creditors, trustees

and other clients in corporate restructurings, distressed acquisitions and dispositions and litigation.

Nikki Adams Bryant, PHA '03, received the 2019 Walt Orenstein Champions for Immunization Award at the 26th Annual Immunize Georgia Conference on Sept. 12. The award honors individuals, public/private agencies or coalitions who demonstrated excellence in providing immunization care which exemplifies the immunization guidelines set forth in the Standards for Child, Adolescent and Adult Immunization Practices. Bryant is also a finalist for the 2019 NextGeneration Pharmacist® in the entrepreneur category presented by *Pharmacy Times* and Parata Systems. She was also named one of *Georgia Trend* magazine's 40 Under 40 for 2019. Her hometown of Preston in rural Webster County had been without a pharmacy for more than 60 years before she opened Adams Family Pharmacy. Earlier this year, she opened Preston Family Medicine to provide a prescribing medical professional.

Ivy Cadle, LAW '07, was re-elected to serve on the board of governors of the State Bar of Georgia and will continue to serve in the Post 3 seat from the Macon Circuit. He was also elected to serve on the State Bar of Georgia executive committee. The Board of Governors elects six of its members to serve on the executive committee with the organization's officers. The executive committee meets monthly and exercises the power of the board of governors when the board is not in session.

John Carroll, CLAS '05, was named senior pastor of Aiken's First Baptist Church in Aiken, South Carolina. He moved back to the Aike/Augusta area to join the church in December with his wife Casey and their son Josiah.

Rebecca McKelvey Castañeda, LAW '06, a member at Stites & Harbison PLLC, was named to the Super Lawyers list of *Mid-South Super Lawyers* 2019 edition.

Jennifer Kennedy Coggins, CLAS '00, LAW '04, joined Travelers Insurance on July 16 as the senior counsel and Claim Center general counselor for the Tennessee and Ohio Valley Claim Center located in Franklin, Tennessee. She and her family relocated to the Nashville area from metro Atlanta.

Tomieka R. Daniel, LAW '02, was presented the Dan Bradley Award by the State Bar of Georgia at the Pro Bono and Public Interest Awards Reception in Atlanta on Nov. 12. The Bradley Award honors the memory of Mercer alumnus, Dan J. Bradley, LAW '67, for excellence and commitment to the delivery of quality legal services to the poor and to providing equal access to justice.

Alysia Cockrell Davis, BUS '98, '00, was promoted to director of student engagement, Honors College, James Madison University.

Crystal Jones, LAW '06, was sworn in as Macon-Bibb County's new Municipal Court judge. Jones was most recently senior assistant county attorney for Macon-Bibb.

Joshua Kinsey, PHA '05, was the recipient of the Mal T. Anderson Region President of the Year Award at GPhA's annual convention in June.

The Rev. Dr. Dock Hollingsworth, CLAS '84, DIV '08, senior pastor of Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church in Atlanta, was the featured preacher on "Day 1" with host Peter Wallace on Nov. 17. The nationally broadcast ecumenical radio program is also accessible online at Day1.org.

Ashley London, PHA '09, received the Georgia Pharmacy Association's AEP Outstanding Member of the Year Award at their annual convention in June.

Tracie Lunde, PHA '08, was a general session keynote speaker at the Georgia Pharmacy Association Convention in June. She spoke on the role of community pharmacy in a changing healthcare environment.

Zachary A. McEntyre, LAW '06, was chosen as a Rising Star by Law360. McEntyre is a partner at King & Spalding's Atlanta office practicing high-stakes class actions and other complex commercial litigation.

Laura F. Moorer, LAW '00, was appointed as the new librarian for the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, the highest court in the district. Previously, Moorer served as the law librarian for the Public Defender Service for Washington, D.C.

Brandon L. Peak, LAW '04, a partner in Butler Wooten & Peak LLP, recently won a record-setting verdict in Muscogee County. Peak's verdict of \$280 million is the largest verdict in U.S. history awarded in a trucking case. He is a trial lawyer who handles cases across a wide array of practice areas in state and federal courts throughout the nation. Peak is a member of Mercer Law Board of Visitors.

Mandy Wilson Reece, PHA '01, was selected as Teacher of the Year for the Department of Pharmacy Practice at PCOM Georgia School of Pharmacy.

Josh Rogers, CLAS '05, was named one of *Georgia Trend* magazine's 40 Under 40 for 2019. Rogers previously headed the Historic Macon Foundation, but almost six years ago, shifted his focus from preserving the past to building the future via NewTown Macon, the nonprofit that works to revitalize Macon's downtown.

Timothy Slocum, CLAS '01, joined Methodist University Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, as vice president and chief operating officer in October after a 16-year career with Navient Health in Macon.

Walter Stephens, EDU '09, was promoted to director of school operations with Houston County Public Schools. Previously, Stephens was principal at Thomson Middle

REMEMBERING...

