

SURVIVAL STORY Tragedy
in No Mans Canyon

URGENT DELIVERY Vaccine
research spans globe


kansasalumni

ISSUE 1 | WINTER 2020 | \$7



Elite Scholars

*KU's Office of Fellowships guides
students in quest for national awards*



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Talk and squawk in the news



“My kids make fun of Saul’s determined walk. They call it ‘the dad walk.’”

— Actor Mandy Patinkin, '74, on his role as Saul Berenson on the Showtime series “Homeland.” Patinkin told the Wall Street Journal he lowers his voice to achieve a “deep, exhaustive sound” for an authoritative portrayal of the old-school CIA division chief. “Homeland” kicked off its final season Feb. 9.



“What I remember most about that first Super Bowl is all the empty seats in the mammoth Coliseum and the captains coming out for the pregame coin toss. There was no fanfare or hoopla like today. Who would have believed that it would turn into what it has today?”

— Veteran broadcaster and KU instructor Tom Hedrick, g'58, recalling his assignment as CBS Radio Network's color commentator for the first AFL-NFL World Championship Game—later christened anew as Super Bowl I—as told to David J. Halberstam of the Sports Broadcast Journal. After the 2019 death of CBS Television play-by-play legend Jack Whitaker, Hedrick became the only surviving broadcaster who called the 1967 championship game between the Kansas City Chiefs and Green Bay Packers.



“We’ve had a lot of alums reach out to say that that’s really cool that they get to see the official KU name in the esports world. There’s a lot of high schoolers who are emailing me and saying they’re really interested in coming to play for us and that that could get them to come to KU.”

— Michelle Compton-Muñoz, g'15, KU's esports coach, on competitive video-gaming

“I like to say that independent pharmacy is more than a career path. It’s a rich and rewarding lifestyle.”

— Gene Hotchkiss, p'69, senior associate dean of the KU School of Pharmacy, on the benefits of working at a locally owned pharmacy in rural Kansas. Since 1998, Hotchkiss has taken students on an annual tour of independent pharmacies in central and southeastern Kansas. This year's tour, as reported by the Lawrence Journal-World, included 13 pharmacies.



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COVER STORY

Elite Scholars

Chasing the nation's highest honors, students get a helping hand from the recently founded Office of Fellowships.

by Heather Biele

Cover image by Steve Puppe



Survival Story

David Cicotello made it through six harrowing days in the Utah wilderness, but his life-changing journey didn't end there.

by Steven Hill



Urgent Delivery

Researchers at a new KU center help make vaccines that can survive hard journeys to the remote places they're needed most.

by Mindie Paget



Profile: Paige Albert

A young entrepreneur finds her career calling in Kansas City’s bridal market.

by David Garfield

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WINTER 2020

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ONLINE EXTRAS

Video
Grad students in English to benefit from Cicotello fund

Audio Essay
Rex Buchanan on the Petroglyphs of Kansas

Digital Feature
KU’s new varsity esports team competes in League of Legends

From the Archives
The Fan Man has made a career mapping the psyches of sports nuts. Turns out you’re not so crazy, after all.



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magazine.org**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Kansas Alumni welcomes letters to the editor. Our address is *Kansas Alumni* magazine, 1266 Oread Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66045-3100. Email responses may be sent to the Alumni Association, kualumni@kualumni.org. Letters appearing in the magazine may be edited for space and clarity. For letters published, we’ll send a free KU gift, a \$5 value.

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IGNITE POTENTIAL

The indomitable Jayhawk spirit is a beacon of hope in Kansas and beyond. Private support fuels KU's success by transforming students into leaders and ideas into discoveries. Most gifts are \$500 or less, but regardless of size, each one opens doors to new opportunities.



WELCOME to the next era of *Kansas Alumni*. After many months of research, brainstorming, choosing and planning, the redesigned magazine makes its debut with this Issue No. 1, Winter 2020, a quarterly print format, beginning, of course, with the new logo (or nameplate, in magazine parlance).

The magazine team has created a new visual and editorial presentation to appeal not only to the Association's current members, but also to new generations of readers, who connect with content far differently than their elders. To be honest, it is high time for a makeover, but most important, the print edition now must complement kansasalumnimagazine.org, the expanded digital format that made its debut last August, offering stories to all Jayhawks who visit the site.

Of course, we are mindful of the fact that the magazine remains by far the most valuable membership benefit, as alumni affirmed in our 2018 survey. Equally important is your alumni magazine's 118-year tradition. As stewards of this legacy, we are committed to preserving the high standards and trusted voice of the longest-running periodical that captures KU stories.

Here's a guide to help you navigate:

Page 1 of the new format, which formerly housed half of the Table of Contents,

now highlights *Heard by the Bird*, or, as Creative Director Susan Younger, f'91, christened the page, "talk and squawk in the news," tidbits from varied local, regional and national media that mention Jayhawks or KU.

The Table of Contents is now a double-page spread that presents all stories throughout the print edition as well as digital features and extras, including videos and, in this edition, an audio essay.

This page, formerly *First Word*, now will share a *KU Voice*—an essay by a varied University or Association leader.

Lift the Chorus, our letters to the editor, will remain, though sadly we did not receive enough recent letters to fill a page in this issue (hint, hint).

Near the front and the back of each magazine, we will display dramatic photos of places, people, and memorable events in *First Glance* and *Photo Finish*.

Rock Chalk Review describes an expanded up-front section that combines elements of the former *Hilltopics*, *Jayhawk Walk* and *On the Boulevard*, along with stories on research, the arts and books that appeared in the previous *Rock Chalk Review* at the back of the magazine. We plan to offer more variety up front and bring research stories forward to their rightful place in KU news. After many decades, we have retired the *Hilltopics* name, which

no longer fits a university that spans five campuses and growing numbers of online students and alumni.

Jayhawk Sports will showcase more in-depth profiles of individual athletes, along with highlights from all KU teams who wear the crimson (or pink) and blue.

Following the feature stories, alumni profiles and Alumni Association news form a section called *Always Jayhawks*. Our profiles trace alumni as they travel varied life or career paths, including those who attribute their professional success to the powerful KU connections and resources that students and alumni now can access more easily through the Association's *Jayhawk Career Network*.

Of course, *Class Notes* and *In Memory*, the mainstays of any alumni magazine, remain your go-to resources. Even in the age of social media, readers still rely on this essential news about alumni from their classes and decades.

For the finale, we have revived *Hail to Old KU*, a nod to our mission to preserve cherished KU history, including reverent and irreverent milestones, quirky characters or episodes and, of course, the treasured traditions that bind us all, no matter where we live or how long ago we left our hallowed home. *Rock Chalk!*

HEATH PETERSON, PUBLISHER
JENNIFER JACKSON SANNER, EDITOR

FIRST GLANCE

AFTER MONTHS of furious renovation work, an energized Stauffer-Flint Hall opened its new front doors—now facing Jayhawk Boulevard—Jan. 21, just in time for the start of spring-semester classes. Along with sorely needed upgrades to the 121-year-old building's structure and systems, the new ground floor now features an open-plan lobby flanked by a broadcast and podcast studio and the Susanne Shaw Student Media Center, all of which can be used as teaching and study spaces during the day and University Daily Kansan and KUJH-TV production space in the evenings.

PHOTOGRAPH BY
STEVE PUPPE



STAUFFER-FLINT HALL

“I have come to know Barbara as a genuine and compassionate person who cares deeply about students, research and higher education. She is a Jayhawk to the core and committed to this university’s success.”

—Chancellor Doug Girod,
on Provost Barbara
Bichelmeyer



STRONG HALL

Return to the Hill

*Jayhawk with four KU degrees leaves UMKC post
to assume leadership of Lawrence campus*

PROVOST BARBARA BICHELMAYER, the youngest in a family of 10 siblings, describes her parents as “the most inquisitive people I ever met.” As children of the Great Depression, however, they were denied any chance at higher education, and her father, John, worked in butcher shops and meatpacking plants across northeastern Kansas until 1946, when he founded the still-thriving Bichelmeyer Meats.

Respecting her father’s wishes, Barbara came to Mount Oread to study journalism.

“I really wanted to major in English because I loved to write,” recalls Bichelmeyer, j’82, c’86, g’88, PhD’92, whose tenure as provost and executive vice chancellor begins Feb. 26. “My father, being a man of the trades, said, ‘That’s not going to get you a job,’ so we made a deal that I would major in journalism and I could get a job and move on from that.”

While working as a reporter for the Olathe Daily News and as a founding editor at Intertec Publishing’s Cellular Business magazine—her introduction

to the nascent technology revolution—Bichelmeyer also pursued her dream of studying English, earning her second degree in 1986. She supplemented her income by officiating local sports; while working a tournament, she bumped into her high school principal. He surprised her with a job offer.

“The first day, I had two of my nephews and nieces in various classes. I said, ‘I can’t mess up their brains,’ so I ran straight back up to KU and said, ‘I need some courses in teaching.’”

So began a journey that led Bichelmeyer to advanced degrees in educational policy and administration and educational communications and technology; unanticipated instructional work with Fortune 100 companies and the U.S. military; and,

ABOVE Barbara Bichelmeyer, shortly after arriving at Strong Hall on a sunny December morning to meet new colleagues in the Office of the Provost.

in the mid-1990s, a year as the School of Education's director of technology before transferring her career to Indiana University-Bloomington—a member, with KU, of the prestigious Association of American Universities—where she spent 20 years in assorted research, teaching and administrative roles.

Bichelmeyer in 2015 joined the University of Missouri-Kansas City as provost, executive vice chancellor and professor in the Henry W. Bloch School of Management. She told the Adams Alumni Center audience at her November candidate presentation that she had not sought out KU's provost job, but eagerly accepted when invited to apply.

"I'm a little nervous," she said, "as well as honored and very much excited."

Chancellor Doug Girod on Dec. 6 announced that he had chosen Bichelmeyer ahead of three other finalists, including Interim Provost Carl Lejuez, who now returns to his role as dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences after 19 challenging months guiding the Lawrence campus through a one-time budget amputation of \$20 million.

"I have come to know Barbara as a genuine and compassionate person who cares deeply about students, research and higher education," Girod wrote in a letter to campus, noting their years of cooperation in advancing regional economic development as leaders of Kansas City's two most prominent universities. "She is a Jayhawk to the core and committed to this university's success."

With the hiring of Bichelmeyer—an Alumni Association Life Member since 1997—KU's top three leaders are fluent in all things Rock Chalk:

When named chancellor in 2017, Girod was in his 23rd year at KU. Girod in 2014 lured prominent cardiologist Robert Simari, m'86, away from the Mayo Clinic to become dean of the School of the Medicine, and in 2018 Girod named Simari as his replacement as KUMC's executive vice chancellor.

"What you have is people who have a deep appreciation for, and connection to, this university, writ large," Bichelmeyer says. "We have a great appreciation for the assets that this university can bring to bear at this moment of change."

While traditional systems required rigidity in time and place, boring fast-paced students while others were blamed for failing to keep up, technology and systems advances can now flip the paradigm. Rather than "holding time constant and letting achievement vary," Bichelmeyer says, educators can "hold achievement constant and let time vary a bit."

Noting at her candidate presentation that support systems and human behavior inevitably collide, she added, "You have to organize so that people have the tools and resources they need, and the incentives they need, and the organizational systems they need, and the culture they need, so that they know how to do things, they want to do things, and they have the ability to do things."

"That's how my brain thinks all day, every day."

—CHRIS LAZZARINO



Martin Baron, executive editor of the *Washington Post*, will receive the 2020 William Allen White Foundation National Citation for journalism during KU's annual William Allen White Day celebration April 16. Baron joined the *Post* in 2013, leading the paper to nine Pulitzer Prizes. He edited the *Boston Globe* for 11 years, during which the paper won six Pulitzers. The award is bestowed by trustees of the William Allen White Foundation. Both the foundation and KU's School of Journalism and Mass Communications are named for White, 1890, editor of the *Emporia Gazette*.

RYAN WAGGONER



Day at the Museum: *Dinos stalking galleries? Let's get pics! KU's Natural History Museum and Spencer Museum of Art enlivened national Museum Selfie Day, Jan. 21, to encourage visitors to snap and share. "It's OK to have fun in the galleries," says Spencer's Elizabeth Kanost, c'09, j'09, g'14. "Taking selfies is a way for people to document their experiences and find works that speak to them."*

“While the task force recognizes the need to enjoy the college experience, students at the University too frequently have taken the experience to extremes.”

—Sorority and Fraternity Life Task Force



STEVE PUPPE

STUDENT LIFE

Greek report issued

After year of study, task force delivers suggestions to chancellor

FRATERNITY FRESHMEN should continue living in chapter houses, in recognition of higher GPA and retention rates for in-house freshmen than their non-Greek peers, and, in an effort to dampen the growing tradition of Thursday night revelry, Friday morning classes should return to the Lawrence campus, across all disciplines and schools.

Those are two findings by a 27-member Sorority and Fraternity Life Task Force, which delivered its 12-page report to Chancellor Doug Girod one year after its formation (studentaffairs.ku.edu/sorority-and-fraternity-life-task-force).

Also of note is a plea that all four KU councils—the Interfraternity Council (IFC), Multicultural Greek Council (MGC), National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) and Panhellenic Association (PHA)—unite in common cause, including chapter and campus leaders, student members, alumni and their house boards, chapter advisers and KU staff.

Included within the plea for improved unity and communication are national governing associations, parents and Lawrence neighborhood associations.

“The truth is, these stakeholders have not always been on the same page,” Girod wrote in a Jan. 10 campus letter, “which is largely why we

needed to create this task force to begin with.”

Recognizing that KU’s sorority and fraternity community represents more than 20 percent of the undergraduate population, it was suggested that staffing in the office of Sorority & Fraternity Life be increased to include a full-time assistant director for IFC; an additional coordinator position for PHA, MGC and NPHC; and graduate student support. Because a portion of that budget is provided by the Greek community, it was also recommended that students and alumni have a voice in staff selection.

With health and safety as priorities, the task force plainly stated that hazing must be eliminated and that the community hold itself to higher standards of conduct: “This is a responsibility the community must take seriously.” Programming must focus on “root cause,” including alcohol, drug and prescription drug abuse; hazing; and sexual harassment, abuse and assault.

“While the task force recognizes the need to enjoy the college experience, students at the University too frequently have taken the experience to extremes, often with life-changing results,” the report states. “These issues require difficult, candid conversations and cannot be improved without a commitment by all parties to change the culture that currently exists.”

The task force, chaired by Beta Theta Pi alumnus Mike Michaelis, b’68, g’69, intends to continue its work and views its report “as a framework to begin to address the critical issues facing the Greek community.”

—CHRIS LAZZARINO

ACCOLADES

Honorary doctorates

Journalist, artist to receive degrees

BILL KURTIS AND ROGER SHIMOMURA will become the University's 20th and 21st recipients of honorary doctorates during the 148th Commencement, May 17. Kurtis is a renowned broadcaster and documentarian, and Shimomura is an acclaimed artist and longtime KU Distinguished Professor.

Kurtis, j'62, who grew up in Independence, has excelled as a reporter and broadcaster. A graduate of KU and Washburn University School of Law, he began his career at WIBW-TV in Topeka. Following his 24-hour coverage of the destructive 1966 tornado, he became a CBS reporter and anchor in Chicago. He led the first team to report on the defoliant Agent Orange's impact on U.S. servicemen. As a result, veterans affected by Agent Orange became eligible for compensation and treatment. He also chronicled the desperate plight in Saigon of children of U.S. servicemen and Vietnamese mothers. His story led to laws granting the children access to the United States.

He later co-anchored the CBS Morning News and, after retiring from the network, he founded Kurtis Productions. He created a Peabody Award-winning series, "The New Explorers," for PBS as well as documentary series for the A&E Network, The History Channel and CNBC.

Kurtis maintains his Kansas roots as a conservationist and owner of the 10,000-acre Red Buffalo Ranch in the Flint Hills. It is the nation's largest

remaining tract of tallgrass prairie.

Shimomura, born in Seattle, spent two years of his early childhood in Minidoka, Idaho, in one of 10 concentration camps for Japanese Americans during World War II.

As a distinguished military graduate from the University of Washington, he served in Korea, and later earned his master's degree in fine arts from Syracuse University. Often inspired by his immigrant grandmother's diaries, Shimomura has created paintings, prints and theatre pieces that depict the sociopolitical issues of Asian America. Featured in more than 150 solo exhibitions, his work is in the permanent collections of more than 80 museums.

He has received more than 30 grants, including four National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships. He was named the first Kansas Master Artist and received the Governor's Arts Award. A KU faculty member since 1969, he is a Distinguished Professor and recipient of the Higuchi Research Award and the Chancellors Club Career Teaching Award.

—JENNIFER JACKSON SANNER



Bill Kurtis



Roger Shimomura



STEVE PUPPE

True fan: John Halpin, e'75, on Nov. 30 concluded his 50th-consecutive season of attending every home football game. His wife, Kathy Weaver Halpin, d'74, g'76, often joined him, but many times Halpin drove in from Overland Park alone. "There were a lot of Saturday mornings that I didn't want to get up out of bed and go to the game, but I did," he says. "It doesn't mean I stayed the whole game, but I went."

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

For full listings of events, visit the links below.

Spencer Museum of Art

"Staging Shimomura,"
Feb. 29 through
June 21

spencerart.ku.edu

Lied Center

April 17 Candid
Camera's LOL Tour with
Peter Funt

lied.ku.edu

Humanities Lecture Series

March 26 "The Lies that
Bind: Rethinking
Identity," Kwame
Anthony Appiah, KU
Union Ballroom

hallcenter.ku.edu/hls

Murphy Hall

April 14 HornBone-
A-Palooza

music.ku.edu

KU Theatre & Dance

March 20-22, 25-29
"Indecent," William Inge
Memorial Theatre

theatredance.ku.edu

Academic Calendar

March 9-15 Spring
break

May 7 Last day of
classes

“People typically don’t have web connections when they’re out finding fossils; they need something when they’re out in the field.”

—Bruce Lieberman



RESEARCH

Fossil guide evolves

Digital Atlas of Ancient Life adds Android app, Cretaceous specimens

FOSSIL HUNTERS of all ages—and smartphone preferences—now can use a new and improved digital field guide, thanks to a KU-led team of scholars.