Friend and Generous Supporter

Betty Freeman

Betty Jean Thrower Freeman of Stone Mountain, Georgia, died June 2 at the age of 87, following a prolonged Alzheimer's illness. Freeman graduated from Auburn University in 1955 with an education degree. In 1956, she married William A. Freeman Jr. and moved to Thomasville for a brief time before settling in neighboring Cairo, where she would teach fourth grade and receive numerous teaching awards. In addition to teaching, she dedicated her life to raising her two sons while also supporting her husband's accounting services business, which would move the family to Atlanta in 1970. Through their years together, the Freemans both believed in the power of education and provided scholarships for several students over many years. In 1999, the Freemans established the Watkins-Freeman Endowed Scholarship in Mercer's McAfee School of Theology. They also supported several charities that focused on helping at-risk kids in addition to supporting their home church, Smoke Rise Baptist Church, in Stone Mountain where Betty was a devout member for 49 years. Freeman was a Life Member of The President's Club.



REMEMBERING...

Board Member and Generous Supporter

George Berry

George J. Berry died Sept. 7 at the age of 82. A native of Union County, Berry spent his working years in Atlanta and retired in 2004 to Monroe

County. He was a graduate of Young Harris College and Georgia State University. During his career, he worked for four Atlanta mayors and was the chief administrative officer of the city under Mayors Sam Massell and Maynard Jackson. He was perhaps best known as the official responsible for a major expansion of Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, which at the time was the largest public construction project in the history of the state of Georgia. He later served as head of the Department of Industry, Trade and Tourism under Gov. Joe Frank Harris. He was appointed by Gov. Zell Miller to chair the board of the Metropolitan Atlanta Olympic Games Authority, which provided public oversight to the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games. He concluded his working career as senior vice president of Cousins Properties Inc., an Atlanta real estate development firm. Berry was an active member of the community and served on the boards of several civic organizations. He was a generous supporter of Mercer, serving several terms on the board of directors for Mercer University Press. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Jeannine Barrett Berry.

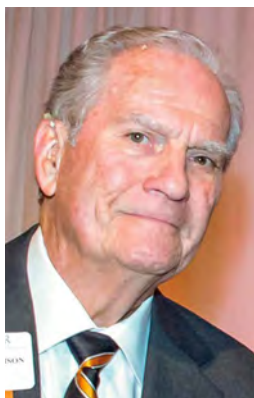


REMEMBERING...

Board Member and Generous Supporter

Paul Garrison

Paul Hope Garrison Jr., of Gray, died Sept. 27, 2019. Garrison graduated from Mercer in 1963 with a degree in chemistry and was a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity. While a student, he worked nights in the quality control laboratory at the Procter and Gamble plant in Macon to obtain practical experience and finance his education. After graduation, he transferred from the Macon plant to Cincinnati where he worked as an analytical chemist in research and development for the next 35 years. He retired in 1998 after 41 years with the company. Garrison met his wife of 61 years, Dot, at Liberty United Methodist Church in Macon while he was a student. Garrison was a Georgia master gardener and loved to read. Garrison was an ardent supporter of Mercer Athletics and regularly attended athletic events. He served on the Mercer Athletic Foundation Board from 2012 to 2019 and was a Life Member of The President's Club.



REMEMBERING...

Former Trustee

Preston Williams

Preston Clark Williams Jr. of Montezuma died Sept. 22, 2019, at the age of 94. A graduate of Griffin High School, Williams attended Clemson University on a football scholarship. He had previously enlisted in the Navy Voluntary Service Agreement (V5A) program while a senior in high school and was ordered to report for duty after only one semester at Clemson. While in the Navy V5A program, he also attended Mercer, the University of Miami, Princeton University and Columbia University. He often stated he had attended five colleges, but did not have a degree from anywhere, with the exception of the "University of Hard Knocks." Williams married the late Sara Penn, his high school sweetheart, in 1946. He began his career working with Southern Frozen Foods as a salesman and became sales manager in 1961. He became president of the company in 1966 and served in that capacity until his retirement in 1990. He also served as president of the American Frozen Food Institute from 1989 to 1990. He was active in his church and community, serving as a deacon of First Baptist Church from 1967 to 2000, mayor of Montezuma from 1992 to 2000 and as a member of the Macon County Board of Education from 1971 to 1991. Williams has strongly supported the Scouting program in Macon County and Middle Georgia over the years. He earned the rank of Eagle Scout in 1943 and was honored in 1995 with the Silver Beaver, the highest award Scouting offers adults. Williams served several terms on the Mercer Board of Trustees from 1985 through 2004 and was a Life Member of The President's Club.



School, Georgia's first Title I School to receive whole STEM certification.

Deitrah J. Taylor, CLAS '06, wrote her first play, in collaboration with Dr. Shelton Land, entitled "Soul Town: The Black Music Movement." The play, which was performed at the Atlanta Black Theatre Festival on Oct. 4, focuses on the role of women in the Black Arts Movement and the Civil Rights Movement. Taylor has served as dramaturge and assisted students and faculty with productions at Georgia College's Department of Theatre and Dance. She was also invited to speak about her research of Regina Taylor's "Crowns" at the Association for the Study of African American Life and History in Charleston, South Carolina, on Oct. 4.

Carl R. Varnedoe, LAW '03, won a record-setting settlement in the Southern District of Georgia for a deliberate indifference, civil rights claim, wherein a young man died as a result of the denial of life-saving medical treatment while incarcerated at the Chatham County Detention Center.

Dr. Patrice Walker, MED '07, was promoted to chief medical officer for the Georgia-based Medical Center Navicent Health (MCNH). Walker has served MCNH as deputy chief medical officer since November 2018.

Nathan A. White, LAW '05, was promoted to lieutenant colonel in the Air Force Reserves JAG Corps and was selected as the general counsel for the 315th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, South Carolina. White also accepted a position to join Alexander Ricks PLLC in Charlotte, North Carolina, as a litigation counsel specializing in business litigation.

Sandra N. Wisenbaker, LAW '01, was awarded the 2019 Solicitor General of the Year by the Georgia Association of Solicitors General at the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council annual summer conference. Wisenbaker has served as the solicitor general for Coweta County since 2013.

Stacy M. Youmans, LAW '00, was appointed by Gov. Ron DeSantis as judge on the Fifth Circuit Court in Ocala, Florida. Youmans was most recently with Blanchard Merriam Adel & Kirkland.

2010s

Chris W. Acker, CPA '03, '19, was recently promoted to senior vice president and banking services manager at American Commerce Bank NA, in Bremen.

Alicia Abel Adamson, LAW '19, joined the family law firm of Reese-Beisbier & Associates PC, in Griffin.

David B. Anderson, LAW '16, joined the Macon office of James-Bates-Brannan-Groover LLP as an associate practicing in all areas of banking and real estate law. Anderson resides in Macon with his wife Megan and daughter Autumn.

Dr. Jarrad Barber, MED '13, joined the Hand Center at Harbin Clinic

Orthopedics where he will work closely with Dr. Stephen Klasson and a team of medical experts who are focused on the health of hands and upper extremities.

Bethany A. Begnaud Ströberg, LAW '10, established Begnaud Ströberg Law Firm focusing on juvenile, real estate and estate planning law. Begnaud Ströberg was most recently with Ocmulgee Circuit Public Defender's Office.

Megan Bilgri, BUS '18, joined LS3P Associates Ltd. as a marketing coordinator and is based in the Charleston, South Carolina, office.

The Hon. Candice L. Branche, LAW '10, was appointed as associate probate and magistrate judge in Newton County. Branche was previously a deputy chief assistant district attorney in the Alcovy Circuit.

Elizabeth Manley Brooks, CLAS '13, LAW '17, joined the Savannah office of the law firm Harris Lowry Manton LLP as an associate practicing in the areas of complex personal injury, product liability, medical malpractice, business torts and wrongful death cases.

Janene D. Browder, BUS '09, LAW '12, joined the staff of the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission. She previously served as an assistant attorney general representing the Georgia Department of Community Health in Certificate of Need administrative appeals.

Timothy Bryant, EDU '10, was appointed executive coordinator of Brenau University's Center for Lifetime Study.

Shane Buerster, BUS '18, founder of ZBeans Coffee, received NewTown Macon's Growing Business Award on Oct. 9.

Annelise R. Codrington, LAW '17, joined the Atlanta office of Swift, Currie, McGhee & Hiers LLP practicing insurance defense.

Dr. Martha Cohen, MED '15, joined Lowcountry Women's Specialists, a privately run, independently owned group of board-certified physicians.

Carole W. Collier, LAW '19, joined the family law firm of Reese-Beisbier & Associates PC, in Griffin.

Brice M. Corum, CLAS '11, received the 2019 Distinguished Service Award in Career Development from the Training Officers Consortium for his role as project lead.

J. Micah Dickie, LAW '16, joined Fisher Phillips' Atlanta office as an associate, counseling clients on best practices for mitigating risk of workplace incidents and defending against OSHA inspections and investigations.

Robert A. Divis, LAW '17, completed his second year as editor of *Developments in Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice*, an annual publication of the American Bar Association. Divis practices consumer protection, probate/estate planning, and veterans law in Macon at Divis Law LLC.

Rebecca L. Dries, CPA '15, received licensure as a licensed professional counselor of mental health in the state of Delaware in October 2018 and was promoted to clinical supervisor of connections CRISP program in December 2018.

Bruce D. Dubberly, LAW '17, joined the Macon office of James-Bates-Brannan-Groover LLP as an associate focusing in general civil litigation. Dubberly was most recently with Cooper Barton & Cooper in Macon.

Dr. Ashley Eason, MED '12, joined Memorial Health Children's Hospital as a member of its team of children's cancer and blood disorder specialists. She recently completed her fellowship in pediatric hematology and oncology at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

Johnathan Hamrick, PHA '10, received the College of Pharmacy's Young Alumni Award at the annual alumni dinner in June.

Foss G. Hodges, LAW '13, was promoted to partner at the Decatur criminal defense firm Peters, Rubin, Sheffield & Hodges PA. The firm focuses on defending people accused of crimes against children, sexual offenses and other serious crimes throughout Georgia.

Robert Hudgins, MUS '11, joined the faculty as lead teacher in the new middle school program at Montessori of Macon. Hudgins was a Montessori child in Macon, and taught math, science and music in the program of his alma mater.

Zee Jennings, BUS '14, was promoted to senior manager of investor relations at Caddis, a national real estate development, management and investment firm focused

exclusively on healthcare real estate.

Kelsey L. Kicklighter, CLAS '15, LAW '18, joined Hall Booth Smith PC as an associate in its Atlanta office, focusing on medical malpractice, products liability, government liability and longterm care. Kicklighter was most recently with Brown Readdick Bumgartner Carter Strickland & Watkins LLP, in Brunswick.