Researchers at the Biodiversity Institute and Natural History Museum in December released Version 2.0 of the Digital Atlas of Ancient Life, a smartphone app now available to Android users. The first rendition of the app, released in 2015, worked only on iPhones.

The digital atlas continues KU’s quest to share the millions of specimens in its collections, not only with fellow scholars but also with everyday discoverers who yearn to know more about the natural world.

“Our collections have great importance for scientific research, and we make sure our data is available to scholars, but we recognize that many people are fascinated by the natural world around them,” says Bruce Lieberman, senior curator at the institute and professor of ecology & evolutionary biology. “We can give them the opportunity to see things that are still locked in cabinets, and that’s a huge advantage.”

Lieberman, who joined the KU faculty in 1998, leads the atlas project, which began with a National

Science Foundation grant to launch the Digital Atlas of Ancient Life website in 2014. He collaborated with Jonathan Hendricks of the Paleontological Research Institution in Ithaca, New York, and colleagues from several universities to gather digital images of specimens from their combined collections. A mobile version was the natural next step. “People typically don’t have web connections when they’re out finding fossils; they need something when they’re out in the field,” Lieberman says.

Two additional NSF grants supported the 2015 release of the first mobile app and Version 2.0. Although the first app was available only for iPhones, it garnered 7,500 active users in the United States, Canada and beyond. In only one month since Version 2.0 made its debut, more than 1,750 users downloaded the tool, Lieberman says.

The improved app features 30% more content, including 500 new species from the Cretaceous period (which began 145 million years ago and ended 66 million years ago), along with maps of collection sites in Kansas and regions throughout North America. The first version of the app focused on invertebrate fossils; Lieberman says users of the new app are especially pleased that the additional Cretaceous specimens include fossil vertebrates, primarily from the Western Interior Seaway that covered Kansas and neighboring states. “People seem really psyched about sharks’ teeth,” he says.

The digital atlas team also includes Rod Spears, who built the program infrastructure for the mobile app. Spears previously worked at the KU Biodiver-

FOSSIL APP AT A GLANCE:

The Digital Atlas of Ancient Life app is available for both iPhone and Android platforms.



sity Institute to create Specify, the software used by museums worldwide to share data from their collections. Zach Spears refined the design for the new mobile app, which features crisp, high-resolution images and easy navigation.

Users can browse specimens from the Cretaceous period; the Ordovician, which began 488 million years ago and ended 443 million years ago; Pennsylvanian, 318 to 299 million years ago; and Neogene, 23 to 2.6 million years ago. The images lead to facts about fossils' geographic distribution and taxonomy. If proposals for continued grant support succeed, the team plans to add more geologic time periods and geographic regions to the app.

Though the mobile digital atlas is a welcome resource for paleontologists and other scholars, Lieberman and his colleagues hope to promote curiosity and exploration among K-12 teachers and their students and anyone interested in fossils, especially in Kansas, a region rich in specimens.

"Kansans are intuitively inquisitive about the natural world," he says. "We have a real connection to the land because of the importance of agriculture, and we live in a state that has large amounts of countryside, even near big cities like Kansas City. There are lots of rock exposures, so people naturally come into contact with fossils."

Though he cautions fossil hunters to steer clear of highways and busy roads, where collecting is illegal, Lieberman says there are countless opportunities to find specimens along local roads and trails. "They are anywhere where you see rocks that outcrop, especially the yellow rocks," he says. "Those are going to be packed with fossils."

"Someone could walk up to a rock and pick up a shell that lived 290 million years ago under a gentle shallow sea."

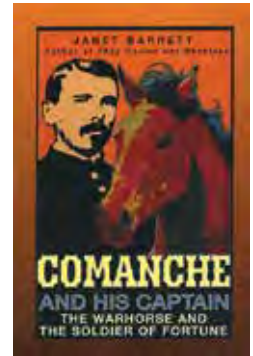
—JENNIFER JACKSON SANNER

OPPOSITE This large ammonite, an extinct relative of squids, lived during the Cretaceous period about 85 million years ago. It was collected from the Cody Shale of Wyoming, part of a vast region (including what is now Kansas) that lay beneath a shallow seaway stretching from Mexico through Canada.

LEFT The Digital Atlas of Ancient Life app features images from the Cretaceous and three other geologic time periods.

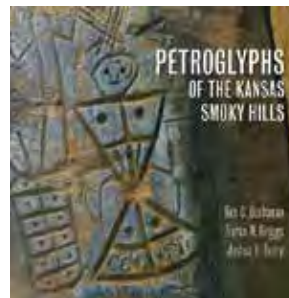
BOOKS

Comanche and his Captain
by Janet Barrett
Tall Cedar Books, \$18.95



Comanche and his Captain, by horsewoman Janet Barrett, tells the long overdue story of the

long overdue story of the KU Natural History Museum's iconic warhorse—preserved by L.L. Dyche himself—and the charismatic Irish soldier of fortune and Civil War hero who in 1868 purchased a tough mustang, rounded up by horse traders in the south Texas desert, for \$90. Their devoted partnership, which ended with Capt. Myles Keogh's death at the Battle of Little Big Horn, became frontier legend, but details dimmed. This tightly told tale, Barrett's second warhorse history, restores man and mount. After *They Called Her Reckless*, about a Marine mare who served valiantly in the Korean War, Barrett turned next to Comanche. "I was suddenly on the trail of a long and complicated history," she told *Kansas Alumni*. "I've fallen in love with Comanche."



Petroglyphs of the Kansas Smoky Hills
by Rex C. Buchanan,
Burke W. Griggs and
Joshua L. Svaty
University Press of
Kansas, \$29.95

Little known and rarely seen sandstone carvings left by the first inhabitants of what became central Kansas are detailed in this magnificent book by Rex Buchanan, director emeritus of Kansas Geological Survey; photographer Burke Griggs, '06, associate professor of law at Washburn University; and former Kansas secretary of agriculture Joshua Svaty. Buchanan, a KPR contributor, details the authors' intentions for their passion project in an audio essay written and recorded for *Kansas Alumni*, available at kansasalumnimagazine.org.

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Wild at Heart

Journalist sees potential saving grace in human-animal connection

WE LIVE IN THE ANTHROPOCENE EPOCH, a geological era so dominated by mankind that our works and ways have fundamentally altered the planet's ecosystem. We've dammed half the world's largest rivers and converted 20% of the world's land to agriculture, creating monocultures that account for perhaps 95% of the planet's land-based vertebrate biomass in the form of pets and livestock.

These statistics and the many others that journalist Richard Louv, 71, marshals in *Our Wild Calling* form the factual argument that we are fouling our nest. But Louv, co-founder of the Children and Nature Network and author of 10 books, including the landmark *Last Child in the Woods*, which warned of the perils of Nature Deficit Disorder in children, does not settle for merely documenting objective proof of the planet's decline. Repeating the Dutch artist and naturalist Jan van Boeckel's argument that science and the environmental movement need "art and heart" in addition to analysis and warning, he urges a shift in perspective to what he calls the shared "habitat of the heart," a mysterious space between our physical environment and our inner life that represents the potential for deep connection between humans and animals.

Gathering firsthand stories of people who've experienced this "crossing over"—a child who bonds with the family dog, an oceanographer who has a mystical encounter with an octopus, a wildlife advocate whose life is twice transformed by jaguars—Louv builds a case for what greater awareness of and empathy for animals can do for humans. Rather than view them as tools for profit or barriers to progress, we should see our fellow creatures as deserving of lives beyond human intrusion even as they can help us become more human by putting us in touch with senses "long forgotten or never known."

Louv is not only a collector of stories but also a fine storyteller in his own right. The concepts he explores tend toward abstraction, a misstep he

frequently avoids with his own well-timed injections of art and heart. Discussing the documented health benefits of keeping pets, he notes that a full explanation is ultimately beyond the reach of science. "It's like dissecting love," he writes. In a chapter on animal language, he grounds academic research on extraspecies communication with an observation many an outdoorsman would find authentic: "When we answer the call of a coyote or owl with our own, we sing the oldest song."

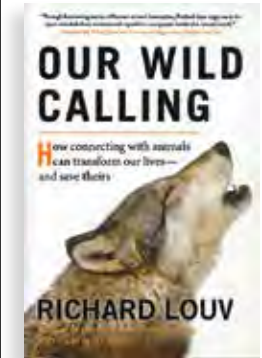
The dire environmental situation we face today, Louv rightly concludes, "calls for the mother of all resets." His deep dive into the ecological, psychological, physical and spiritual connections between us and our fellow animals is hopeful such a reset can happen, that we may move from the Anthropocene to the Symbiocene, the era of connectedness. Describing the efforts of a disparate group who practice soliphilia, "a state of mind that encourages people to work together to repair the world and themselves," Louv contends they are pursuing "a way of life that recognizes the threat of the climate crisis and biodiversity collapse but refuses to give in to the global psychological depression. Not able to heal the entire world, they are choosing to live lives of caring and reciprocity. In communion with the natural world, they are conducting beautiful acts not out of (or at least not solely from) guilt or obligation but from their heartfelt inclinations—their desire for personal healing and for reassurance that hope survives."

Such acts benefit the planet's wild things and places, *Our Wild Calling* argues, as well as the wild heart that beats inside us all.

—STEVEN HILL



STEVE PUPPE



Our Wild Calling
by Richard Louv
Algonquin Books of
Chapel Hill, \$27.95

Richard Louv

*Laila Anderson and
Kenton Felmlee*

“When they said he was studying to be a doctor, I just thought he already saved a kid’s life.”

—Heather Anderson, Laila Anderson’s mother



COURTESY: KENTON FELMLEE

STUDENTS

A perfect match

KU student donates bone marrow to save 10-year-old girl

KU SOPHOMORE Kenton Felmlee had no idea what was in store when he joined the Be The Match bone marrow registry in 2018. Then an 18-year-old senior at Lawrence High School, he learned about the organization from his history teacher, Valerie Schrag, g’02, who had recently donated bone marrow and shared her experience with students. Felmlee was inspired by her story and signed up at an event at the high school.

“I figured, why not?” he recalls. “They’ll probably never call. It’s slim to none that they’ll call. Even if they do, I’m OK with that. It’s something I can do.”

Much to his surprise, Felmlee was contacted within months of registering, and in less than a year, he not only donated life-saving bone marrow but he also discovered that the transplant recipient was none other than Laila Anderson, the young St. Louis Blues superfan who became a national sensation during the team’s quest for the 2019 Stanley Cup title.

Felmlee, a pre-med student, had just started his freshman year at KU when he learned he was one of three potential matches for a 10-year-old girl with hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis, or HLH, a rare disease in which the body’s immune

system attacks healthy blood cells. After a series of tests, Felmlee was confirmed as a perfect match and agreed to donate his bone marrow to help save the young girl, a decision he made in large part because of his father, Jeff, PharmD’01, who also suffers from an immune disorder.

“He listened and was a good sound board to bounce my ideas and thoughts off of,” Felmlee says of his father, who offered guidance and explained that the surgical procedure to extract the bone marrow from his pelvis would be difficult. “He helped me prepare mentally for that.”

Little could prepare Felmlee, though, for the surprise of learning Anderson’s identity in November, 10 months after undergoing surgery at KU Medical Center. “When [Be The Match] told me her name, they said it was big,” Felmlee recalls with a smile, explaining that at the time he didn’t know who she was. A quick Google search, which “exploded” with results, soon remedied that: “The first thing that popped up was a video of her kissing the Stanley Cup at the game. And then that she had visited the White House and received an award in Toronto. It was just all of these amazing things that she had done. It was astounding.”

Anderson’s family was equally eager to learn about Felmlee. “When they said he was studying to become a doctor, I just thought he already saved a kid’s life,” says Heather Anderson, Laila’s mother. “He just has to be a special soul to sign up at 18 years old and agree to do that. I just thought it was amazing.”

After connecting with Anderson and her family through Facetime, phone calls and emails, Felmlee finally met them during a Be The Match event in December in St. Louis, which raised more than \$665,000 for patients in need of stem cell transplants. Felmlee was overcome with emotion as he rushed onstage to embrace the inspiring young girl who had battled her disease for more than two years.

“The first thing I said to her was that I loved her,” he recalls. “It was weird at first to think that I could love somebody I had never met, but I did. I definitely, definitely did. She instantly felt like family.”

Following the fundraising event, Felmlee spent the weekend in St. Louis with Anderson and her family and attended a Blues hockey game, where he received a heartfelt welcome and standing ovation from the team and fans.

“Laila’s very loved in this town,” Heather Anderson says, “and now people love Kenton, too.”

—HEATHER BIELE

Astronaut O'Hara

WHEN SHE GRADUATED from more than two years of basic training and earned her silver astronaut pin at the Johnson Space Center, Loral O'Hara officially became the fourth Jayhawk astronaut and is now among the small group of candidates vying to become the first woman to walk on the moon.

NASA's Artemis program is expected to launch its first moon-landing mission in 2024; at the Jan. 10 ceremony in Houston, Administrator Jim Bridenstine emphasized that women will be among the crew.

Given her recent graduation, it's unlikely O'Hara would vault into a seat on the first moon mission since Apollo 17—during which command module pilot Ron Evans, e'55, became the last human to orbit the moon alone and one of only three astronauts to conduct a deep-space spacewalk.

None of that concerns O'Hara, who emphasizes that she's dedicated to supporting her classmates and the entire astronaut office, no matter the assignment.

"With the [astronaut] office these days, and my class in particular, the environment is not competitive at all," O'Hara told *Kansas Alumni* in an exclusive interview shortly after her graduation. "It's so cooperative. It was a really cool and unique experience going through that basic training with them and learning how to be a really good team. I've never really had that experience."

Expanded O'Hara coverage is available at kansasalumnimagazine.org, as is a link to *Kansas Alumni's* reporting on O'Hara's 2017 selection for astronaut training.

—CHRIS LAZZARINO

Border farewell: *As we noted in a 2016 story about restaurants that live on only in memory, Border Bandito's Mark Arndt, '76, shares with his patrons a list of local joints the 23rd Street taqueria has outlasted; sadly, Arndt adds the final update June 20, when he ends Border Bandito's 50-year run. "I hope we've stayed true to our customers," he wrote on Facebook, "and made your experience here as good as possible." The good news: Still time for another Texas burrito or two.*



CHRIS LAZZARINO



STEVE POPPE

Kij Johnson, '04, associate professor of English and associate director of the Gunn Center for the Study of Science Fiction at KU, received the 2019 World Fantasy Award for Best Novella in November. Given by the World Fantasy Convention, the World Fantasy Awards recognize the best fantasy fiction in a range of genres. Johnson's novella, "The Privilege of the Happy Ending," was published in *Clarkesworld* magazine. She also won prestigious Nebula and Hugo awards for best novella in 2012.

UPDATE

Stresses of identity in flux

WHEN DISCUSSING *Journalism's Lost Generation*, a 2016 book for which he surveyed thousands of journalists about the crucibles of layoffs, marginalization and ridicule, Professor Scott Reinardy told *Kansas Alumni*, "Journalists are under siege."

His next step was to interview hundreds of former journalists to gauge their sense of the print landscape as well as their personal well-being. Reinardy's study, co-written with an Australian colleague, found that 36% of respondents still identify as journalists even after leaving the profession.

"When you're committed to the idea that you are a journalist, that's who you are," Reinardy says, "and when you're told you're not going to do that anymore, it takes a real part of you."

Reinardy also found that 39% of study participants reported emotional difficulties, including depression, yet 24% said they felt relieved to leave the field and were ready for new opportunities.

—CHRIS LAZZARINO



NASA

“Chancellor Gray-Little led with a special dignity and grace that made her a role model for Jayhawks everywhere. We are thrilled to rename such an important building in her honor.”

—Chancellor Doug Girod



STEVE PUPPE

CAMPUS

Gray-Little Hall

Integrated Science Building will become 17th chancellor's namesake

BERNADETTE GRAY-LITTLE, who led the University from 2009 to 2017, will return to the Hill later this year to celebrate the official renaming of the Integrated Science Building in her honor. The long-awaited hub for research and education in the sciences, which opened in 2018, will become Gray-Little Hall.

The Kansas Board of Regents in December approved the building's new name, along with a new title for KU's 17th leader: chancellor emerita.

“Chancellor Gray-Little guided KU to unprecedented success, elevated the University's stature, and transformed the way KU serves the state,” said Chancellor Doug Girod. “Among her many accomplishments was the development of the Integrated Science Building to provide outstanding new research space at a crucial moment in the University's history.”

The building comprises approximately 280,000 square feet of space for teaching, learning and interdisciplinary research in chemistry, medi-

cal chemistry, physics, molecular biosciences and related fields. It is the centerpiece of the vibrant new Central District, a once-in-a-generation project on the Lawrence campus. During Gray-Little's eight-year tenure, KU completed 50 capital improvement projects totaling \$700 million.

She guided other transformations, advancing the University's mission to educate future leaders, build healthy communities and make life-changing discoveries:

- New admissions standards, scholarships and more robust student recruitment led to five straight years of growth in the freshman class.
- In 2012, KU succeeded in its long quest to achieve National Cancer Institute designation.
- The Schools of Engineering, Pharmacy, Medicine and Nursing expanded.
- With state funding and donors' support, KU recruited 12 renowned scholars to become new Foundation Distinguished Professors.
- KU Endowment completed a record-setting \$1.66 billion fundraising campaign.

Along with her achievements, Girod lauded his predecessor's leadership style. “Chancellor Gray-Little led with a special dignity and grace that made her a role model for Jayhawks everywhere” he said. “We are thrilled to rename such an important building in her honor and to forever have the pleasure of referring to her as Chancellor Emerita Bernadette Gray-Little.”

—JENNIFER JACKSON SANNER





YOUR

home away from home

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“Students want something more than the transcript to show they received systematic training on cybersecurity.”

—Bo Luo



STEVE PUPPE

UPDATE

Engineering strengthens cybersecurity programs

KU UNDERGRADUATES HOPING to forge careers in the rapidly burgeoning field of cybersecurity have long looked outside the classroom to gain experience battling hackers, testing themselves in competitions that pit teams from different universities in simulated cyberwar games [“Domain Defenders,” issue No. 2, 2017] designed to test students’ ability to ward off online attacks that corporations, utilities and public institutions face daily.

Now these students have more options inside the classroom, thanks to a four-course cybersecurity program from the School of Engineering that for the first time allows undergraduates to build and certify their expertise at defending digital networks in workplaces, schools and homes.