Paul Knowlton, DIV '14, launched UBERCOUNSEL: The Trusted Family Care Attorney-Counselor in July 2019.

Sera McNutt, PHA '17, is now the psychiatric clinical pharmacist at Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York.

Adam M. Miller, LAW '14, was accepted to Leadership Orlando Class 98. Miller practices insurance defense with GrayRobinson in Orlando, Florida.

LaTisha Mitchell-Johnson, EDU '14, was selected as a 2019 recipient of the Young Nonprofit Professionals of Atlanta's 30 under 30 Leadership Award. The award is given to 30 individuals who are making an impact in the nonprofit sector and were chosen from applicants throughout the state of Georgia.

B. Patrick O'Grady, LAW '13, recently joined the law firm of Harman Claytor Corrigan & Wellman as an associate in the firm's Richmond, Virginia, office. His practice focuses on the defense of individuals, small businesses and insurers in connection with personal injury, premises liability, wrongful death and business litigation. O'Grady has tried more than 100 cases to verdict in courts throughout Virginia.

Dr. Maulikkumar Patel, MED '15, was promoted to geriatric physician

at Memorial Health University Physicians' Adult Primary Care practice in Savannah.

Lisa Sagardia, PHA '17, accepted a position at Emory Saint Joseph's Hospital as the evening critical care clinical pharmacist after completing two years of residency training specializing in critical care.

Kevin D. Ströberg, LAW '11, was recently promoted to chief assistant public defender with the Ocmulgee Circuit Public Defender's Office.

Moses M. Tincer, LAW '17, joined the Atlanta office of Troutman Sanders, LLP as an associate specializing in labor and employment litigation. Tincer recently served as a clerk for the US District Court of Middle Georgia.

Gala Villahoz, LAW '16, joined Decatur firm Williams Teusink as a real estate and business litigation associate.

Lindsey Hancock Warden, CLAS '15, graduated from Johns Hopkins University with an M.S.Ed. in secondary studies in August. She is beginning her new role as a supervising teacher at the University of Memphis - University Middle School, where she will study project-based learning in the middle grades. Warden resides in Memphis, Tennessee, with her husband Don and son Everett.

Tommy Welch, EDU '15, was appointed chief equity and compliance officer for the Gwinnett County Board of Education. Welch is the principal of Meadowcreek High School. In 2017, he was recognized as Georgia's top principal by the Georgia Association of Secondary School Principals. In 2018, he was named one of three finalists for the

2018 National Principal of the Year with the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

L. Carrie Weldon, LAW '19, joined the office of Pasley Nuce Mallory & Davis LLC in Griffin.

Noah C. West, LAW '19, joined the Huntsville, Alabama, office of Maynard Cooper & Gale as an associate in its corporate, securities and tax practice group.

Bethany L. Whetzel, LAW '10, joined the State Inspector General's Office as general counsel on Oct. 1. Whetzel was formerly with the Georgia Government Transparency & Campaign Finance Commission.

Madisen Bugbee Cope, EDU '16, married Daniel Cope on Sept. 14.

Ronald Edward Daniels, LAW '12, and his wife Maggie welcomed their daughter Joanna on Sept. 6.

Caroline Wright Grounds, CLAS '12, and her husband Steven announce the birth of their daughter, Campbell Caroline Grounds, born on Dec. 18.

Lauren Howell, PHA '11, and her husband David announce the birth of their son, Chandler David, born on May 9.

Kate R. Kirbo, LAW '16, and **Barret W. Kirbo**, LAW '16, announce the birth of their first child, William "West" Kirbo, born on Sept. 25.

Lucie H. Peoples, LAW '11, and **Adam F. Peoples**, LAW '10, announce the birth of their daughter, Abigail Grace Peoples, born on July 11. The family resides in Asheville, North Carolina.

Amanda Leigh Pugsley, BUS '15, married Juan Pablo Claros on Oct. 5 in Leesburg, Virginia.

Meredith Jackson Schnepf, MUS '08, and **Adam Schnepf**, CLAS '06, PHA '10, welcomed their son, Henry Adam, in June.

Megan Pittman Smith, CLAS '16, and **Spencer Smith**, CLAS '17, married on June 15 in Newton Chapel. Megan is a high school chemistry teacher at First Presbyterian Day School in Macon and Spencer is a neuroscience research assistant at Georgia College and State University in Milledgeville.

Allison Pavia Wellborn, BUS '13, married Marshall Wellborn IV on May 18 in Atlanta.

Jared J. Wozny, EGR '13, and his wife, Shea, welcomed son, Aiden Grey Wozny, born June 13, 2018.

MARRIAGES BIRTHS & ANNIVERSARIES

2000s

Bradley Graham Bodiford, BUS '07, and his wife, Katie, welcomed their first child, Brendan Daniel Bodiford, in October.

Joel W. Paine, EGR '06, announced the birth of his children, Tabitha Paine, born in April 2017, and Joel Paine Jr., born in June.

2010s

Bethany A. Begnaud-Ströberg, LAW '10, and **Kevin D. Ströberg**, LAW '11, were married on Jan. 25, 2019. The couple resides in Milledgeville.

Charity Calhoun, PHA '13, married Michael Wagenti on Aug. 10 in Columbus.