The program requires students to take Introduction to Communications Networks (EECS 563), Introduction to Information and Computer Security (EECS 565), and one other three-credit security-related course of the student’s choice. A final cyberdefense requirement can be earned by either completing an additional three-credit course or by practicing cyberdefense techniques in real-world scenarios such as the competitions attended by the school’s Jayhackers team.

Bo Luo, professor of electrical engineering & computer science and faculty adviser for the team, expects the certification will be in high demand

from students, who stand to benefit from more job offers and higher starting pay. “They want security courses and something more than the transcript to show they have taken the courses—that they received systematic training on cybersecurity,” Luo says. Even students who don’t plan to make cybersecurity their career will benefit. “With that knowledge, with that certificate, a student in software engineering is going to produce code that is less vulnerable,” he says. “There will be a long-term benefit there.”

The certificate is part of an ongoing effort to bolster KU’s offerings in the rapidly growing field. The School of Engineering has expanded cybersecurity faculty to five tenure-track positions and is in the midst of a \$4.7 million, five-year grant from the National Science Foundation that’s part of a nationwide effort to bolster the federal government’s information security systems while supporting students who agree to take jobs after graduation defending critical national infrastructure systems at the Central Intelligence Agency, National Security Agency, Department of Defense and other federal, state and local agencies. In December, the school announced a new planning grant from the NSF that enables KU researchers to design a Center for High-Assurance Secure Systems and IoT (CHASSI) that would enlist researchers at five universities to strengthen security for a range of items, from Internet of Things products to important infrastructure systems like energy grids and financial markets. KU will submit its final proposal to the NSF this year.

—STEVEN HILL

CLASS CREDIT

ROTC honors

THREE STUDENTS in KU's Reserve Officer Training Corps distinguished themselves during the past year with achievements that place them among America's ROTC elite.

Midshipman 1st Class Alyssa Sharp was one of only 15 midshipmen in the nation selected to participate in a Foreign Exchange Cruise with the Japanese Navy. The Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, senior in economics and African-African American studies spent two weeks aboard the Japanese ship Shimakaze.

Midshipman Jake Murray finished third in the nation at the Conning Officer Virtual Environment Competition, which tests students' ability to drive and handle ships under various simulator scenarios. The senior from Lake Zurich, Illinois, is majoring in supply chain management.

Army ROTC Cadet Alden Vogel graduated at the top of his cycle at Advanced Camp, a month-long training event that tests cadets' leadership skills. The Overland Park senior in economics earned the distinguished RECONDO Badge, which is awarded to less than 3% of trainees, for exceeding standards in physical fitness, navigation, marksmanship, first aid and other essential field skills.

KU is one of just 53 universities that have all three service ROTC programs on one campus. Since the programs began at KU, nearly 3,000 ROTC graduates have gone on to serve the nation.

—STEVEN HILL



ABOVE ROTC cadets Alyssa Sharp, Jake Murray and Alden Vogel earned national distinction during training and exchange programs in 2019.

MONEY MATTERS

KU is the state's only public university to lower its food and housing rates for the 2020-'21 academic year. For a double occupancy room and a basic dining option, which includes 10 meals per week, the University will see a 0.7% decrease in cost, from \$9,768 to \$9,700.



The Robert W. and Geraldine Wilson Museum Fund recently received \$950,000 in gifts and pledges from three women that will benefit the study of mammals at the KU Biodiversity Institute and the Natural History Museum. The fund, established in 2007, honors the late Robert Wilson, a professor of zoology and associate curator of vertebrate paleontology at the museum from 1947 to 1961. The gifts were committed by his daughter, Professor Emerita Margaret Wilson; her late cousin, Frances Fefes; and her close friend and longtime KU librarian, Sally Haines.

Mass Street & more



SUSAN YOUNGER

Where synapses sizzle

LAWRENCE LEAPED into the top 20 on the latest "Bloomberg Brain Concentration Index" after climbing 33 spots in three years. Trumpeting that "the synapses are sizzling in the Lawrence, Kansas, metropolitan area," and citing "youthful energy generated by a university population of more than 30,000," the annual survey ranked Lawrence No. 19 on a list that also features other college towns and cities—Boulder, Ann Arbor, Charlottesville, Durham, Madison—that, like Lawrence, boast concentrated talent pools in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.



CHRIS LAZZARINO

All aboard!

REDEDICATED IN 2019 after 10 years of restoration efforts led by local volunteers, including mid-century modern enthusiasts, the Santa Fe train station in east Lawrence is once again a charming transit hub for Amtrak's Southwest Chief, with daily service to and from Los Angeles and Chicago.



“I don’t know that we have anybody who guards like him since I’ve been here. We’ve had some good defenders, but I don’t think we’ve had anybody better than him.”

—Bill Self, on Marcus Garrett



STEVE PUPPE (4)

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Lockdown

‘Tough as nails’ Garrett grinds out reputation as elite defender

SINCE THE CONCEPT of retiring jerseys to the Allen Field House rafters was initiated before the 1991-'92 season, criteria for the rarefied honor have come to include such gaudy credentials as national player of the year, two-time first-team All-American and consensus first-team All-American.

Will KU ever raise Marcus Garrett’s jersey? Doubtful. Which probably won’t be a huge disappointment to the laconic Texan, since he’s already, even as a junior, a member of a much smaller group: Bill Self’s unofficial “he’s a stud” club.

“He’s tough as nails,” Self said of Garrett, a 6-5 wing from Dallas, after Garrett subbed for injured point guard Devon Dotson and racked up 15 points, five rebounds, and five assists against one turnover while playing 38 minutes as the Jayhawks’ primary ball-handler and lockdown defender in KU’s 66-52 victory Jan. 14 at Oklahoma. Oh, and this: Garrett was playing on two bad ankles, for which he has endured daily treatment all season.

“All the good teams we’ve had here that have had success have had guys that are considered ‘glue guys,’” Self said before the Dec. 19 Villanova game. “Travis Releford. Kevin Young. Unbelievable glue guys. Landen Lucas, unbelievable glue guy. But I think [Garrett] takes it to another level. As good as we’ve been defensively [in the past], I don’t know that we have anybody who guards like him since I’ve been here. We’ve had some good defenders, but I don’t think we’ve had anybody better than him.”

Self recently added an unexpected attribute for a player who can make Frank Mason III sound like

ABOVE Marcus Garrett (0), named to the Midseason Naismith Award Defensive Player of the Year watch list, is scoring more than 10 points a game in Big 12 play, much to the delight of senior center Udoka Azubuike and freshman guard Christian Braun (2).



a Chatty Cathy: “I think our team lacks personality. Dot’s not a personality guy on the court. Ochai [Agbaji] isn’t. To me, [Udoka Azubuike] and Marcus give us our personality.”

Tough, an elite defender who relishes the chore, and some on-court panache: Self’s kinda guy.

Garrett’s teammates think so, too.

“I think Marcus does everything,” says freshman guard Christian Braun. “I’ve realized that coach Self loves tough dudes, and I would say Marcus is one of his favorite dudes of all time.”

“I look up to Marcus, defensively, and pretty much all of our guys do, too,” says Agbaji, a sophomore guard. “He’s our leader.”

“Marcus, he’s a do-it-all guy,” Dotson says. “He’s the guy we can rely on defensively and we can get energy from.”

Garrett says he didn’t grow up idolizing any particular player, but now follows Jrue Holiday, an 11-year NBA veteran who is a prolific scorer as well as a member of the

league’s All-Defense First Team.

“I feel like he’s one of the best two-way guards in the NBA,” Garrett says, “and he has the ability to defend multiple positions, too.”

Turns out, playing multiple positions is yet another tool in Garrett’s kit. He regularly rotates through all the perimeter spots, he can leap into the fray as an athletic forward, and he even took a few turns at center when two of Self’s three big men were suspended after the Jan. 21 K-State melee.

After Garrett rang up 12 points and six assists in KU’s 60-53 victory Jan. 4, West Virginia coach Bob Huggins said, “That’s a hard cover when they play him at the four, because he can bounce it so well.”

Garrett is known to pay attention to the national college basketball scene, but not as a fan. As Self told *The Athletic*’s CJ Moore, “He sees it through a coach’s lens, as opposed to just watching.” Even the humble Garrett allows that he usually has his own scouting report prepared even before coaches break down film on an upcoming opponent.

Turns out, however, that Garrett doesn’t do such a great job scouting himself. The “defensive savant,” in the words of *The Athletic*, is averaging 5.11 assists a game through the first half of the Big 12 season, trailing only Iowa State’s Tyrese Haliburton, a potential NBA lottery pick, and Garrett leads the conference in assist-to-turnover ratio at 2.88, far outpacing Haliburton’s 1.82.

“I actually didn’t know that until you just told me,” Garrett said after KU’s 69-58 victory Feb. 3 over Texas. “I definitely didn’t think that was possible, before the season. It’s kind of me being more aggressive this year, trying to make more plays.”

After Garrett’s gutsy performance filling in for Dotson at OU, Self, referencing Dotson’s expected departure for the NBA, said, “There’s no doubt who the point will be next year.” It’s an assignment Garrett would relish, but not one he wants this season. For now, he wants to play alongside Dotson, not *for* Dotson, and give Dotson much-needed breaks from the grind of defending the opponent’s ball-handler

while also bringing the ball up against pressure.

“When I see teams try to pressure [Dotson] and deny him the ball full-court, I always go ask him if he wants me to bring it up,” Garrett says. “It’s my job to help him out and not have him bring the ball up against pressure the whole game.”

Garrett recently conceded that he spent his summer working on ball-handling—not, as many assumed, shooting—and he admits his atypical height for the point guard position gives him the advantage of seeing over the perimeter defense.

“To me, he’s as fun a player as I’ve had to coach,” Self says. “You know, here may be a little bit different because you think of Tyrel’s legacy, or Brady’s legacy, or Travis’ legacy [Reed, Morningstar, Releford], and you don’t think of guys who score a ton of points. You think of winners. And I think that will be his legacy, that he is a true winner.

“I also think this, though: I think his ceiling is higher than those other guys. I think if he tightens some things up from a shooting standpoint, he could play this game for a long time.”

Upon closer inspection, there *is* one criterion with which Garrett might one day see his No. 0 jersey lifted to the rafters: Most Valuable Player of the NCAA Tournament would have a nice ring to it, eh?

TRACK AND FIELD

Fly, 'Hawk, fly

Record-setting pole vaulter aims for NCAA titles, Tokyo Olympics

PULLING YOUR BODY up to, then falling from, more than 18 feet—over and over again for an entire afternoon—can’t possibly look easy, yet that’s exactly what Zach Bradford achieved last April when he burst onto the KU sports scene with a stunning Kansas Relays victory at Rock Chalk Park.

“With boyish zeal and brash ability,” in the breathless reporting shared in these pages, Bradford flew 18 feet, 11 inches, exceeding the World Championships’

STEVE PUPPE



Bradford

qualifying standard and topping the KU record, 18-10.75, set in 1983 by vaulting legend Jeff Buckingham, j'84.

"Going into it, it was just another meet, just another chance to jump high," Bradford recalled Feb. 7, one day before setting a new KU indoor mark, 18-8.75, at Nebraska. "But I didn't think it was going to be *that* high. Pretty good tailwind, nice weather, big crowd. That helped."

Even more than the height, though, Bradford, then a freshman in his first Kansas Relays, made it look ... well, *easy*. For sure fun. And then comes a glance at his roster photo at kuathletics.com: one palm wrapped in tape, face flushed, arms raised in bruised and battered victory.

The boyish zeal of an MMA fighter?

"In the meet, you don't seem tired because you've got that adrenaline rush, you're flowing, everything feels good," Bradford says, "but your body is definitely beat up. You feel it afterwards."

Now a sophomore with sights set on Big 12 and NCAA indoor and outdoor titles, as well as the Tokyo Olympics, Bradford says the current indoor season was slow to develop because his body needed rest. Last season didn't end until the first week in October, at the conclusion of the IAAF World Championships in Qatar. Bradford, then 19 and the youngest member of Team USA, placed 22nd in the world.

"I took that whole trip as a learning experience, having fun with it on and off the track, learning every little bit I can from the older athletes," Bradford says. "I just had fun, kept a smile."

He is now training toward the Olympics, but bars will be high: 18-10 to qualify for the U.S. trials, where he'll have to place in the top three to make Team USA, and

19 feet to meet the Olympic standard.

Growing up in Bloomington, Illinois, Bradford shadowed his older brother, Steven, at practice, until fifth grade, when he picked up a pole and started jumping. He won back-to-back junior high championships, and as a freshman was already within 4 inches of Steven's high school record when he told himself, "OK, I'm doing something right."

But he did not win the state meet; in fact, he didn't even *qualify*: "Is this something I want to do, or do I want to keep working at it and become the best?" Bradford did not lose another conference or state championship in his remaining three high school years, then leaped straight into Kansas Relays glory and even the World Championships.

Brash ability? Maybe not so breathless after all.

"He's the real deal, there's no doubt about it," coach Tom Hays, d'90, said after the shocking Relays triumph. "He's one of the U.S.'s best talents."

As for that memorable afternoon, Bradford does correct the record: It was *not* easy. But, fun?

"How can it not be," he answers with a laugh, "when you're flying your body 18 feet in the air and you're floating up there?"

UPDATE

Junior **Manon Manning**, sophomore **Kate Steward**, senior **Elizabeth Amato-Hanner** and senior **Carly Straight** began swimming and diving's Feb. 1 dual meet with Arkansas by breaking Robinson Natatorium's 11-year-old record in the 200-yard medley relay, which was promptly followed with pool records by Manning in the 100-yard backstroke and **Dannie Dilsaver** in the 200-yard individual medley, en route to a 178-118 victory. One

JEFF JACOBSEN



Dilsaver

week later, KU closed out the regular season 7-1 as senior **Jenny Nusbaum** won three individual races and a relay in a 204-111 victory at Iowa State. ...

Women's basketball zoomed through its nonconference

season undefeated, capped by a 21-point performance by freshman guard **Holly Kersgieter** Dec. 30 against Wofford. Senior forward **Mariane De Carvalho** on Jan. 16 scored 16 to lead KU to its first Big 12 victory, 67-50 over Texas Tech. ... Senior **Gleb Dudarev** on Jan. 24 won the Jayhawk Classic weight throw with an 80-foot toss, the fifth-best mark in NCAA history. Earlier in January, Dudarev was named to the Bowerman Preseason Watch List, honoring the nation's top 10 track and

field athletes. ... Senior forward **Katie McClure** was drafted 23rd overall by the Washington Spirit of the National Women's Soccer League, and senior defender **Addisyn Merrick** was chosen 28th by the North Carolina Courage. ... **Chris Harris Jr.**, c'12, and **Aqib Talib**, '09, in December were named among the top 10 cornerbacks of the decade by ProFootballTalk.com, and Hall of Fame running back **Gale Sayers**, d'75, g'77, was named college football's all-time 10th-best player by ESPN.



Midway through the Big 12 season, sophomore point guard Devon Dotson, named to every national player of the year watch list, was leading the conference in scoring at 18.15 points per game, nearly two points better than TCU's Desmond Bane.

PHOTOGRAPH BY
STEVE PUPPE

**With help from
KU's Office of
Fellowships,
three outstanding
Jayhawks outshine
the competition
to win prestigious
national awards**

ELITE SCHOLARS

by Heather Biele

PHOTOGRAPHS *by* STEVE PUPPE

When Anne Wallen, c'03, received an offer in 2012 to join the University Honors Program staff, she “felt like the skies opened.” After earning her bachelor’s degree in Germanic languages & literatures and humanities & Western Civilization, she had been advising honors students on fellowships at the University of Minnesota, where she completed her master’s and doctoral degrees. Returning to KU was a dream come true.

Now program director at the Office of Fellowships, she has worked with scores of talented, ambitious young Jayhawks, expertly identifying scholarship and fellowship opportunities and guiding them through the arduous application process. This year, four KU students were named

finalists for some of the most prestigious national awards, including the Rhodes, Marshall and Mitchell scholarships.

“Having four finalists was pretty wild,” Wallen says. “The most I’d had before for this caliber of competition was two, and four was more than twice the work.”

With more than 25 scholarships and fellowships to track, Wallen manages a formidable calendar of deadlines each year and oversees campus nominations and endorsements for 11 of the nationally competitive awards, as well as committees that support students through mentoring and practice interviews. Phillip Drake, a faculty fellow and associate professor of English, and graduate assistant Charlesia McKinney help Wallen with campus outreach and other projects.



Catalina Wedman, Alex Murray and Sam Stewart

Though Wallen is the first to admit that the process isn't all about winning, capturing one—or in this case, three—of those coveted national honors is certainly sweet. Shortly before the fall semester ended, KU announced that Alex Murray, a finance and environmental studies major, had received the George J. Mitchell Scholarship; Sam Steuart, an American studies and biochemistry major, was awarded the George Marshall Scholarship; and Catalina Wedman, a Spanish major with minors in political science and global & international studies, was named the University's second Charles B. Rangel Fellow.

These fellowships will fund the full costs of Murray and Steuart's graduate degrees, as well as stipends for living expenses. Wedman will receive up to \$95,000 in benefits for her advanced studies.

Considering that the acceptance rate is less than 5% and that many applicants hail from private and Ivy League institutions, the winning trio, Wallen and the University have much to be proud of.

"These are the best of the best," Wallen says of KU's competition for these prestigious awards. "But our students can be successful on the same kind of footing with students from all over the country. That's what's amazing about them."

"I've met a number of kids who would like to be able to change the world, and Alex is someone I think might actually be able to do it."

—Jim Guthrie, mentor to Alex Murray

Alex Murray's pursuit of degrees in finance and environmental studies—a somewhat unusual pairing—stems in large part from his Midwestern roots. At an early age, Murray developed a deep appreciation for the environment and agriculture, thanks to his parents, who grew up in farming communities. He nurtured that interest at Olathe Northwest High School, where he participated in debate and speech and learned the value of researching and understanding societal issues, including those that affect the environment.

"When you talk about the problem of climate change, it's this existential threat to communities that are very close to my family," Murray says. "That was a big inspiration for me. And I think debate really brought in the academic side of things, the awareness of current events. That combination pushed me to why I chose what I studied."

Though Murray initially had siloed his concern for the natural world from his education, a seminar during his freshman year in KU's business leadership program helped him understand how his economic and environmental interests might converge. "I started to see that there was this overlap that was developing," he says, "and



Murray

it's something that during my time at KU has become much clearer."