Mary Smith Cousins Carr, CPA '18, was married in June.

IN MEMORY

1930s

Florence Karsten Carson, EDU '39, of Tifton, on Sept. 7, 2019.

1940s

Lena Corine Rogers Bittick, TIFT '48, of Forsyth, on Dec. 28, 2019.

Mariar L. Carpenter, PHA '49, of Milledgeville, on Jan. 22, 2019.

James L. Clegg Jr., CLAS '49, of Atlanta, on July 27, 2019.

Lucy Clarke Deavor, TIFT '41, of Charleston, South Carolina, on Oct. 17, 2019.

Nelzena Sullivan Gilmer, CLAS '46, of Blacksburg, Virginia, on Nov. 28, 2019.

Dorothy Hall Graham, CLAS '43, of Chattanooga, Tennessee, on July 31, 2019.

John Udel Grimsley, PHA '47, of Bainbridge, on July 15, 2015.

Wilhelmina Carr Hunt, CLAS '40, of Indialantic, Florida, on July 14, 2019.

Patisue S. Jackson, TIFT '47, of Newnan, on Jan. 2, 2020.

Charles Dexter Kimsey, CLAS '48, of Chestnut Mountain, on Sept. 5, 2019.

Joyce Daniel Mann, CLAS '46, of Macon, on Sept. 25, 2019.

Mary Enneis Menzies, CLAS '46, of Charlotte, North Carolina, on Nov. 21, 2019.

Frances Wilder Mitchell, TIFT '43, of Forsyth, on Dec. 16, 2019.

Miriam Jones Rozier, NUR '45, of Bennettsville,

South Carolina, on Sept. 24, 2019.

Jenny Nixon Sheffield, TIFT '48, of Douglasville, on Jan. 5, 2020.

Eda Klarer Stertz, TIFT '44, of Tretton, South Carolina, on Nov. 10, 2019.

Henry T. Williams, PHA '48, of Alpharetta, on July 12, 2019.

1950s

John Lamar Arnold Jr., CLAS '53, of Albany, on Dec. 2, 2019.

Robert Edward Atwater Jr., CLAS '50, of Atlanta, on Dec. 28, 2019.

Carl C. Aven III, PHA '59, of Catoosa, Oklahoma, on Aug. 4, 2019.

Doris Parker Bedford, CLAS '50, of Junction, on Feb. 28, 2018.

Sarah Anne Black, CLAS '51, of Tallahassee, Florida, on July 30, 2019.

Clyde O. Bloodworth, CLAS '54, of Chacellor, Alabama, on Nov. 17, 2019.

Sharon Sammons Callahan, NUR '58, of San Antonio, Texas, on Jan. 9, 2019.

Jeannine Brown Chapman, EDU '52, of Knoxville, Tennessee, on Sept. 9, 2019.

Margie Greene Cline, TIFT '57, of Social Circle, on Dec. 14, 2019.

Rebecca DeLoach Eades, CLAS '53, of Louisville, Kentucky, on Sept. 1, 2019.

Doris Chruh Ford, NUR '58, of Anniston, Alabama, on Sept. 12, 2019.

Thomas Alvin George, CLAS '50, of Savannah, on July 20, 2019.

Edna Peacock Gray, EDU '58, of Atlanta, on Oct. 1, 2019.

Joy Bourlay Hambrick, TIFT '52, of Franklin, Tennessee, on Oct. 4, 2019.

Charles E. Hardy, CLAS '57, of Sycamore, on April 12, 2019.

John Seaborn Harrison, LAW '55, of Grayson, on Oct. 7, 2019.

Emory W. Holloway Jr., CLAS '56, of Macon, on Dec. 15, 2019.

Patsy Alfred Jordan, CLAS '53, of Tate, on Sept. 21, 2019.

Thomas W. Keown Jr., CLAS '51, of Huntsville, Alabama, on March 23, 2019.

Elizabeth Hungerpiller Knowles, NUR '56, of Orangeburg, South Carolina, on July 13, 2019.

William P. Lane, CLAS '56, of Tifton, on Oct. 19, 2019.

Sylvia O'Neal Lazarus, TIFT '56, of Orlando,

Florida, on March 31, 2019.

Winston W. Leonard, CLAS '58, of Asheville, North Carolina, on Sept. 12, 2019.

Furman B. Lewis, CLAS '53, of Clarksville, on Dec. 24, 2019.

Wynella Wynne Martin, TIFT '50, of Forsyth, on Dec. 20, 2019.

Geraldine Speering Miller, TIFT '56, of Heiskell, Tennessee, on Nov. 13, 2019.

William P. Moore, CLAS '56, of Bountiful, Utah, on Dec. 4, 2019.

Betty Jo Curry Morris, EDU '53, of Decatur, on Sept. 28, 2019.

Betty Jones Pierce, NUR '58, of Saint Simons Island, on Sept. 29, 2019.

Phyllis Faircloth Pinholster, CLAS '59, of Bluffton, on Sept. 27, 2019.

Jeannelle Petty Pirkle, TIFT '51, of Hendersonville, Tennessee, on Dec. 28, 2019.

Paula Smith Powell, CLAS '56, of Atlanta, on Sept. 12, 2019.

Robert Mervyn Reagin, CLAS '53, of Sacramento, California, on Aug. 24, 2019.

William B. Trimble, CLAS '52, of Rome, on Sept. 26, 2019.

Janice Callaway Wallis, CLAS '55, of Rudyard, Mississippi, on Oct. 2, 2019.

E. Mullins Whisnant, LAW '50, of Columbus, on Oct. 12, 2019.

Bobby Guy Woodall, CLAS '53, of Canton, on Aug. 13, 2019.

Donald Eugene Young, CLAS '54, of Roanoke, Virginia, on July 1, 2019.

1960s

William Lonnie Barlow, LAW '67, of Cochran, on July 30, 2019.

William Barner, CLAS '61, of Dublin, on July 31, 2019.

Jerry Cecil Brown, CLAS '60, of Norcross, on March 27, 2019.

Tom A. Edenfield, LAW '63, of Savannah, on Oct. 15, 2019.

Whitney T. Evans Jr., LAW '63, of Macon, on July 26, 2019.

Maude S. Goldsby, EDU '67, of Macon, on Dec. 2, 2019.

Constance Norwood Gouge, CLAS '63, of Fayetteville, on July 8, 2019.

James Benedict Hall Jr., CLAS '63, of Macon, on Oct. 8, 2019.

David Holt, CLAS '63, of Tampa, Florida, on Dec. 5, 2019.

Mirriel Ann Brantley Johns, NUR '69, of Athens, on Nov. 23, 2012.

William Walter Keith III, LAW '69, of Chatsworth,

on July 26, 2019.

Roland K. Knight, CLAS '66, of Fernandina, Florida, on Sept. 12, 2019.

Nancy Roach Laramore, CLAS '64, of Carrollton, on Aug. 31, 2019.

Helen Monroe

Lineberger, CLAS '65, of Salisbury, North Carolina, on Oct. 18, 2019.

Charlotte Benefield Lough, CLAS '61, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, on Nov. 23, 2019.

Patricia Moye Martin, TIFT '68, of Albany, on Dec. 12, 2019.

William Farris McGee, LAW '67, of Flagler, Florida, on Dec. 14, 2019.

Mary Sue Gibson Moncrief, CLAS '66, of Auburn, Alabama, on Dec. 3, 2019.

Billy E. Moore, LAW '63, of Gainesville, on Nov. 25, 2019.

Patrick Henry O'Brien, LAW '66, of Atlanta, on Sept. 13, 2019.

Kay Harrington Pack, CLAS '69, of

Lawrenceville, on July 20, 2019.

Louise Donnan Priester, EDU '66, of Macon, on Nov. 20, 2019.

James Thomas Robinson, CLAS '68, of Merritt Island, Florida, on Aug. 31, 2019.

James C. Rodgers, CLAS '61, of Summerville, South Carolina, on Sept. 14, 2019.

Carl Padgett Rollins, CLAS '64 & LAW '66, of Dalton, on Sept. 25, 2019.

Paul T. Wells, CLAS '63, of Dunwoody, on Nov. 20, 2019.

William W. Wood, PHA '64, of Raleigh, North Carolina, on Dec. 31, 2019.

1970s

Glenda Lawson Brodie, EDU '74, of Suwanee, on July 24, 2019.

Lawrence Broome Jr., PHA '71, of Peachtree, on Nov. 25, 2019.

Ann Purvis Cook, TIFT '74, of Hellertown,

Pennsylvania, on July 21, 2019.

Catherine Golden Danna, CLAS '78, of Katy, Texas, on Sept. 30, 2019.

Shirley Pike Darden, EDU '75, of Savannah, on Nov. 21, 2019.

Melba Angeline DeLeGal-Joswiak, TIFT '72 & EDU '76, of Port Saint Joe, Florida, on Dec. 13, 2019.

Edgar Allan Fry Jr., CLAS '67 & LAW '71, of Macon, on Sept. 3, 2019.

Darrell Gary Gard, CLAS '73, of Miami, Florida, on Sept. 3, 2019.

Stephen J. Grizzard, HON '74, of Clarksville, on July 22, 2019.

Mable Brinkley Guthrie, TIFT '77, of Barnesville, on July 29, 2019.

Joel H. Heard, EDU '72, of Macon, on Dec. 5, 2019.

Donald Walter Huskins, LAW '74, of Eatonton, on Oct. 13, 2019.

Jerry Hugh Langford, CLAS '70, of Collierville, Tennessee, on June 7, 2019.

Kirk D. Martin, CLAS '78, of Alpharetta, on Oct. 20, 2019.

Max A. Mason, CLAS '74, of Summerland Key, Florida, on Sept. 7, 2019.

Byron Duke McClellan, PHA '77, of Weeki Wachee, Florida, on Sept. 12, 2019.

Betty Gerson Minsk, CLAS '79, of Atlanta, on Dec. 12, 2019.

Alexander G. Sandy Paderewski, LAW '75, of Sarasota, Florida, on Dec. 26, 2019.

Barbara Ann Price, TIFT '73, of Swainsboro, on Oct. 6, 2019.

Susan Fennell Scannon, CLAS '72, of Tampa, Florida, on June 25, 2019.

Judy Lee Holmes Shaw, NUR '79, of Jasper, on July 23, 2019.

James Albert Sparks, LAW '74, of Tyrone, on Dec. 29, 2018.