In 2017, Murray co-founded Net Impact, a campus organization that aims to identify alternative career paths for business students and create lasting social and environmental change on campus and in surrounding communities. The student group has hosted several guest speakers who promote sustainability in their business endeavors, including the CEO of local coffeemaker The Roasterie and the mayor of Greensburg, the rural Kansas town that was rebuilt using green practices following a devastating tornado in 2007. Now recognized as one of the most sustainable communities in the United States, the town partnered with graduate architecture students in KU's Studio 804 program to design and build the 5.4.7 Arts Center, the first LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Platinum building in Kansas.

"We wanted to bring awareness to students that they could do something with their careers that wasn't just accounting or a very traditional role," Murray says. "The skills that you learn as a business student

are applicable in so many other contexts.”

Murray’s vision for his career involves using his expertise in finance to help combat the ongoing challenge of climate change. As one of 12 Mitchell Scholarship winners selected nationwide from a pool of nearly 360 students, Murray in fall 2020 will study renewable energy and climate finance at University College Dublin. He is only the second Jayhawk to earn this award, after Kathryn Ammon, c’19, won in 2018. Murray hopes to one day work at a global nonprofit organization like the World Resources Institute and eventually help influence economic policies at the United Nations.

“We need to change finance to meet the issue of climate change,” Murray says. “I hope to be a leader in that space.”

Amy Burgin, associate professor in ecology and evolutionary biology and environmental studies and associate scientist at Kansas Biological Survey, has seen Murray’s leadership potential firsthand through his work in her classroom. “He just has this great way of making people feel at ease and drawing people into conversation and having a real personal connection,” she says. “But then he also has this ability to synthesize information and make new insights and novel contributions. Some people do one or the other really well, and I think it’s rare to do both. He’s got a unique combo there.”

As a junior, Murray also launched the KU Beekeeping Club with two other students and recruited more than 400 members in its first year. The club has built and installed hives at the KU Field Station in North Lawrence and visited local classrooms to teach young children about the critical role pollinators play in the ecological sustainability of our planet.

Jim Guthrie, the William and Judy Docking Professor at KU’s School of Business, developed a bond with Murray over their shared love of beekeeping. “I’ve met a number of kids who would like to be able to change the world, and Alex is someone I think might actually be able to do it,” Guthrie says. “He wants to be able to make

“He’s got vision. He’s got drive. He’s ambitious. He really wants to see a better world, and he has no fear of putting himself out there to bring that about.”

—Vincent Francisco, mentor to Sam Steuart

the economic and business case for dealing with the problems that are facing us in terms of climate and to be able to talk with multiple stakeholders in order to attack the problem. And he’s going after it full force. He’s preparing himself, I think, to really be able to make a difference.”

Sam Steuart’s life took a fortuitous turn during his freshman year at Shawnee Heights High School in Topeka. While attending one of his older sister’s volleyball games, a student’s mother asked him whether he would be as smart as his sisters, both of whom excelled in academics and athletics. “I had been dealing with those expectations my entire life,” recalls Steuart, who often felt overshadowed by his older sisters’ successes. “All I could muster was, ‘I sure hope so.’”

Another mother who witnessed the exchange approached a visibly distraught Steuart and encouraged him to discover his own path, possibly through a leadership experience like student council. That year, Steuart entered the race to become sophomore class president and won.

“That was where I found myself and I loved it,” says Steuart, who eventually became the school’s student body president his senior year. “From there it just became a thing.”

Steuart continued to take on leadership roles throughout his career at KU, becoming president of the pre-medicine fraterni-

ty Phi Delta Epsilon and executive director of KU’s Center for Community Outreach (CCO), an organization that provides service opportunities for students on campus and in neighboring communities. Steuart oversees 12 student volunteer programs, including the Campus Cupboard and Hawks for Health.

Mary Barnes Klayder, associate director of undergraduate studies and University Honors lecturer, was Steuart’s first faculty adviser at freshman orientation. She also has traveled with him on two study abroad trips and works with him at CCO.



Steuart

“He’s amazing,” says Klayder, c’72, d’75, g’82, PhD’09. “I don’t think I’ve ever met anyone like him. He’s able to lead by being Sam, by having this incredible energy.” Regarding his work as executive director at CCO, she continues, “The number of volunteers he has is phenomenal, because he creates an energetic and positive space, and people want to go there.”

The Topeka native, who is on a pre-medicine track majoring in biochemistry and American studies with a minor in Spanish, was one of 46 students selected this year to receive the Marshall Scholarship, an honor KU last celebrated when Mark Bradshaw, c’01, won in 2003. The fellowship, which is awarded annually to high-achieving scholars nationwide, is named after former U.S. Secretary of State George Marshall and was created by the British government to bolster its alliance with the United States after World War II. Stuart, who also was named KU’s 20th Harry S. Truman Scholar in April, plans to study comparative social policy at Oxford University in England, where he hopes to learn about the country’s welfare policies and programs and the success England has had in garnering public support for them.

Social equity in health care has been a central theme during Stuart’s time at KU. In addition to his roles with Phi Delta Epsilon and CCO, Stuart volunteers at the JayDoc Free Clinic at KU Medical Center and has worked with school-based health centers in Topeka, which deliver high-quality care to students of all socioeconomic backgrounds.

After earning his graduate degree at Oxford, Stuart plans to attend medical school and become a professor in medicine and public health, “to focus on equity and what we can do as physicians to ensure that we’re giving the same level of care to every single patient population,” he says.

Long term, Stuart hopes to become a leader in health care policymaking at the state and national levels and, eventually, run for political office—lofty goals that come as no surprise to Vincent Francisco, Stuart’s faculty mentor in the University Scholars Program.

“He’s got vision,” says Francisco, g’92, PhD’95, Kansas Health Foundation Professor of Community Leadership and senior scientist at the Life Span Institute. “He’s got drive. He’s ambitious. He really wants to see a better world, and he has no fear of putting himself out there to bring that about.”

Francisco recalls one of his first conversations with Stuart, during which the young man said he one day wanted to be governor of Kansas. “I think he’s going to have a bigger impact on the world than that,” Francisco says, “although that would be awesome if he were to do that. His getting the Marshall is just an indicator of where he’s going to go next.”

After graduating from high school in her native Costa Rica, Catalina Wedman moved to the United States to join her father, who had recently returned to his hometown in Harper, Kansas, to be near family. She took jobs at a grocery store and a restaurant, but soon found herself wanting to go back to school.

“My high school was really hard, and it needed to be worth it,” Wedman says. “I wanted to keep studying. That’s when I started looking at different colleges.”

She was shocked to learn how expensive continuing her education in the states would be. “The tuition is what people earn in two years in Costa Rica,” says Wedman, before adding with a laugh, “I literally Googled, ‘How do people pay for college?’”

Armed with Pell grants and scholarships, she enrolled at Johnson County Community College in Overland Park, earning her associate’s degree and building a foundation to eventually attend KU. She wanted to become a Spanish professor.

During that time she also learned about KU’s McNair Scholars Program, which helps low-income, first-generation and underrepresented minority students prepare for doctoral study through paid research



opportunities, faculty mentors and tutoring. Wedman was accepted in the program in fall 2017, her first semester at KU.

“They pay you to do research,” she says, “which is really important for low-income students. You want to get those experiences, but you can’t do it for free because you still have a lot of stuff to pay. It’s a great program.”

In addition to taking classes full time, Wedman also helped support herself by working 30 hours a week at JCCC’s International and Immigrant Student Services,



commuting two hours each day on the bus. As she advanced through her courses at KU, she discovered that she no longer wanted to teach Spanish at a university; instead, she wanted to work in foreign policy and bring about positive, lasting change on an international scale.

Wedman took a giant step toward fulfilling that goal in December, when she received the Rangel Fellowship, which is funded by the U.S. Department of State. More than 800 people applied last year for the fellowship, and Wedman was one

of 30 winners, only the second recipient from KU after Constanza Castro Zúñiga, c'19, won in 2018. She will receive up to \$95,000 to support a two-year master's degree in a field of study that relates to foreign service, as well as internships and other training opportunities. Wedman, who is assured a five-year contract as a foreign service officer when she graduates from the program, plans to study international affairs.

A member of the University Honors Program, Wedman also has studied abroad

ABOVE Anne Wallen (left) has worked with hundreds of fellowship candidates over the years, some who start seeking guidance as early as freshman year. Her advice to them? "Do things that make sense to you and are going to give you a great experience no matter what," she says. "You can't plan your college career around the idea that you're going to be a Rhodes Scholar."



Wedman

in Xi'an, China, and has completed a research fellowship with the Foreign Military Studies Office. Last year she received a Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship grant from the U.S. Department of Education, which has provided financial support during her final year at KU and allowed her to cut back on job responsibilities. She currently works part time as an intercountry adoptions student trainee at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in Kansas City, a job she feels will ultimately prepare her for a career in foreign service—and one that occasionally has reminded her of home.

“When I was in Costa Rica, right across my street was this orphanage,” Wedman recalls. “Once I was working here in Kansas, reviewing this adoption document, and it was from Costa Rica. It was from that orphanage. When I was little I just saw it, and I didn’t think I could do anything about it. Now I know some of the decisions you make can make sure a child goes to a good home.”

Mulu Lemma, director of the McNair Scholars Program, met Wedman when she first applied for the program. “She is defi-

nately one of the most hardworking people I’ve met,” says Lemma, c’05, g’10, emphasizing that Wedman excelled in her classes while working nearly full time in Kansas City. “She is really well-organized, detail oriented. She is also super-empathetic. She cares deeply. Both her career and academic aspirations are connected to a deeper, bigger picture and making a meaningful contribution to society.”

Lemma believes those traits will serve Wedman well as she prepares for a career in foreign service. “I think what’s going to make her successful is she is very determined to be that person who provides a gateway to diplomacy, a gateway to peace and a gateway to connect different people to each other.”

In 2017, at the prompting of DeAngela Burns-Wallace, then vice provost for undergraduate studies, the Office of Fellowships transitioned out of the University Honors Program and became part of undergraduate studies, a move that ultimately has allowed Wallen to expand the office’s mission and connect with more students.

“A lot of people thought you had to be in the honors program to apply for these scholarships, which was never true,” Wallen says. “But there was this perception that was hard to overcome.”

Now housed in Summerfield Hall with the Center of Service Learning, the Center for Undergraduate Research and the University Career Center, the office’s central location is easily accessible and welcoming for *all* students on campus—even those who aren’t in the honors program. Wallen says the move also has improved interaction and collaboration with those campus partners in the former School of Business building, many of which see a steady stream of students inquiring about experiential learning opportunities and career counseling services.

Wallen casts a wide net when identifying Jayhawks for nationally competitive awards, enlisting “campus scouts,” as she calls them, and tapping into high-achieving student groups like the McNair Scholars Program, the honors program and the University Scholars and Global Scholars programs. “Any student who’s even applying to those could be a national fellowship candidate,” Wallen says, “because they have that extra ambition.”

Determination and drive are vital for students interested in fellowship opportunities. Under Wallen’s guidance, the vigorous application process typically includes a series of thought-provoking questions, written essays and, depending on the fellowship, even experimental research papers. “That’s the wonderful thing about the applications themselves is that they’re very pedagogical,” Wallen says. “They ask the students to think through

“She is definitely one of the most hardworking people I’ve met. ... Both her career and academic aspirations are connected to a deeper, bigger picture and making a meaningful contribution to society.”

—Mulu Lemma, mentor to Catalina Wedman

specific things and answer questions that they probably haven't had to think about before."

Articulating their interests, career goals and personal strengths proved to be an invaluable experience for this year's fellowship winners. "It really encourages you to think about what compels you, what motivates you and why you're doing it," says Steuart, who submitted applications for the Truman, Marshall and Rhodes scholarships.

Murray, who competed for the Rhodes, Marshall and Mitchell scholarships, encourages any interested students to participate in the process. "It does give you that moment of clarity as you begin to prepare to leave KU," says Murray, who views the experience as beneficial for job hunting as well. "Had I not gone through something like this, it would have been really hard to know where I wanted to go next."

Eleven of the top fellowships require campus nominations, including the Marshall and Mitchell scholarships, which Murray and Steuart competed for and won. Wallen recruits KU faculty, staff and community members to serve on those nomination committees and also support students through practice interviews and mentoring. Though Wedman's Rangel Fellowship did not require campus nomination, she still benefited from one-on-one advising with Wallen, as well as mock interviews with committee members.

"I counted, and working with people, thanks to Anne, was more than 15 hours," Wedman says, in addition to the time spent crafting her essays and contemplating answers to interview questions. "It was a lot of time, but it's worth it, because I know how many hours I've had to work to pay for other things in my school."

Wallen collects feedback each year from students who apply for fellowships and uses that information to help guide future candidates. She also taps into the experience of past winners, including Ruth Anne French-Hodson, c'05, and Kelsey Murrell, c'12, the University's 25th and 26th Rhodes Scholars; and Brenda Eisele Jackson, c'90, and Melinda Carden Lewis,

"People say, 'What's the key or what's the secret?' The secret is that there's no formula. It has to be these students who have figured out something that really drives them and motivates them, and find a way to bring it all together." —Anne Wallen



Wallen

s'99, who won Truman Scholarships in 1988 and 1999, respectively. Longtime faculty member Barbara Schowen, assoc., professor emerita of chemistry who retired in 2003 after nearly three decades at KU, also serves as an invaluable resource, after guiding hundreds of students through the application process when she led the honors program from 1996 to 2003.

"It's a big team project," Wallen says. "A multiyear, multigenerational project."

The impact that Wallen, the campus community and KU alumni have had on this program is immeasurable, a view enthusiastically shared by Murray, Steuart and Wedman, all of whom emphasized that the University's support and investment in them was critical to their success. And considering that Wallen was among

the first to hear from each student upon winning, it's safe to say that she's doing something right.

"People say, 'What's the key or what's the secret?'" Wallen says. "The secret is that there's no formula. It has to be these students who have figured out something that really drives them and motivates them, and find a way to bring it all together. I can't take credit for them having done all those things. But it's my job to help them put it together in a coherent and compelling application so that other people can get the message of how cool they are." —

Best of the best

Here's a look at the number of Jayhawks who have won some of the most prestigious national fellowships:

- Astronaut Scholarship 11
- Goldwater Scholarship 67
- Marshall Scholarship 10
- Mitchell Scholarship 2
- Rangel Fellowship 2
- Rhodes Scholarship 27
- Truman Scholarship 20
- Udall Scholarship 20



SURVIVA



by Steven Hill

No Mans Canyon photograph by Tim Davis

**Confronted with tragedy,
a brother finds his way
back to the world**

STORY

David Cicotello was stuck.

On a day hike in No Mans Canyon, a slot canyon in the fabled Robbers Roost area of southeastern Utah, Cicotello was in the middle of a two-stage rappel with his brother Louis. It was Sunday, March 6, 2011. The two had hiked into the canyon's north fork around 9 a.m., wended their way through tight sandstone rifts worn deep in the flat mesa by centuries of wind and water, and completed four short rappels—including one they set up out of an abundance of caution when a path described in trip reports as hikeable appeared more precarious than advertised. "After all," Louis deadpanned, "I am 70 years old."



David, then 57, “laughed like hell” at his brother’s joke.

A fit, experienced mountaineer who summited most of Colorado’s 14ers before discovering canyoneering, Louis had been climbing for more than 30 years and exploring canyons for the past 13. He did three or four desert trips a year and, according to the climbers who know him best, was “meticulous” in his approach to rappelling, carefully setting the anchors that he and his fellow canyoneers used to secure the ropes for their descents. He had completed an estimated 600 rappels, many of them, in the past few years, with David. At Louis’ urging, David took up rappelling in 2006, learning first on a climbing wall near his home in Omaha, Nebraska, and later under Louis’ tutelage in Utah’s red rock country, where together they explored more than 40 canyons.

Now it was 1 p.m. and they were on their last descent of the day. Stage one was a 40-foot rappel down to a sandy ledge that was partially sheltered by an overhang from which Louis and David descended, one after the other. Once on the ledge,

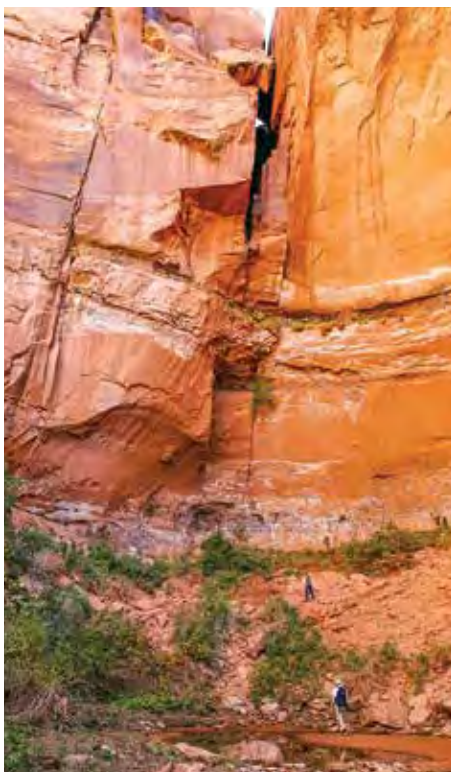
David watched as his brother clipped onto the rope and began backing down the ramp. When he reached the edge, Louis paused to warn him not to trap his hands between the rope and the rock when he came down. Then he carefully eased his body, legs first, over the edge and out of sight.

they pulled their climbing rope down and began rigging the second stage of the descent: a 100-foot rappel that would take every bit of their 60-meter rope to complete. They planned to eat lunch at the bottom and then begin the long hike up an old horse trail to the canyon rim, across the wind-battered mesa and back to the trailhead.

To set up the rappel, Louis started with an existing anchor point, a bolt-and-hanger secured to one wall of the cavelike ledge. To this anchor he attached a carabiner threaded with a new loop of

webbing. The webbing extended nearly to the end of a 20-foot ramp that sloped steeply down to a narrow opening in the cliff face, a tall vertical slot from which the 100-foot drop began. Through a rappel ring attached to the webbing, Louis threaded one end of the climbing rope, located the rope’s midpoint and threw both strands down.

David watched as his brother clipped onto the rope and began backing down the ramp. When he reached the edge, Louis paused to warn him not to trap his hands between the rope and the rock



when he came down. Then he carefully eased his body, legs first, over the edge and out of sight.