Berdell Cook Stinson, CLAS '76, of Woodland,

on Feb. 11, 2018.

Kenneth T. Taylor, LAW '71, of Huntsville, Alabama, on Oct. 28, 2019.

1980s

Albert J. Abrams, CLAS '78, EDU '84, of Macon, on Dec. 23, 2019.

Mignon Upchurch Beranek, LAW '83, of Tallahassee, Florida, on Nov. 29, 2019.

Kerry Randell Bunn, CLAS '81, of Tallahassee, Alabama, on July 13, 2019.

Virginia Temple Hammett, CLAS '80, of Atlanta, on Sept. 10, 2019.

Sherrod McWhorter Hart, TIFT '82, of Chickamauga, on Dec. 25, 2019.

Myrtle Liggins, EDU '88, of Eastman, on Dec. 4, 2019.

William Denlinger McCurry, BUS '86, of Tucker, on Oct. 11, 2019.

Jeanine Laurel Ziegler Messerschmidt, CLAS '82, of St. Petersburg, Florida, on Sept. 15, 2019.

Emily Pate Powell, LAW '82, of Lawrenceville, on Dec. 31, 2019.

Wayne T. Thompson, CLAS '88, of Durham, North Carolina, on Aug. 15, 2019.

Richard L. West, BUS '82, of Lilburn, on Dec. 5, 2019.

Stephen R. Yelvington, CLAS '81, of Blakely, on Sept. 7, 2019.

1990s

Dorothy Finley Duncan, EDU '92, of Winston, on July 17, 2019.

Tony Etchison, BUS '95, of Arcadia, Indiana, on Oct. 23, 2019.

Amber D. Mees Gailman, EDU '97, of Atlanta, on Sept. 4, 2019.

Marjorie Ladell Moore, CLAS '82, EGR '93, of Macon, on Nov. 13, 2019.

2000s

Bradford G. Clay, BUS '02, of Ballwin, Missouri, on Dec. 13, 2019.

Caroline Elizabeth Dwyer, NUR '03, of Atlanta, on Aug. 22, 2019.

Chad Randall Edwards, MED '06, of Dalton, on Dec. 14, 2019.

Patricia Jean Holland, EDU '01, of Warner Robins, on Dec. 8, 2019.

Jan Nicole Kirkland, NUR '02, of Buford, on Aug. 24, 2019.

Jackson Allen Lancaster, LAW '01, of Kennesaw, on Nov. 10, 2019.

Matthew Mahon "Matt" Myers, LAW '03, of Macon, on Sept. 5, 2019.

Hoyle Randolph Sessions, CLAS '01, of Macon, on Aug. 6, 2019.

Audrey Beth Tumlin, NUR '07, of Atlanta, on July 20, 2019.

2010s

Kyle Lawton Behm, EGR '15, of Atlanta, on Aug. 27, 2019.

Briana Rene Burgess, CLAS '14, of Macon, on Nov. 6, 2019.

Carl Virgil Lewis, CLAS '11, of Savannah, on Oct. 16, 2019.

Barbara Mitchell, DIV '12, of Atlanta, on Sept. 13, 2019.

FRIENDS, FORMER FACULTY & FORMER STAFF

William F. Cummings, of Forsyth, on April 12, 2018.

Edsel D. Davis, of Macon, on Oct. 29, 2019.

Sherwood F. Ebey, of Seawane, Tennessee, on Dec. 23, 2019.

Frances D'Ann Fuguay, of Grand Junction, Colorado, on March 21, 2019.

Wade W. Herring, of Macon, on Oct. 23, 2019.

Nell Jackson, of Macon, on Oct. 3, 2019.

Louise S. Kaplan, of Macon, on July 18, 2019.

Richard C. McCillan, of Danville, Florida, on Sept. 19, 2019.

Louise M. Morgan, of Beaufort, South Carolina, on Dec. 1, 2019.

Billy T. Nimmons, of Dalton, on Aug. 9, 2019.

Arthur Rutledge, of Atlanta, on Nov. 16, 2019.

Joseph R. Slocum Jr., of Snellville, on Oct. 10, 2019.

Donald S. Tate, of Warner Robins, on Oct. 27, 2019.

Sapphire Thomas, of Macon, on Nov. 9, 2019.

Paul T. Thomas, of Tifton, on Jan. 14, 2019.

Laura Wallace, of Atlanta, on Jan. 17, 2019.

Eddie J. Wheeler Sr., of Waycross, on Sept. 13, 2019.

REMEMBERING...

Friend and Generous Supporter

Charles Yates

Charles Henry Yates Jr. died at the age of 91 on July 30, 2019. Yates was born in Macon and spent his entire life as a vital and devoted citizen of his hometown

and its many organizations. He graduated from Lanier High for Boys in 1946 and received his BBA degree from Emory University in 1950. Yates began his career with Citizens and Southern National Bank. He worked with Yates Motor Company before beginning his own company, Yates Auto Contract Company, an automobile sales finance company. He was an organizer of Family Federal Savings and Loan, serving as president until its merger with Great Southern Federal in 1983. He achieved his designation as a certified financial planner and created Yates Financial Management serving individuals with their financial planning until his retirement in 1999.