It would be the last time David Cicotello would see his brother alive.

Within seconds, he was staring in stunned disbelief as the rope carrying Louis—both he and his brother’s only means of getting off the ledge—zipped through the rappel ring, over the cliff’s edge and out of sight.

“I knew in that instant that my brother had fallen,” David says, “and taken the rope with him.”

What had begun as a six-hour hike had just become a six-day struggle for survival.

From the time he started kindergarten—the same year Louis left home for his freshman year of college—David’s big brother was an almost mythical figure in his world.

“According to our dear mother he was a legend,” David recalled wryly during Nashville Storytellers: Survival, a storytelling event in January 2019 at the Tennessee

Performing Arts Center. “All A’s in high school. Valedictorian. He had read every book in our hometown library.”

When David was ready to start college, in 1971, he knew only that he wanted to leave his home state of Pennsylvania. Louis, who had earned an MFA in sculpture from Yale and was teaching at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, suggested KU. David spent weekends at Louis’ house, endlessly sanding the large Plexiglas sculptures his brother was creating. Louis took him to his first Grateful Dead show, his first Asian restaurant. “At that time, I was in awe of him,” David recalls. “That was really our first period of intense bonding.”

The second came decades later in the Utah desert. By then David, c’75, g’77, was working at a college in Nebraska, Louis in Colorado. They’d grown apart. But starting in 2000, on trips with a third brother, Carl, they fished and hiked and sought out remote sites that featured the ancient rock art that fascinated them. Over time,



COURTESY DAVID CICOTELLO

ABOVE Brothers Louis and David Cicotello reconnected during trips to Utah canyon country. Louis (top left) was the experienced canyoneer, David the proficient student.

CENTER The No Mans Canyon exit, a sheltered slot that opens onto a 100-foot cliff.

Carl focused more on the art and Louis shifted to technical climbing and rappelling, recruiting David to join him on his desert adventures.

During a campus visit in October, speaking to the KU Rock Climbing Club, David described how his older brother challenged him to embark upon such a demanding sport in his 50s. Step one was rope training on an indoor climbing wall.

“He was serious about, ‘Get it done before you even think about getting on a rope with me,’” Cicotello told students. “I had to learn on the gym wall to be technically proficient, but he taught me more in the field than I ever learned in the gym.”

David was pupil to Louis’ master on the weeklong trips, which Louis planned in fine detail, down to the nightly dinner menu. He gathered wood for the massive campfires Louis built, prepped ingredients for the gourmet meals that Louis, an accomplished amateur chef, cooked. But as David grew into a more capable climber under his brother’s tutelage, the age difference between them seemed to disappear.

“I think Louis and I developed a relationship of equals through these trips to Utah because things fell away,” David says. “We were in the moment, enjoying each other’s company.” In the desolate Utah wilderness, conversation came easy. “We could run the gamut from deconstructionism to who’s gonna win the pennant, all along enjoying this wonderful canyon country we loved.”

Robbers Roost is a beautiful but severe landscape of slick red rock and prickly cactus, fragrant sagebrush and stunted cedar. Jack rabbits, wild horses and outlaws are among the tough critters who’ve called it home. Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid found the deep, mazelike canyons an ideal hideout, and they cached fresh horses and food stores to sustain their Wild Bunch gang through long stretches on the lam. One of its chief charms—for bank robbers—is also one of its deadliest: remoteness. No Mans Canyon, where David and Louis were exploring, is two hours from the nearest paved road.

The Roost’s unforgiving nature was most

famously illustrated by the experience of Aron Ralston, a 27-year-old canyoneer who in 2003 amputated his arm to escape a slot canyon where he'd been pinned by a falling boulder, then nearly bled to death on an 8-mile walk before having the good fortune to cross paths with a family of hikers. The site of his desperate struggle for survival, Bluejohn Canyon, is only 15 miles from where Cicotello—with a shock of realization Ralston would surely recognize—was quickly coming to terms with his own dire predicament: Robbers Roost is an excellent place to lose yourself, but one hell of a tough spot to get found.

David couldn't see Louis, but he could hear him.

Soon after he eased over the edge, Louis had called to him: "It goes fast."

"He was letting me know it's a free rappel," David says. "You're not touching the rock face as you go down."

Louis had one firm rule in the field, which he only rarely suspended: The most experienced climber goes first. Though he had guided David through about 125 descents, he was always looking out for his younger brother, always offering tips, urging caution.

"Then in the next moment," recalls David, "he said, 'Oops, the rope is short.'"

A 60-meter rope is 197 feet long; doubled to form two even strands—as it must be to accommodate the belay device that acts as a brake and allows a rappeller to control his descent—it reaches 98 feet. If it is folded unevenly, creating long and short sides that reduce the amount of double strand available to hold the belay device, the effective reach is shorter. For a rappeller, a rope's usable length is only as long as its shortest strand.

"I can't see my brother, but I can picture what he's just described. The ropes have been set up uneven. Sheer panic came over me in that moment."

Louis had run out of rope short of the ground. David doesn't know how high above the scree Louis found himself, but what he said next leads David to believe

that his brother judged the distance manageable.

"In the next sort of nanosecond, he said, 'No biggie.'"

In the eight years since his brother's fall, David has replayed the scene over and over in his head. Interviewers, friends and family, sheriff's deputies who investigated the accident, all have asked how much time passed between those words and what happened next.

By David's estimation it was three, maybe four seconds. Not much time to say, Hold on, Louis. What do you mean, No biggie?

But it was also a lifetime that ticked by, a history of being together that had become deeply grooved by decades of relating big brother to little, master to student.

"He said, 'No biggie.' And when my brother said, 'No biggie,' that meant, 'OK, I've got it under control, this is gonna work out, no problem.' He's the experienced one; he knows what he's doing. I'm not gonna question him."

Panic turned to terror in the next moment as David watched the rope zip through the rappel ring and disappear.

"He didn't cry out. I heard no crash, no hard landing," he says. "But I knew what had happened: My brother had fallen."

He called Louis' name three or four times, but got no answer. Without the rope, there was no way down the cliff; he'd have to climb back the way they'd come.

Forty feet of smooth red rock and an overhanging ledge stretched above him. It was an act of desperation, but he had to try, had to get to Louis. Unable to secure a toehold, he kept tumbling back onto the ledge. At some point, he heard Louis groan below. He screamed his name again but got no response. If he could just get back to the canyon rim, he might be able to find a path to the bottom, to Louis. Miles stretched between him and the help his brother needed, but what it came down to, in the end, was the first 40 feet. There was no getting past it.

Dejected, in shock, his mind ablaze with fear and grief, he sank down on the rocks and wept.



"Ralston did three things climbers and canyoneers would check the box against," Cicotello tells the KU rock climbers.

"He went alone. He didn't leave a map. And he told nobody where he was going."

Clad in the same hiking clothes he was wearing in 2011, with his backpack and its meager contents that day spread behind him on a table in the Ambler Student Recreation Fitness Center, he pauses to let this lesson sink in a moment.

"My brother and I left a map, people knew where we were going and we were



LEFT During an October campus visit, Cicotello shared with the KU Rock Climbing Club his love of climbing and the details of his ordeal.

STEVE PUPPE (4)



together,” he finishes. “And shit still happened.”

A certain amount of risk is unavoidable in climbing, as his audience knows well. Every rope and harness and implement comes with a bold-print warning sewn right onto it: Climbing is dangerous.

The Cicotellos did take precautions. Before leaving home, David printed out a map on which he highlighted the three campsites where they would stay, the canyons they planned to explore and the roads they’d drive to reach them. He scrawled phone numbers for the federal Bureau of Land Management and the

sheriff’s departments in the three counties they’d be in, and left the map with his girlfriend, Rhonda Hoffman.

On the last night of their annual trips, David and Louis always stayed in a hotel and called home to let loved ones know they were safe. When they did not check in on Thursday night, as planned, Rhonda and Louis’ wife, Millie Yawn, would know something was wrong. Rescue crews would start looking for them the next day.

“My mantra became, Get to Friday. I couldn’t go up, I couldn’t go down. I was stuck. I had to survive until Friday.”

He inventoried his supplies: One

orange, one energy bar, a small bag of cashews, half a turkey sandwich, a 16-ounce bottled water and a liter of tea with a lemon wedge he’d sliced that morning.

Over the next six days he rationed his food carefully. He ripped the backpack apart and used the foam padding to keep warm at night, when temperatures dropped into the 30s, by slipping it under his shirt and pressing it to his chest. He used spare socks as ear muffs and filled a stuff sack with sand to fashion a makeshift pillow. He blew a safety whistle daily and made a HELP sign to dangle over the ledge, though he knew odds were long that anyone would pass near enough to hear or see either. In all their visits to Robbers Roost, he and Louis encountered other people only twice.

He passed the hours tracking clouds and contrails that drifted across the crack of sky overhead. He watched birds wheel and light on the canyon walls where the shadows morphed into shapes that he began to recognize and anticipate with each passing day. At night, Orion stalked in and out of view, marking time. He gathered stray bits of tinder and lit fires that burned out quickly, more for comfort than for heat. He used his knife to carve into the sandstone walls his name—only a letter or two at a time to lengthen the diversion—and a hashmark for each day on the ledge. He sang. He prayed aloud. The 23rd Psalm particularly resonated: Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil.

“Because I was in my own kind of valley,” he says. “That psalm says walk *through* the valley. Don’t stop. Because if you stop, you get stuck.”

Twice he doubted his prospects for rescue enough to entertain a risky scheme. In his pack he carried an etrier, a nylon climbing ladder about 8 feet long; a 25-foot static rope; and two 25-foot pieces

of webbing. He twice tied these pieces together—on Wednesday and again on Thursday—before deciding not to risk his life on a jury-rigged rope. “I decided if it came to that,” if rescuers did not find him, “I’d sit down and let it come.”

By Friday he had only an inch of water left. He refused to drink the last sip until he was sure rescue was imminent; staring at an empty bottle seemed too deflating.

The sandwich had gone bad before he could finish it. So had the tea. Only the cashews remained, and he’d stopped eating them because he was so dehydrated that they turned to gum in his mouth. He’d lost 15 pounds, and frostbite gnawed at his toes and fingers. He spent the day in a hopeful mood, waiting for the sound of a helicopter, but as the shadows stretched longer and longer then deepened to darkness, no rescue came. He lay down to sleep worried that his worst fears had been realized.

Late that night, he heard the *whop, whop, whop* of an approaching chopper. It passed overhead, then dropped below the canyon rim and turned to shine its spotlight into the slot.

And then it flew away.

“They didn’t see me,” David says. But at least he knew they were looking.

The next morning, Saturday, they were back early, hovering outside the ledge. This time they saw Louis’ body at the base of the cliff, saw David where he stood waving his HELP sign.

He had made it. He was saved.

Throughout his six days on the ledge, David pushed grief to the back of his mind in order to focus on survival. Once he was rescued, it came flooding back.

In the hospital in Moab, doctors rehydrated him and treated his frostbite. He cleaned up and asked to see a priest. “I needed to unburden what I was feeling, which was guilt that I could not do something for my brother,” he explains. “Fear turned to grief very quickly. I had survived and my brother didn’t. That was the next emotional hurdle I had to get through.”



STEVE PUPPE

Back home in Tennessee, where he’d moved in 2010, he relied on his parish priest, his physician and a grief counselor to work through the trauma.

“I was devastated. I was weeping too much. I would think of Louis and just come unglued. Every time I laid my head down to sleep for about six months, I was right back in that slot. I was still stuck in the valley.”

David would startle awake at night, Hoffman says, “like he was still there on the ledge.” People wanted to know what had gone wrong. “There was a lot of Monday morning quarterbacking from everyone, and that was hard on him.”

The counselor had him write letters to Louis to tap into his anger.

“I was pissed at Louis, and I had to deal with that. He decided what he decided to do, and I had to come to peace with that decision.”

No one knows exactly what happened on the rope. The theory is that Louis believed he was close enough to the ground to basically jump the rest of way, that he believed he could rappel off the short end, land safely and keep the rope intact. Then with David’s help he would rearrange the strands evenly to allow a safe descent for his brother.

We have no idea the distance he had to cover, but it’s clear the landing went badly, because Louis’ body was recovered some distance from where he would be expected to land on a straight vertical drop, and the autopsy indicated a broken pelvis. The force of his fall pulled the rope down behind him.

“His miscalculation ended with his

death, and stranded me for six days and potentially could have caused my death,” David says. “I had to deal with that.”

The annual report “Accidents in North American Climbing,” published by the American Alpine Club to document the year’s most significant and teachable climbing accidents, classified the cause as rappel error/ropes uneven.

Louis used a piece of white tape to mark the center of the rope, David writes in the report, but “it was not always firmly attached to the rope, and he repeatedly vowed to ‘fix’ the position of the tape more securely as a future project when he was at home.” The rope had been properly coiled and marked when they set out that morning, David says, but he believes the tape was displaced from the midpoint during one of their prior descents. “As we threaded the rope for the second stage of the exit rappel, we watched for that piece of tape on the rope, and when it came near the rappel ring, we stopped threading,” David wrote. “We based everything we did from that point on what we thought was the middle of the rope.”

When he threw the ends down, Louis did not check to see that both strands touched the ground. Nor did he tie stopper knots in the ends, a safety measure to prevent someone from rappelling off the rope. (“Holding the ends of a rappel rope and coiling it until coming to the center, combined with knotting the ends with stopper knots are both recommended,” advised an editor’s note on the American Alpine Club report.) After realizing the ropes were uneven, he could have tied off and consulted with David about what

to do next. He could have used a jumbar, a piece of gear in his pack that allows a climber to ascend a fixed rope, to climb back up.

Instead, he judged the problem he faced to be one he could solve.

“Part of my grief and guilt is tied up in that moment, when I relied on my brother’s signal, ‘No biggie.’ And never thought for a moment to intervene. To say, well, what are you gonna do?”

A big part of David’s recovery was realizing it was his brother’s decision, not his own inaction, that led to the accident.

“I had to come to grips that my brother chose to do what he did,” he says. “It wasn’t anything I did, or that I chose not to intervene.”

In the end, the thing that tore them apart was the thing that holds them together.

“I loved my brother, and he loved me, and in those moments in the canyon you didn’t have to speak it, you knew it. And that to me is the wonderful peace that will always reside with me. I’m sure he never imagined what he was about to do would have led to what happened. Absolutely not. But it happened.”

When David first returned from Utah, in 2011, a stack of messages awaited from news out-

lets wanting to hear his story. He wasn’t ready. Now, sharing what he’s learned is part of his determination to avoid getting stuck in grief, to keep pushing through the valley.

“My survival story is not only in that slot canyon, but there was survival out of that canyon. I kept that canyon inside me because there was trauma that I had to get through.”

His survival story is unique, but it’s not better than anyone else’s, he says: Many of us find ourselves stranded on a ledge by divorce, bankruptcy, a bad medical diagnosis. He hopes a book he’s writing about the ordeal and his recovery from it, as well as the speaking engagements that he’s leaving the classroom after 40 years in higher education to devote more time to, will help others dealing with their own trauma. The same goes for a gift he announced during his October visit to campus. The David Cicotello and Louis Cicotello Memorial Fund will aid graduate students in English who are facing a pressing need other than tuition and fees. It’s meant to offer a boost to someone who needs a little help surviving a rough patch in grad school.

It’s one more way of honoring Louis, who guided David to KU in the first place.

Had things gone according to plan that March day in Utah, the brothers would have enjoyed lunch at the bottom of the final rappel, perhaps marveling at the path

“My brother and I left a map, people knew where we were going and we were together. And shit still happened.”


—David Cicotello



they’d traced together and the imposing, red-streaked rockface that is the exit to No Mans. Then they’d gather their gear to complete another of their canyon rituals.

“We loved to make that cross-country trip across the mesa to go back to where we had parked,” David says. Unexpected wonders often lay along the way, just waiting to be discovered. Once they found a cache of chert where earlier inhabitants had shaved arrowheads, the chips and broken tools reminders that humans called this forbidding landscape home long before they happened along, and would continue to long after the Cicotello brothers were gone.

“You wouldn’t get that,” David says, “if you were on the trail all the time.”

 *View Dan Storey’s interview with David Cicotello online at kansasalumnimagazine.org.*



ABOVE Artifacts of Cicotello’s six days stranded: A sign fashioned from backpack contents, a carving made to mark time and the map that led to his rescue.

URGENT DELIVERY

With global partners, KU researchers formulate **life-saving vaccines** to be dispatched around the world

by **Mindie Paget**

Photograph of river crossing by UNICEF



The photo looks like a scene from an Indiana Jones movie.

With a cooler suspended from a strap around his chest, a UNICEF health worker harnessed to a cable carefully pulls himself across a swift-moving river in India. Heart racing, eyes focused on his hands as he grips with right, then left, he must trust the strength of his arms, the cable and the harness to reach his destination unscathed.

Precarious? Sure. But it's the most expedient way to deliver life-saving vaccines to children living in isolated villages beyond the opposite bank.

In the global health community, harrowing treks like this are called "the last mile." And there's something far more serious at stake than a fictional archaeologist's fortune and glory.





Vaccines destined for developing countries must also be capable of **enduring harsh conditions** that might arise during “last-mile” treks across **inhospitable terrain**. **The resolute workers** who brave those journeys and **the children** who stand to **benefit** from their deliveries **inspire KU’s scientists** to do their best work **every day**.

Vaccines save an estimated 2.5 million lives each year, according to the World Health Organization. But they’re only as effective as their ability to reach people everywhere on the planet with their medicinal value intact.

Eight thousand miles from that Indian river, KU researchers help vaccines survive their journeys.

In laboratories overlooking the Research Partnership Zone in KU’s West District, pharmaceutical chemists David Volkin and Sangeeta Joshi have assembled a team of scientists with the specialized expertise to help build vaccines that are more affordable for low- and middle-income countries and capable of surviving the volatile path from manufacturer to child in vulnerable regions.

On the strength of three new research grants and a service contract totaling about \$10 million from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Volkin and Joshi recently launched the Vaccine Analytics & Formulation Center (VAFC) within the KU School of Pharmacy. Although Volkin has conducted vaccine research at KU for a decade and Joshi for twice as long, they now are turning their team’s attention almost entirely toward advancing vaccine candidates for the developing world.