Additionally, Yates was an organizer of First Macon Bank & Trust in 1988 and served as chairman until its sale to Colonial Bank in 1998. He was known throughout Macon for his service to many civic organizations and his church of 88 years, Mulberry Street United Methodist. His late wife of 62 years, Mary Jean Smith Yates, was a 1950 Mercer graduate, an active Phi Mu alumna, and a former Mercer Trustee. Ardent supporters of the arts, the couple gave generously to arts programs at Mercer and Yates served several terms as a board member for the McDuffie Center for Strings.

In 1973, he received the Mercer University Meritorious Service Award for his service to and support of the University.



50-75-100 YEARS AGO

Photos and archival information for 50-75-100 Years Ago assembled by Kathryn B. Wright and the Tarver Library Special Collections staff.

100 YEARS AGO

(Below) In 1920, Mercer University's longest running student newspaper, *The Cluster*, was started. The student publication was named for the hymnal, *The Cluster of Spiritual Songs, Divine Hymns, and Sacred Poems*: being chiefly a collection, published by Jesse Mercer in the 1820s and 1830s. Mercer University Archives has digitized *The Cluster* from its first issue and made them available online. They can be enjoyed at libraries.mercer.edu/ursa/handle/10898/1655. Check out the latest editions of *The Cluster* at mercercluster.com.



75 YEARS AGO

(Top) On Dec. 4, 1945, Navy officers lowered the flag outside of Shorter Hall (Lt. Commander R.G. Matheson, CSK E.T. Allen and Y2C C.M. Tubbs). Mercer supported the war effort by collaborating with the U.S. Navy to provide education for Naval recruits.

50 YEARS AGO

(Above) In November 1969, the Minister's Chapter of the Mercer University Alumni Association presented this Mercer flag to the University. Two students raised the new Mercer flag on the same flag pole outside of Shorter Hall. This orange and black flag was eventually framed and displayed for years in Connell Student Center and is now housed in the University Archives.



CAMPAIGN PROGRESS CONTINUES AS UNIVERSITY BREAKS GROUND ON NEW BUILDING

For 117 years, the College of Pharmacy has prepared its graduates to be health care leaders and patient advocates. Building upon a strong foundation of teaching, research and service, the College of Pharmacy has evolved to provide students with a patient-centered education that prepares them for pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences careers in a competitive job market. Taking pride in its history, with beginnings as the Southern College of Pharmacy, the

College now aspires to do more.

This spring, the University will break ground on a 65,000-square-foot **Pharmacy and Health Sciences Building** on Mercer University's 230-acre campus in Atlanta. Expected to be completed in 2021, the new building will house administrative, teaching and learning space for the College of Pharmacy and other Mercer Health Sciences Center programs. The \$36.8 million project also includes renovation of an additional 26,000 square feet of space in the DuVall Building to expand research labs for the College of Pharmacy's broadening research activities.

Building a state-of-the-art educational facility for the College of Pharmacy will greatly advance the College's teaching and research efforts and contribute to an enhanced student experience. Additionally, a new facility



A S P I R E

THE CAMPAIGN
for
MERCER UNIVERSITY

will be a powerful signal to prospective students, faculty and community partners that the College remains committed to providing an innovative learning environment for its students. For admissions and recruiting efforts, a new building will strengthen the College's capacity to attract and enroll the best available talent to its graduate and professional programs.

This project is a significant component of the \$400 million Aspire Campaign. For those desiring to honor or memorialize a favorite instructor or loved one, naming opportunities are available and can be fulfilled over a five-year period. For more information or to make a gift to the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences building, contact **Andrea Pendleton** in the Office of University Advancement at (678) 547-6546 or email pendleton_aj@mercer.edu.



The new Moyer Pharmacy and Health Sciences Building will have about 65,000 square feet and feature space for small-group meetings, break-out sessions, study groups, organization meetings and projects, a simulation lab, instructional space and administrative and faculty offices. The project also involves renovating space in the current pharmacy building to expand research labs.

ORANGE & BLACK GIVE BACK

May 4-8, 2020

This year's event will take place **Monday, May 4, through Friday, May 8.** If you would like to serve as a Week of Giving Ambassador, contact **Andy Carter** at carter_aw@mercer.edu or (478) 301-2924.

Visit mugiveback.com to learn more about the Week of Giving and find out how you can get **this year's limited-edition decal and T-shirt.**



ORANGE & BLACK GIVE BACK is an online-based fundraising event to increase awareness, support and donor participation for The Mercer Fund. In 2019, more than 1,400 students, alumni, faculty, staff, parents and friends came together May 6-10 and contributed more than \$150,000 to make a difference at Mercer.

MERCER
UNIVERSITY

MERCER **2020** FOOTBALL



SEPT. 5	AT	VANDERBILT
SEPT. 12	VS	WESTERN CAROLINA*
SEPT. 19	AT	WOFFORD *
SEPT. 26	AT	CAMPBELL
OCT. 10	VS	THE CITADEL *
OCT. 17	VS	FURMAN *
OCT. 24	AT	CHATTANOOGA *
OCT. 31	AT	SAMFORD *
NOV. 7	VS	ETSU *
NOV. 14	VS	CHARLESTON SOUTHERN
NOV. 21	AT	VMI *

 **HOME**  **AWAY** *DENOTES CONFERENCE GAME