It’s a mission with unique challenges. All vaccines pass through a complex, refrigerated “cold chain” designed to preserve their immune-boosting properties during shipment and storage. But vaccines des-

tined for developing countries must also be capable of enduring harsh conditions that might arise during “last-mile” treks across inhospitable terrain. The resolute workers who brave those journeys and the children who stand to benefit from their deliveries inspire KU’s scientists to do their best work every day.

“We certainly feel a sense of urgency because the vaccine candidates we study could have a large impact on public health,” says John Hickey, c’06, PhD’11, scientific assistant director at the VAFC. “But we must be systematic, thorough and guided by sound science. The safety and efficacy of these vaccines are paramount.”



When the global health community launched the Decade of Vaccines, it envisioned a world in which all individuals and communities could enjoy lives free from vaccine-preventable diseases by 2020. Despite great strides—including a 73% reduction in measles deaths and the near-eradication of polio—one in five children worldwide are still missing routine vaccinations, resulting in about 1.5 million deaths each year.

To help meet this urgent need, the Gates Foundation builds coalitions to move promising new vaccines from discovery to delivery. KU scientists at the VAFC are among the catalysts in that pipeline.

“We’re here to facilitate translational



DAN STOREY (3)





STEVE PUPPE

LEFT David Volkin and Sangeeta Joshi recently launched the Vaccine Analytics & Formulation Center within the KU School of Pharmacy.

OPPOSITE Oluwadara Ogun, Ying Wan and Ozan Kumru work in the VAFC lab to analyze and formulate vaccine candidates.

medicine,” says Volkin, the Ronald T. Borchardt Distinguished Professor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry and principal investigator on the VAFC’s Gates Foundation awards. “When one of our partners discovers a new vaccine candidate, we address analytical and formulation challenges to ensure the vaccine will remain stable and potent as it advances from the laboratory into clinical trials.”

VAFC scientific staff, postdoctoral fellows and graduate students are working on dozens of collaborative projects supported primarily by the Gates Foundation and its global partners, including nonprofit organizations, academics, biotech companies and developing countries’ vaccine manufacturers. The three most recent Gates Foundation grants provide directed funding to KU to evaluate:

- New formulations of HPV vaccines that contain multiple doses in a single vial and remain potent during long-term

storage. Special preservatives extend the shelf life of the vaccines so they can protect many children.

- Various formulations of a rotavirus vaccine candidate that could be added to existing pediatric combination vaccines. Combination vaccines take two or more vaccines that could be given individually and put them into a single shot, reducing cost and the number of health care visits required.

- Low-cost formulations of immune-stimulating antibodies that can be delivered orally to protect against infectious diseases, a strategy known as passive immunization.

The life-saving benefits of KU’s work on these and other Gates Foundation projects will be compounded by the organization’s open-access policy.

“I really like their commitment to pub-

lishing research results,” says Joshi, director of the VAFC and co-investigator on the grants. “The hope is that once our work is shared with the scientific community, other researchers and developing countries’ vaccine manufacturers can build on our results to produce vaccines that meet the needs of specific countries and regions.”



On the third floor of KU’s Multidisciplinary Research Building, modern finishes and natural light connect VAFC laboratories, offices and common areas. The bright, open environment mirrors the collaborative spirit of the scientists working within the space to help people around the world.

“Given the complexity of analyzing and formulating vaccines, all aspects of our work are collaborative,” Hickey says. “Teams can range from two or three scientists to half of our group. We all have unique backgrounds that coalesce not only to design and execute a study, but also to strengthen and expand all of our knowledge.”

The foes in their quiet battle—microscopic pathogens that spawn diseases like rotavirus, polio and tetanus—elude the naked eye. But they’re not invincible. Vaccines weaponize our bodies against infection by introducing a weakened or killed form of the disease-causing virus or bacteria. Healthy immune systems respond by developing antibodies—an army of biological soldiers ready to mount a defense anytime they encounter the invader in the future.



DAN STOREY (2)

Scientists in the VAFC are the drill sergeants in this scenario, running vaccine candidates through an analytical and formulation boot camp:

- They start by reviewing published research and conferring with collaborators about their experience with the candidate.
- Next, they examine the vaccine from every possible angle, running it through state-of-the-art instrumentation in the lab to understand its structure and determine how it might respond to stresses commonly encountered during manufacturing, storage, handling and administration.
- Then they synthesize all of that knowledge to design and implement a formulation strategy. That often involves adding an adjuvant—an ingredient that boosts the body’s immune response to the vaccine—and any number of excipients—substances that help stabilize the vaccine at the molecular level.
- For vaccines intended for the developing world, the KU team also emphasizes

formulation approaches that can lower costs, including compatibility with other vaccines (combination vaccines) and preservatives (multi-dose vaccines).

- Manufacturers then use those formulations to ensure that every vial of vaccine they produce is identically safe, potent and stable.

A complete characterization and formulation project for a new vaccine candidate might take several years of rigorous, daily attention.

“Every day is a new challenge, a new discovery,” Hickey says. “And that’s what drew me to science in the first place.”

Through its specialized work, the VAFC is preparing a new generation of scientists like Hickey with the interdisciplinary expertise to help improve the lives of people who have the most urgent needs and the fewest champions.

“Training of students and postdoctoral scientists is a key role for us,” Volkin says. “We’re working in a highly specialized field. You don’t get a college degree in how to make vaccines. You first must

ABOVE John Hickey and Kaushal Jerajani, g’20, are among VAFC scientists collaborating with global partners to advance vaccine candidates for the developing world.

have a really good science background, and then you must learn how to apply it to this field.”

While earning his doctorate in microbiology at KU Medical Center, Ozan Kumru, PhD’11, took a vaccine development course on the Lawrence campus, learned about the VAFC and successfully applied for a postdoctoral fellowship.

“I underestimated how much I would learn and the challenges of vaccine formulation and development,” says Kumru, now a scientific assistant director at the VAFC. “Our work with the Gates Foundation is very rewarding to me personally. I feel like we are really making a difference in helping to bring stable vaccines to the developing world and saving lives.”

Formulating vaccines requires knowledge from various disciplines, including cell biology, microbiology, virology,

genetics, immunology, pharmacokinetics, biochemistry, biophysics, physical chemistry, pharmaceutical chemistry, and more.

“When you first join the lab, the learning curve is steep,” Kumru says. “I’ve received more training than I ever thought possible, and I’m constantly learning more. There are new challenges in every project, and technology is rapidly evolving. It really is an exciting time to be in science, and I feel like I have found my calling.”



The VAFC’s growing relationship with the Gates Foundation also includes a \$17.6 million Grand Challenge Grant awarded in 2017 for a collaboration with University College London and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Through this ongoing project, Ultra-low Cost Transferable Automated (ULTRA) Platform for Vaccine Manufacture, the researchers are attempting to standardize the development of new recombinant protein vaccines and produce them for less than 15 cents a dose.

After that, it could still be a decade or more before a new vaccine travels “the last mile” to children in the developing world—for good reason.

“Vaccines can take up to 20 years to develop before they are ready for widespread use,” Volkin says. “Vaccines are very difficult to produce at a large manufacturing scale, and vaccine clinical trials require very extensive, multiphased testing to ensure their safety and efficacy.”

For Volkin and Joshi, who have made this type of vaccine development the top priority of their professional careers, every milestone achieved is exciting.

“We’re advancing new vaccine candidates at the VAFC,” Joshi says. “Hopefully one of these projects will lead to a new vaccine for use in the developing world. That would be a dream come true for me.”

“One thing I’ve learned is the importance of finding purpose and meaning in your work,” Volkin says. “After spending

20 years as an R&D scientist in the vaccine and biopharmaceutical industry, I came to KU 10 years ago to develop a research program for something I really feel passionate about, and I have found it with our new mission here at the VAFC.”

A similar passion fuels research and teaching throughout KU’s School of Pharmacy, says Dean Ronald Ragan, p’84, g’97, PhD’98. Several years ago, the University asked each school and department to answer, in one sentence, the question, “Why do you do what you do?” The School of Pharmacy’s response? “Because the discovery and delivery of effective medicines enhance and extend lives.”

“I’m struck by how accurately and powerfully that statement describes the work that Dr. David Volkin, Dr. Sangeeta Joshi and the entire VAFC team do each and every day,” Ragan says. “We’re proud of the positive impact they have on the world, and particularly on those places that are not as fortunate as we are here in America.”

—*Paget, c’99, g’01, is director of external affairs for the KU Office of Research.*



19.4 million infants in need

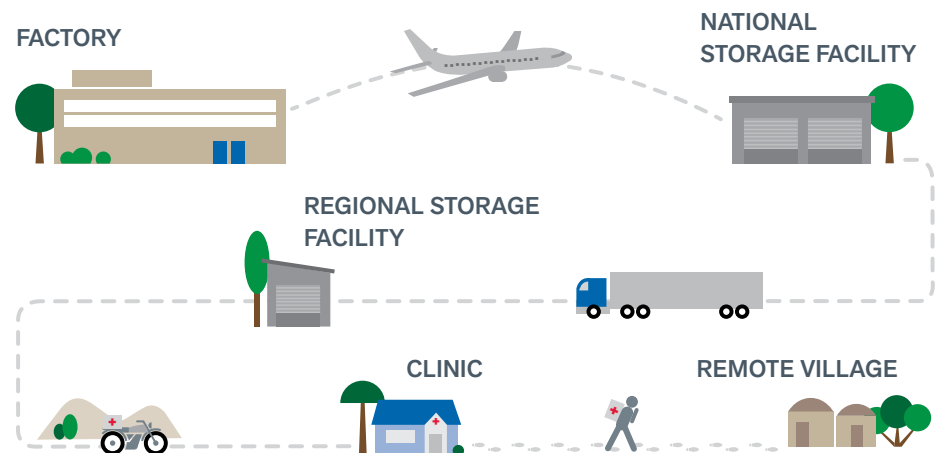
IN 2018, an estimated 19.4 million infants worldwide were not reached with routine immunization services such as three doses of DTP vaccine. About 60% of these children live in 10 countries:

- Angola
- Brazil
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Ethiopia
- India
- Indonesia
- Nigeria
- Pakistan
- The Philippines
- Vietnam

Source: World Health Organization

The long road to vaccination

Vaccines must be kept between 35 to 45 degrees from the factory to some of the most remote places on earth.



DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS



“It’s been great to hear about the connections being made through the Jayhawk Career Network, and I’m encouraged knowing that alums can get the support they need throughout their careers.”

—Brad Garlinghouse



CAREER

Jayhawk Career Network

New gifts will expand resources, opportunities for students and alumni

BRAD GARLINGHOUSE, CEO of Ripple in San Francisco, invested in the 2018 startup of the Alumni Association’s Jayhawk Career Network (JCN) with an initial \$250,000 gift. Two years later, the JCN’s impact on students and alumni so impressed the longtime tech executive and entrepreneur that he has donated an additional \$1 million match challenge to encourage more Jayhawks to support expanding and developing the Jayhawk Career Network.

“It’s been great to hear about the connections being made through the Jayhawk Career Network, and I’m encouraged knowing that alums can get the support they need throughout their careers,” says Garlinghouse, c’94, who received the 2015-’16 Distinguished Alumni Award from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. “I wouldn’t be where I am today without my KU network, and I know other alums share that sentiment.”

The JCN has helped thousands of students and alumni make valuable professional connections through resources such as KU Mentoring, a University-wide digital platform that connects Jayhawks

for one-time or long-term connections based on career interests, location and other factors. More than 7,500 students and alumni have joined KU Mentoring since its inception.

In addition to KU Mentoring, JCN also offers:

- a job board that highlights mid-career positions for alumni looking to make career moves or hire fellow Jayhawks
- an opt-in digital newsletter, “The Water Cooler,” which provides helpful career information from the Association and its JCN partners, including the KU Edwards Campus and other University departments
- networking events in Lawrence, Kansas City and other metropolitan areas that unite students with alumni experts in various fields.

Thanks to Garlinghouse’s generosity, JCN career resources will continue to grow. The Association

ABOVE Kristi Laclé (right) shows students how to sign up for KU Mentoring during an event last semester, which was co-hosted by the University Career Center.

soon will hire an additional staff member to support JCN and help expand new networking opportunities through partnerships with LinkedIn Local and the Lawrence Chamber of Commerce, as well as other professional development and continuing education opportunities.

A key priority for the program moving forward will be retaining KU talent in Lawrence, Kansas City and surrounding communities, an objective shared by Chancellor Doug Girod and the University. “Students in our pipeline are choosing to move to Chicago or the coasts, because we’re not doing a good job highlighting what opportunities exist for them here,” says Kristi Durkin Laclé, c’99, vice president of student, alumni and career programs.

To address that concern, the Association will focus on promoting regional career opportunities for Jayhawks and sharing success stories of alumni who work for local businesses. In addition, the Association will continue to strengthen KU Mentoring and ensure that the digital platform remains a robust, active community for students and alumni seeking professional connections.

“Our team is positioning the Alumni Association to create value for all Jayhawks at every life stage and serve as a trusted, strategic partner to the University,” says Heath Peterson, d’04, g’09, Association president. “The Jayhawk Career Network is an important part of our strategy and includes partnerships across multiple KU campuses. We are now in position to facilitate and scale global career connections between all Jayhawks and engage with industry partners in new and meaningful ways.”

DAN STOREY



JAYHAWK CAREER NETWORK

By the Numbers

7,562
Jayhawks in KU Mentoring

5,037
alumni & friends

2,525
students

60
Rock Chalk Connect
networking events in 2019



161 job postings on the
KU Alumni Job Board



4,083 recipients of the
Water Cooler monthly
email newsletter



7,279 messages sent in
KU Mentoring

COURTESY BRAD GARLINGHOUSE



Garlinghouse

ALUMNI EVENTS

A full calendar of Alumni Association programs and events is available online at kualumni.org.

March

- 1** KU Cares: New York Upper West Side Soup Kitchen, New York City
- 4** KU vs TCU watch parties
- 5** KU Libraries: “Unrivaled,” Portland, Oregon
- 7** KU at Texas Tech watch parties
- 7** KU Libraries: “Unrivaled,” Las Vegas
- 11-14** Big 12 Championship, Kansas City
- 18** Houston: Jayhawks & Java
- 24** KU Night with the Timberwolves, Minneapolis, Minnesota

April

- 15** Houston: Jayhawks & Java
- 19** KU Cares: New York Upper West Side Soup Kitchen, New York City

**ALUMNI EVENTS**

A full calendar of Alumni Association programs and events is available online at kualumni.org.

May

2 25th-annual Rock Chalk Ball, Kansas City

6 Jayhawk Book Club reception and discussion, Adams Alumni Center

15-17 Gold Medal Club Reunion

20 Houston: Jayhawks & Java

June

1-3 Mini College, Lawrence

kuminicollege.org

14 KU Cares: New York Upper West Side Soup Kitchen, New York City

**EVENTS****Feathers and Flappers**

Jayhawks to celebrate milestone Rock Chalk Ball with nod to 1920s

ALUMNI IN THE NATION'S largest KU community will celebrate the exuberance and excitement of the Roaring '20s—as well as a historic Alumni Association milestone—at the 25th annual Rock Chalk Ball, Saturday, May 2, at the LEX, a sleek space in the lower level of Municipal Auditorium. The theme for this year's event is "Feathers and Flappers," and guests are encouraged to dress in their finest 1920s-themed attire.

Hosted by the Association and its Greater Kansas City Network, the annual fundraising event, which dates back to 1996, will benefit the Jayhawk Career Network and the Student Alumni Network. In 2019, SAN became the largest student alumni organization in the Big 12, and it now includes more than 6,700 members.

Honorary chairs who helped organize the ball over the past 25 years will be recognized at this year's celebration. "They're spread out all over the country now," says Kelsey Hill Galle, c'12, assistant director of Kansas City programs. "Some people

are coming in from California, Arizona, Texas and maybe haven't been in 20 years. We're excited to be able to honor them and all the work they have done to make Rock Chalk Ball what it is today."

Returning to emcee this year's event is John Holt, j'81, l'84, co-anchor of Fox 4 News. Sasha Flores Boulware, c'98, g'00, and Billy Marshall, c'00, will serve as ball committee co-chairs for the third consecutive year. Boulware is a Presidents Club member and serves on the Association's national board of directors. She and her husband, Al, c'98, l'02, g'02, co-chaired the 2005 ball. Marshall is a Life Member and a Presidents Club donor. He also is a longtime ball participant.

Trisha Brauer, owner of Taking Bids Benefit Auctions, will rally the crowd again this year during the live auction, and guests also will have the opportunity to bid on silent auction items through the BidPal OneCause app. "We have some really great auction items this year," Galle says. "There's something for everyone, whether your budget is \$10,000 or \$10."

25th ANNUAL ROCK CHALK BALL
Visit kualumni.org/rockchalkball for more information and to register.

EVENTS**Gold Medal Club**

Class of 1970 will commemorate 50 years with cherished tradition

FOR DECADES, the Association's Gold Medal Club reunion has celebrated alumni who have reached the 50th anniversary of their KU graduation. This year's festivities, which will include a series of social gatherings and campus events, also will feature a historic Jayhawk tradition: The Class of 1970, one of only a few classes that did not walk down the Hill at Commencement because of rain, is invited to dress in regalia and participate in this year's procession, May 17, with the Class of 2020.

"It's a rite of passage for graduates," says Michelle Miles Lang, b'02, director of alumni programs. "When you miss the opportunity to do that, you

feel a bit cheated. I think it's cool that people now get to come back and do that."

In addition to Commencement activities, the reunion weekend, May 15-17, also will include guided tours of campus and Quantrill's Raid through Lawrence, a behind-the-scenes tour of the Dole Institute of Politics and a visit to the Spencer Research Library, which will feature a specially curated exhibition of archived material from the 1969-'70 academic year—a time of campus protests and upheaval, including the Kansas Union fire. John Rury, professor of education and history, and Bill Tuttle, assoc., professor emeritus of American studies, will lead a reunion discussion that examines the changes that have occurred at KU since the turbulent 1960s. Current Gold Medal Club members and Chancellor Doug Girod will officially welcome the Class of 1970 into the club during a luncheon.

Visit kualumni.org/reunion for more information and to register.



**For members only—
in February only!**

Members can buy this exclusive KU Alumni Association Charlie Hustle T-shirt through the KU Alumni Association app for the discounted price of \$20.

Get it in the app

- Find alumni events in your area
- Access the latest KU and alumni news
- Renew or upgrade your membership

The **KU Alumni Association app** is for all alumni, friends and fans of KU.

Visit the **App Store** or **Google Play** to download, or go to kualumni.org/app.

We ❤️
Jayhawks!

February is
Member
Appreciation
Month



**ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION**
The University of Kansas

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Jayhawk Profiles

STEVE PUPPE

PAIGE ALBERT**Young alumna lives girlhood dreams with chic KC bridal boutique***by* DAVID GARFIELD

PAIGE ALBERT CAN STILL remember growing up in Andale and falling in love with fashion and love stories while drawing sketches of what her future wedding gown would look like.

This was her dream, her little world.

Now 25, Albert, c'19, owns Something White Bridal Boutique, a premier bridal shop in Kansas City's Crossroads District that features gowns created by designers from around the world.

"It's so funny to look back and see how full circle everything's come," Albert says.

Albert became the shop's owner at 23, in January 2018, with a year of college remaining. She found her calling in the

bridal industry after her freshman year at KU, when she job-shadowed her cousin, who worked as a sales rep for a bridal designer. Albert then worked at a bridal shop in Lenexa for nine months before hiring on with Something White Bridal Boutique in 2016 as a bridal consultant. Within six months, the owner approached her about buying the business.

Two years ago, Albert's longtime dream became reality. She credits her parents—both hard-working entrepreneurs—as her inspiration.

"I feel they were both doing their dream jobs," says Albert, whose boutique in February won the Kansas City Wedding Vendor Choice Award as 2020 Bridal Boutique of the Year. "Owning my business, I get to provide so much for the girls who work here, and help them provide for their families, and making a difference in the community in every way we can."

She calls Something White Bridal—offering elegant, simple and modern bridal

styles—"the best thing that's ever happened to me."

"I'm really thankful I found something I love," Albert says. "Every day, I wake up so excited that this is mine and I get to make it mine."

"I don't know what else I'd be doing. I know I'm not curing cancer, but making somebody smile is so important."

Albert says her six employees, including her sister Carly, a KU student, are "family."

"Our brides are family, too. We try to be part of their story before they ever come in. After their wedding day, we stay in contact with brides. It's fun to see their families grow."

ABOVE Paige Albert was still a KU student when she bought Something White Bridal Boutique—Kansas City's bridal shop of the year for 2020—which she describes as "simple, chic and unique." Her daily workplace companion is her adored and adorable pooch, Lard.

In a boutique where personalized attention is the No. 1 goal, Albert is always thrilled when a bride-to-be finds her perfect wedding gown.

"I'm very emotional so I tear up almost every time," Albert says. "You can tell when somebody finds their wedding dress and their face lights up. Nine times out of 10, I know a bride's found her dress before she knows it. Just seeing mom's reaction ... and everybody's so excited for her. I can't even describe it."

Thanks to her consistently high level of customer service, Something White Bridal last year was inducted into The Knot Best of Weddings Hall of Fame.

"I think I'll do this forever," Albert says. "If I have a daughter, I'd love to be able to give it to her, or a grandchild. I think that would be really awesome."

—Garfield, c'88, is a Lawrence freelance writer and frequent Kansas Alumni contributor.

STEVE RAYMOND

Paralympic supporter earns induction in snowsports hall of fame

by MICHAEL PEARCE

On the United States Paralympic Ski Team are veterans who lost limbs in battle. Other members were born with physical limitations or suffered life-altering injuries. Now, they compete all over the world with skills that rival able-bodied Olympians.

Yet when Steve Raymond, j'82, became involved in 1994, the team was in danger of disbanding because of funding issues. Since, all has been well. For his role in the team's turnaround, he was inducted last fall into the Colorado Snowsports Hall of Fame.

Raymond's support of adaptive skiing began after he moved to Colorado following his KU graduation.



COLORADO SNOWSPORTS HALL OF FAME

"One of my skiing buddies in Vail was left paralyzed after a skiing accident," says Raymond, who was working at a small television station at the time. "He not only got back into skiing, he became very good at competition. Several of us went to his races and saw how important staying active and competitive was to him and others."

A few years later Raymond was well into a 25-year career with ESPN when the same friend, Bob Meserve, told him of the paralympic ski team's probable end.

By then Raymond also was president of the Rocky Mountain Chapter of Cable Television and Marketing, a trade organization.

"We'd been looking to create a signature event to sponsor that could be a fund-raising event and bring industry leaders together for networking," Raymond says. "We started SkiTAM and the first year our main goal was to raise \$100,000 to save the team."

They doubled that goal and have done much more since. The annual, three-day event in many years has raised about 40 percent of the funds needed to support the team. The event's name changed to Adaptive Spirit in 2010.

Heading into this year's event, April 2-5 in Vail, Adaptive Spirit has raised nearly \$17 million through the years. It could

draw around 1,300 people and \$2 million or more in giving this year.

Telecommunications professionals attend socials, seminars and roundtable discussions. Many form lasting relationships with a paralympic ski team member they're paired with.

"That athlete spends the weekend with them. They'll ski together. They'll race with them and they'll go to dinner together," Raymond says. "When you get to know them as people, they become friends that are almost like family."

He exited Disney/ESPN Media Networks in 2014 as senior vice president for national accounts and works now with Gracenote Connectivity as vice president of client solutions. He has served on several boards related to paralympic skiing and traveled internationally with the team. For the 2010 Paralympic Winter Olympic games in Vancouver, he was honored to be named the head of the U.S. delegation.

"The paralympic movement is a big part of my life and a big deal for my family. My kids all volunteer," he said. "Even after 25 years I want to help keep growing this event, and this sport. It's a great way for us to contribute and help some really great people."

—Pearce, '81, is the former outdoor columnist for the Wichita Eagle.



COURTESY STEVE RAYMOND

ABOVE Steve Raymond (second from right), longtime supporter of the U.S. Paralympic Ski Team, was joined by his friend Bob Meserve (second from left) during his induction into the Colorado Snowsports Museum Hall of Fame last fall.

MOLLY BYBEE

Music therapist hits high note at retirement community

by HEATHER BIELE

As an undergraduate at Truman State University in northern Missouri, Molly Bybee searched for a career path that combined her passion for music with her desire to help others. Music therapy—and a subsequent move to Mount Oread to pursue a master’s degree in the profession—struck a chord.

Bybee, g’17, is now a board-certified music therapist at Paul’s Run, a 450-person continuing care retirement community in Philadelphia, where she coordinates a variety of group and one-on-one sessions for residents, many of whom suffer from severe cognitive disease and other age-related illnesses. The 29-year-old Midwest transplant employs a variety of techniques to motivate the older residents, stimulate

their minds and muscles, and ultimately improve their quality of life.

“I’m like a musician, cheerleader and coach all in one,” Bybee says.

She begins all of her group sessions with her signature singsong welcome, “Hello, ladies. Hello, gentlemen. Hello, ladies, it’s nice to see you today,” a familiar tune that residents can recognize as they transition through levels of care at Paul’s Run. After greeting each participant by name, Bybee sings a few songs before assessing the group as a whole. If attention levels are low, she’ll shift gears and play a round of catch, tossing a ball to each resident to boost awareness and engagement. Bybee then passes out musical instruments, which usually includes tambourines, maracas and jingle bells, and encourages participants to play along with her.

“Throughout the entire process I’m observing and assessing where residents are at,” she explains. “My thought is that if you’re participating, then you’re enjoying it.”

Bybee also incorporates several elements of neurologic music therapy, a clinical approach that uses musical interventions to achieve functional goals. By varying the rhythm, pitch and volume of her music and demonstrating specific movements for residents to mimic, Bybee helps individuals who may not respond to verbal cues alone. For example, when asking residents to raise their arms above their heads, she might play higher notes on her guitar, or use louder ones to prompt a marching motion.

The group sessions, which range from 45 minutes to an hour, can be challenging for Bybee, both physically and mentally. “When you’re working with residents with dementia,” she says, “you have to be the most exciting thing in the room.”

In just three years at Paul’s Run, Bybee’s music therapy program has had a powerful impact on the retirement community, and she has built lasting relationships with many of the residents and their families. One woman, whom Bybee works with individually, is writing her own Philadelphia-inspired lyrics to Frank Sinatra’s popular tune “New York, New York,” and has assured Bybee that she’ll share the profits

when her song becomes a hit.

It’s those moments, Bybee says, and knowing that she’s making a difference in the residents’ lives, that make her job so rewarding. “I’m using my music and we’re creating something together.”

MIKE WENTHE

‘Thrill of the hunt’ built brewing collection; love of history sustains it

by STEVEN HILL

Straight out of college, Mike Wenthe, S’77, got a sales job with a beer distributor in Rock Island, Illinois, near his hometown of Moline.

He also got his hands on a rare 1890s advertising calendar promoting a then newly formed brewery, the Rock Island Brewing Co.

So began a 40-year stretch of selling beer and whiskey while simultaneously collecting artifacts such as promotional items, giveaways and advertising signs that provide a historical glimpse of the marketing of alcohol in pre-Prohibition America.

“If you like the early stuff, which I do, the history goes hand-in-hand with the collecting,” Wenthe says. “In order to appreciate the artifacts, you’ve gotta know where they came from, what story is behind them.”

The collecting bug started early and was already in place when Wenthe met his wife, Phyllis Hofer Wenthe, f’77, at KU. They frequented Quantrell’s Flea Market downtown, where he hunted for “cool stuff” to decorate his dorm room and, later, apartment.

“She always says about me, ‘One’s good; ten’s better,’” Wenthe says with a laugh. “That’s my motto. Even as a kid it wasn’t enough to have one yo-yo; I had to have 10 different ones. Like any kid I collected comic books, model cars. Anything kids collect, I collected.”

That breadth of interests continued in adulthood. He built collections of an-



COURTESY MOLLY BYBEE

ABOVE Molly Bybee, a music therapist at Paul’s Run retirement community in Philadelphia, employs several of the techniques that were used to help former U.S. Congresswoman Gabby Giffords speak after she was injured at a community event in 2011.



tique toys, old-school golf equipment and advertising items from breweries up and down the Mississippi River, including the Quad Cities area of Illinois and Iowa. He once owned a trove of country store items so large that when he sold it to the Cracker Barrel restaurant chain the company sent a semitrailer to haul it away.

Though he pared down some collections and sold others outright, he always held on to his core holding, a stockpile of nearly 100 items from Rock Island Brewing Co., which opened in 1893 and closed with the onset of Prohibition in 1920.

“The Rock Island stuff is still my baby,” Wenthe says. “It’s still the stuff I like best. I would never get rid of that.”

Eventually the “thrill of the hunt” that drove him to scour every antique store and flea market on his sales route gave way to more abiding pleasures. “My greatest satisfaction now

is just sharing the knowledge,” he says.

Recognized as the de facto expert on the Quad City’s rich brewing history, Wenthe gives lectures, maintains the Quad Cities Brewing History Facebook page, and has exhibited parts of his collection at the National Brewery Museum in Potosie, Wisconsin. The basement of his Taylor Ridge home—where he displays hundreds of tin signs, glassware, trays and paper advertising in his beer and whiskey collection, including the original 1890s calendar that started it all—is a practically a museum on its own.

“What makes it fun is when people who’ve never been here visit, and they go, ‘Holy cow, where did all of this come from?’”

Wenthe says. “Well, it’s been a journey of more than 40 years to get where I’m at now. It’s not as important to add new things anymore. It’s just knowing that I did it.”



COURTESY MIKE WENTHE (2)

ABOVE Among the rarest items in Mike Wenthe’s collection of pre-Prohibition memorabilia are an 1895 advertising calendar and an 1892 display stein LEFT from Rock Island beer makers.



McGinnis



McMullen

**ASSOCIATION
New Staff**

MEGAN MCGINNIS joined the Alumni Association in November as assistant director of student programs, which include the Student Alumni Leadership Board and Homecoming. She received her bachelor's degree in English from Northeastern State University in 2013 and her master's degree in college student development from Oklahoma State University in 2015. As coordinator of student programs for the OSU Alumni Association, she led Homecoming, the Class Ring, the Legacy Program, and Grandparent University. Megan's husband, Brock, directs player development for KU women's basketball.

MEGAN MCMULLEN, d'04, g'09, joined the Association in December as director of donor relations. A Great Bend native, she studied sport management and sport studies at KU before joining Kansas Athletics as an intern. Shortly after graduating, she accepted a full-time position with Athletics, moving from administration to the Williams Education Fund, where for nearly a decade she oversaw donor travel, events and hospitality, and served as an account representative. After 16 years with Athletics, she maintains connections with many Jayhawks, and she looks forward to meeting even more alumni in her new role.

Board Reunion



SUSAN YOUNGER (3)



The national Board of Directors welcomed more than 20 former members for a Jan. 24 reunion: TOP Jeff Kennedy, Patti Gorham, Kurt Watson, Marvin Motley and Sue Watson; Kennedy, Motley and Sue Watson are former national chairs. ABOVE LEFT Greg and Debby Ek. RIGHT Debbi and Howard Cohen.

Board of Directors

CHAIR

Dave B. Roland, e'80, Shorewood, Minnesota

CHAIR-ELECT

Jay A. Kerutis, c'82, Mesa, Arizona

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

John W. Ballard III, b'73, Overland Park

Ryan T. Colaianni, c'07, j'07, Arlington, Virginia

Chancellor Douglas A. Girod, Lawrence

Michael J. Happe, j'94, Eden Prairie, Minnesota

Jay A. Kerutis, c'82, Mesa, Arizona

Janet Lusk Murfin, d'75, Wichita

Keturah Harding Pohl, f'04, g'08, Findlay, Ohio

Dave B. Roland, e'80, Shorewood, Minnesota

DIRECTORS TO 2020

Missy Hodge McCarthy, c'86, s'88, Rancho Mirage, California

Ellen O. Remsing, c'00, Manhattan, Kansas

Dave B. Roland, e'80, Shorewood, Minnesota

DIRECTORS TO 2021

Ryan T. Colaianni, c'07, j'07, Arlington, Virginia

Jay A. Kerutis, c'82, Mesa, Arizona

Janet Lusk Murfin, d'75, Wichita

Portia Kibble Smith, c'78, Overland Park

DIRECTORS TO 2022

Steve M. Dillard, c'75, Wichita

Michael C. Flowers, c'77, Apollo Beach, Florida

Michael J. Happe, j'94, Eden Prairie, Minnesota

Rosa Aguirre Mitchell, s'85, Elkhart

Keturah Harding Pohl, f'04, g'08, Findlay, Ohio

Adam J. Wray, c'93, Medina, Washington

DIRECTORS TO 2023

Sasha Flores Boulware, c'98, g'00, Fairway

F. Taylor Burch, p'88, g'98, PharmD'09, Lantana, Texas

Brenda Roskens Dicus, b'83, Topeka

Eric S. Edell, c'76, m'81, Rochester, Minnesota

David R. Hoese, e'86, Chicago, Illinois

Peter S. Johnston, c'94, l'97, Salina

DIRECTORS TO 2024

Julie Garney Andrews, j'95, Waukee, Iowa

Joseph C. Courtright, p'89, Little Rock, Arkansas

Allen K. Fee, c'84, Hutchinson

Jacqueline Sloan Hall-[www](http://www.kualumni.org), b'75, Sublette

Clint M. Rogers, b'98, '19, Ellsworth

Jody Bosch Sellers, p'81, Council Grove

For more information on the Association's board members and staff, visit kualumni.org

New Life Members



The Association thanks these Jayhawks, who began their Life memberships Nov. 1 through Jan. 31. For information, visit kualumni.org or call 800-584-2957.

Charles T. Allred
Cameron S. Atwill
Javier A. and Beth A. Baca
Martin K. Barber
Rick and Erica Milligan Baruth
Ruth A. Beach
Kelly Wiedt Belk
Stuart R. and Susan T. Bell
Nathan M. Berman
Zachary W. and Miriah L. Blue
Ashley A. Booker
Vivien A. Brite
Jeanie Bundy
Grant Butler
Mark D. and Megan Campbell
Braeden A. Carr
Scott A. and Sharon H. Carter
David C. Caylor
Ann Goodwin Clark
Joseph A. Clausing
Samuel M. Collinson
Brian E. and Vicki Sieg Crawley
Donald M. Crook
Pamela K. Davis
Mary Winter DeLeone
Christopher W. and Melanie M. Dillman
Alexandra M. Driscoll
Dyrk L. and Kris N. Dugan
Page Etzel
Sheigh W. Freeberg
Christopher S. and Allison Bernard Gallaway
Becky A. Goodin
Daniel J. Grainge

Nancy J. Hale-Martinko
Samantha R. Harlan
Allan S. and Jessica Hemmy
Kevin M. and Cathy J. Hines
Christopher R. Holcomb
Carsten Holm
Joshua P. Hoskins and Jacy J. Hurst
Jeffrey D. and Jill Burbach Hrabec
Michael D. James
Robert C. Johnson Jr. and Jana C. Johnson
Scott S. and Jennifer Joseph Johnson
Tyler S. and Michelle R. Butler Johnson
Ryan S. Julius
Matthew and Phoenix K. Kaufmann
Margaret McManus Lanoue
Gregory Leung
Paul M. Lewis and Elizabeth Winter-Lewis
Nathan M. Lutz
Kent L. and Susan C. Lyman
Betsy Wilson Marvin
William R. McCort
Scott L. and Susie Bishop McKinney
David Moreno
Eric M. Mosier
Regan L. Muldoon
Sarah E. Murphy
Cooper L. and Lynda Westervelt Nickel
Lori A. Noto
Peter C. and Cheryl L. Owens
Stephen T. and Paula Marine Pawlewicz
Esther Daniels Platt
Tara Pollack
Jessie J. Riedel

John R. and Allison Rohman Rosa
Micah J. and Jordan Smith Rose
Steven E. and Lynn Nugent Rus
Monica Santos
Brian M. Schmid and Lauren Reiter-Schmid
Rebecca A. Seeber
Jeffrey A. Seib and Kelly D. Ashton
Andrew J. Shreve
Courtney Kasun Simmons
Jonathan W. and Adrienne Garcia Starlin

Thomas M. and Barbara M. Stephens
Kelly N. Stroda
Debra Rapp Sull
Terry R. Tuma
Michelle M. Voisin
Kay Walden
Merideth G. Warinner
Hannah M. Westhoff
Brent D. Whitten
Kevin M. and Deborah L. Wilkerson
Katherine K. Winter



CHRIS LAZZARINO



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1939 Esther Cooper Foreman, c'39, celebrated her 102nd birthday in July. She makes her home in Kansas City, where she retired after teaching kindergarten for 25 years. A graduate of KU and Kansas City Kansas Community College, she established the Cooper-Foreman Heirloom Garden at KCKCC and has traveled worldwide with several members of the college's faculty and staff.

1946 Julia Kabance, '46, a 109-year-old World War II veteran, in November received the Daughters of the American Revolution Distinguished Citizen Medal for her many years serving in the military and volunteering in VA hospitals and churches. She is the oldest member of the Prairie Band Pottawatomie Nation and the first Native American to receive this award.

1951 Gene Balloun, b'51, l'54, retired partner at Shook, Hardy & Bacon in Kansas City, in November received the Breaking Barriers Adoption Award from Voice for Adoption, a national adoption advocacy group. Throughout his career, Gene has helped more than 1,500 foster children find permanent homes.

1958 The Rev. **Patricia "Pasha" Hafer Buck**, g'58, is

interim chaplain at the Mayflower Community, a retirement residence in Grinnell, Iowa, where she and her husband, John, live.

John Feist, c'58, lives in Falls Church, Virginia, where he recently wrote and published two novels, *Night Rain*, *Tokyo* and *Blind Trust*.

1961 Delberta Hollaway Coonrod-Vannoy, d'61, in September received the Albert Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award. Her career in education spanned more than 40 years and included roles in public schools and universities in Kansas, Nebraska, Indiana and Texas. Most recently she taught at Binh Duong University in Vietnam. She retired in 2002 as an educational consultant.

1967 Lloyd Free, g'67, g'69, PhD'70, a former assistant professor at the University of Michigan, wrote *Bittersweet*, which was published by Sugarhill Press in 2018. The historical novel celebrates the beatnik jazz and poetry scenes in San Francisco and Paris in the 1960s.

1968 M.D. "Mike" Michaelis, b'68, g'69, in October was elected vice chair of the KU Endowment board of trustees. He is president of Emprise Financial Corp. and has served on the Endowment board since 2003. In 2004, the

School of Business honored him with the Distinguished Business Alumni Award.

David Preston, j'68, retired as chief pilot and director of flight operations at Russell Stover. He moved from Overland Park to Mesa, Arizona, in 2018.

1969 Donald Anderson, m'69, retired in 2018 after nearly 50 years as an anesthesiologist. He lives in Stillwater, Minnesota.

Mark Swanson, m'69, is a retired surgeon in Marshfield, Wisconsin, where he lives with his wife, Mary Jane. They have two children.

1970 Paul Gray, d'70, wrote *Notes From Papa*, his fourth motivational book, which was published in November. He and his wife, **Margaret "Kitsy" Waggoner Gray**, d'69, live in Lawrence and have three children, two of whom are **Jody Gray White**, d'01, g'03, and **Jay**, c'06, and six grandchildren.

Rusty Leffel, c'70, l'73, an artist and photographer in Mission Hills, was recently profiled in KC Studio magazine about his lively yard-art installations, which he creates to encourage conversation about global and social issues. Rusty is a former attorney and the inspiration for KU's Rusty Leffel Concerned Student Award, which was established

in 1973 by his fellow students and is awarded annually to student leaders. His wife, **Paula Hauser Leffel**, f'70, recently exhibited her paintings at HJ's Youth & Community Center gallery in Brookside.

1973 Gary Flory, l'73, is director emeritus of the Kansas Institute for Peace & Conflict Resolution at Bethel College. He and **Ann Sollenberger Flory**, g'72, a retired librarian, live in McPherson and have three children.

Michael Mehl, c'73, retired after more than three decades with the federal government, including 30 years at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C., and three years as the Kinnear Professor of Physics at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. He is now a research professor at Duke University.

1974 Stephen Kunz, m'74, is a retired physician and lives in Overland Park with his wife of 44 years, **Cynthia Stark Kunz**, c'92. They have three children, two of whom are **Eric**, '01, and **Lara**, '09, and five grandchildren.

1975 Patricia Hirsch, c'75, l'79, s'98, lives in Newtown, Connecticut, where she retired as director of customer services at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

School Codes

- a** School of Architecture and Design
- b** School of Business
- c** College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- d** School of Education
- e** School of Engineering
- f** School of Fine Arts

- g** Master's Degree
- h** School of Health Professions
- j** School of Journalism
- l** School of Law
- m** School of Medicine
- n** School of Nursing
- p** School of Pharmacy
- PharmD** School of Pharmacy

- s** School of Social Welfare
- u** School of Music
- AUD** Doctor of Audiology
- DE** Doctor of Engineering
- DMA** Doctor of Musical Arts
- DNAP** Doctor of Nursing Anesthesia Practice
- DNP** Doctor of Nursing Practice
- DPT** Doctor of Physical Therapy

- EdD** Doctor of Education
- OTD** Doctor of Occupational Therapy
- PhD** Doctor of Philosophy
- SJD** Doctor of Juridical Science
- (no letter) Former student**
- assoc** Associate member of the Alumni Association

Gale Sayers, d'75, g'77, in November joined 11 other running backs on the NFL 100 All-Time Team. Sayers in 1977 became the Pro Football Hall of Fame's youngest inductee, a distinction he still holds.

1976 Dan Kaup, m'76, is a family physician at St. Mary Medical Center in Valparaiso, Indiana.

1977 Lon Dehnert, d'77, DMA'87, retired in August as assistant dean of the KU School of Education. He joined the school's administrative team in 2012.

Michael Flowers, c'77, a retired brigadier general with 30 years of service in the U.S. Army, in December was inducted in the Washburn Rural High School Hall of

Fame in Topeka. He currently serves on the Alumni Association's national Board of Directors.

1978 Doug Barrington, j'78, who co-owns Team Barrington Real Estate in Topeka, was named 2019 Realtor of the Year by the Sunflower Association of Realtors and will serve as president of the association in 2020. He also leads the Kansas Association of Realtors as director.

M. Margaret Sheahan Moran, b'78, l'83, is deputy city attorney for Kansas City, Missouri.

1979 John Cessarich, c'79, retired in November as chief meteorologist at WYFF 4 in Greenville, South

Carolina. His career with the station spanned 30 years and was celebrated with an on-air retirement party.

Susan Myres, b'79, a senior partner at Myres & Associates in Houston, is president of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers.

1980 Lorie Kuchem Bowman, a'80, in October was elected to the KU Endowment board of trustees. She is a principal architect and president of BBN Architects Inc. in Kansas City and Manhattan. Lorie also serves on the School of Architecture & Design advisory board.

1981 Nelda Schwinke Godfrey, g'81, associate dean of partnerships and practice at

KU School of Nursing, was inducted as a fellow in the Academy of Nursing Education.

George Gomez, c'81, is an attorney at Tenopir and Huerter in Topeka. He lives in Lenexa.

Ron Hrabak, e'81, recently was awarded the Five Star Award, one of the highest honors for individual accomplishment at FedEx. He just completed his 12th year in the strategic projects department at FedEx Express in Memphis, Tennessee.

John Logan, j'81, l'84, is an attorney at Laff Gordon Bennett Logan in Denver. He specializes in commercial litigation, real estate, contract and employment law.

Caroline Bilderback Sosin, n'81, was promoted to



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1 Retrieved on January 28, 2019, from pwc.com/us/en/industries/tmt/library/sports-outlook-north-america.html

*This program is a Master of Science in Education (M.S.E.) degree in health, sport management, and exercise science with an emphasis in sport management.

senior RN manager of the NICU at Banner Thunderbird Medical Center in Glendale, Arizona.

1982 Steve Raymond, j'82, in October was inducted in the Colorado Snowsports Hall of Fame. In 1995 he co-founded Adaptive Spirit, which helps fund the U.S. Paralympic Ski Team, and he continues to lead the organization's board of directors as chair. Steve also serves on the board of the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Foundation.

Mark White, c'82, l'85, lives in Houston, where he's chief administrative officer at Baker Botts law firm.

1983 Michael Bohn, c'83, is athletic director at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles.

Rick Embers, c'83, a'88, in September received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the KU School of Architecture & Design. He is principal at Pulse Design Group in Overland Park, where he has worked for more than 30 years.

Kim Martens, l'83, is an attorney at Martens Work Comp Law in Wichita, where he lives with his wife, Glenda.

Earl Richardson, j'83, l'08, is a photographer in Lawrence.

1985 Paige Vicker Butler, b'85, l'88, is deputy executive director at George Mason University Antonin Scalia Law School in Arlington, Virginia.

Michael Carothers, j'85, works at Fox Sports Kansas City. He and **Karmel Crampton Carothers**, c'85, m'89, live in Overland Park.

Jamie Koval, f'85, founding partner of brand and marketing

agency VSA Partners in Chicago, received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the KU School of Architecture & Design in September. He also is founder and chief design officer of Cooler Screens, a technology company.

Laura Shaneyfelt, l'85, in September received the 2019 Robert L. Gernon Award for her commitment to legal education. She's the Criminal Justice Act resource counsel for the Kansas Federal Public Defender Office in Topeka.

James Wright, l'85, is senior tax director at Apteon in Alpharetta, Georgia, where he makes his home with his wife, Susan.

1986 Deirdre Hajidimitriou Petersen, c'86, is firm administrator at Barnwell Whaley Patterson & Helms in Charleston, South Carolina.

1987 Peter Clouston, '87, is a video and digital producer at Terracon and a camera operator for the Kansas City Chiefs. He lives in Lawrence.

J. Leon Greene, '87, who joined the KU faculty in 1995, retired in July as associate professor emeritus in the department of health, sport and exercise sciences.

James Holt, l'87, is of counsel at Bruce & Lehman in Wichita.

Sharon Stephens, j'87, c'88, l'91, is an environmental consultant at the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency in St. Paul. She lives in White Bear Lake.

Patrick Sturgeon, j'87, is managing editor of college wires at USA Today Sports. He makes his home in

Scottsdale, Arizona.

Brian Wertenberger, j'87, owns Fitness Machine Technicians. He makes his home in Gardner.

1988 Doug Barraza, a'88, is principal and recreation and wellness leader at Smith-Group, a design firm in Denver.

Born to:

Michael Frakes, c'88, and his wife, Malisa, son, Gabriele, July 23 in Boston, where he joins a brother, Charlie, who just turned 3. Michael is chief quality officer and director of clinical care for Boston MedFlight.

1989 Laura Bronson, j'89, lives in New York City, where she's executive editor at Callisto Media.

Kathryn Ulrich Lask, c'89, l'93, is an attorney and professor in the paralegal program at Kansas City Kansas Community College. She lives in Overland Park and has two sons.

Paul Rupp, c'89, l'92, is a corporate business development adviser at Chevron in Houston, where he lives with his wife, Lucia.

Dionne Scherff, c'89, l'91, an attorney at Joseph, Hollander & Craft in Kansas City, was named to the 2019 Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers list. She specializes in criminal defense.

1990 John Barbian, l'90, is political economic chief for the U.S. Department of State at the Consulate General in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Emerick Cross, c'90, g'06, was appointed by Gov. Laura

Kelly in August to the Kansas Wildlife and Parks Commission. He currently serves as director and commission liaison for the unified government of Wyandotte County and the Kansas City, Kansas, County Administrator's Office.

Kelly Donohoe, c'90, g'92, a former KU quarterback, is the new head football coach at Rockhurst High School in Kansas City. For the past 20 seasons he coached at Blue Springs High School, where he led the team to four state championships. Kelly is a member of the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame.

Kathy Hime Wagoner, d'90, in October was named Hays Post Teacher of the Month. She has been teaching for 28 years and has spent her entire career at Hays High School.

1991 Darren Black, c'91, l'93, lives in Fairway, where he's national practice leader at Risk Strategies, an insurance brokerage and risk management firm. He oversees the national professional liability practice group.

Elizabeth Kennedy Trudeau, j'91, is the U.S. Consul General in Belfast, Northern Ireland. She previously served in the same role in Lahore, Pakistan.

James Whittaker, c'91, g'00, lives in Lawrence, where he's a financial adviser and principal at GP Strategies. He's also a cycling coach at Velotek Performance.

1992 Alexandra Goodpasture Reilly, c'92, recently earned national certification from the American Bankers



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kelseygalle@kualumni.org.

Association as a certified financial marketing professional. She is vice president and agency principal at Banktastic, a marketing agency for financial brands.

Karen Whipple, '92, retired in October after nearly 20 years as an accountant at the KU Alumni Association. She and her husband, **Don**, assoc., recently moved to Eureka Springs, Arkansas.

1993 Beth Anderson Easter, c'93, is community bank president of INTRUST Bank and oversees consumer operations in Lawrence and Topeka. She has been with the bank since 2011.

Richard Salmen, g'93, lives in Olathe, where he's president of Family Investment Center.

Brian Smith, b'93, lives in Olathe, where he's vice president of operations at Cobalt

Iron, a cloud-based data protection provider.

Melanie Stuart-Campbell, d'93, a language teacher in Topeka, wrote *Learn Spanish with Pictures: Easy, Visual Lessons to Master Basic Grammar and Vocabulary*, which was published in November by Rockridge Press. It's her second book.

Amy Schwartz Walker, b'93, was promoted to vice president of remote tax preparation at H&R Block in Kansas City.

1994 Michelle White Bowman, j'94, in November became a member of the board of governors of the Federal Reserve System. She previously served as state bank commissioner of Kansas.

Don Cawby, g'94, is finance director for the city of Shawnee.

A.J. Cleland, c'94, manages accounts at E2 Lending. He lives in Denver.

Larry Kleeman, b'94, c'94, l'97, is an attorney and municipal adviser at Ranson Citycode Financial in Wichita.

Jennifer Klemp, c'94, g'99, g'03, PhD'08, associate professor of medical oncology at KU Medical Center, is leading a \$2.25 million National Cancer Institute grant-funded study on survival rate disparities in rural parts of Kansas. She shares principal investigator duties with **Allen Greiner**, m'95, g'00, associate professor of family medicine and community health.

1995 LaRisa Chambers, c'95, lives in Goleta, California, where she's a senior gift officer at Cottage Health.

Molly Fogarty, c'95, is senior vice president of corporate and

government affairs at Nestlé in Washington, D.C.

Paul Ling, g'95, g'97, l'02, lives in Olathe, where he's senior director and corporate counsel at Evergy.

Married

Matt Eblen, e'95, g'00, to Liz Johnston, Aug. 10 in Kansas City. They make their home in Roeland Park, where Matt is a project manager at McClure Engineering.

1996 Karen McGaughy Lavendusky, f'96, directs space management at KU. She commutes from De Soto.

Janith Lewis-Bryant, l'96, is senior assistant general counsel at Dallas Area Rapid Transit. She lives in St. Paul, Texas.

Daniel Mudd, j'96, makes his home in Hong Kong, where he's general manager of Burt's Bees Asia.

Andrew Wymore

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1997 Brad Allen, c'97, executive director of the Lawrence Public Library, in August was appointed by Gov. Laura Kelly to the Humanities Kansas board of directors.

Clay Barker, l'97, is deputy general counsel for the Kansas Secretary of State. He and

Laura McKnight Barker, l'94, live in Leawood.

Jeannette Blackmar, g'97, g'99, g'16, is executive director of the Lumberyard Arts Center in Baldwin City. She previously directed the city's Chamber of Commerce.

Erica Smith, f'97, makes her home in Mooresville, North Carolina, where she's an online merchant at Lowe's.

J. Max Van Hoose, g'97, was promoted to executive vice president of Harps Food Stores,

a 91-store grocery chain based in his hometown of Springdale, Arkansas. He's been with the company since 1997.

Tanya Wilson, l'97, is senior counsel at Husch Blackwell in Kansas City. She and **Richard**, assoc., live in Stilwell.

1998 Alan Carr, j'98, is executive director of the Kansas City Kansas Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Alexandra Lussier Philip, b'98, '07, directs client services at LionShare, a health care data analytics and marketing agency. She lives in Olathe.

Wendy Rohleder-Sook, c'98, l'01, is assistant professor and director of pre-law/legal studies at Fort Hays State University in Hays.

Nicole Mehring Schmidt, e'98, is senior director of development at Central Square Technologies. She and **Zachary Schmidt**, e'97, '02, a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps, live in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

1999 Guiseppe "Jon" Bonacci, b'99, chief financial officer at GLY Construction in Bellevue, Washington, recently was named a shareholder of the company.

Mark Keeton, c'99, PharmD'02, directs service reliability at IdeaTek TelCom in Buhler.

William Lewis, l'99, is special counsel at C. Tumeay Law Group in Houston, where he makes his home with his wife, Darcy.

Jen Silvers, j'99, lives in Chesapeake, Virginia, where she's district vice president of YMCA of South Hampton Roads.

2000 Matt Nyberg, b'00, a shareholder at Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck in Denver, in October was elected to the board of directors of Team Breckenridge Sports Club, a nonprofit organization that supports young athletes.

2001 Monique Centeno, c'01, is a judge in the 18th Judicial District in Wichita. She was a trial attorney at Wall Huntington Law Firm.

Dustin Engelken, m'01, is a pulmonary critical care physician at Alaska Native Medical Center in Olympia,

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Oct. 6-17

Go on safari during the annual Great Migration of vast droves of wildebeest, zebra, gazelle and Cape buffalo—and see wildlife including elephant, lion, cheetah and leopard.



Machu Picchu to the Galapagos

Oct. 6-21

Journey to Lima, Peru, and on to the mysteries of Machu Picchu. Then fly via Quito, Ecuador, to the Galapagos Islands to discover the unique wildlife of the Islands.

Cosmopolitan Havens

Nov. 3-11

Sail to some of the most cultured cities on the western Mediterranean on this seven-night cruise aboard Oceania Cruises' elegant *Marina*.



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Washington, where he lives with **Michelle**, m'04.

Matthew Gaus, c'01, l'06, is associate litigation counsel at the Kansas Board of Healing Arts in Topeka. He commutes from Lawrence.

Chadron Patton, c'01, l'10, is senior associate general counsel at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas City. He lives in Lenexa.

Megan Hoss Pedersen, c'01, g'08, lives in Lawrence, where she's senior director of surgical clinics at Lawrence Memorial Hospital. She's been with the hospital for eight years.

Emily Schutte Vijayakirithi, c'01, l'04, is senior attorney and assistant compliance manager at Black & Veatch in Leawood. She and **Victor**, g'10, an IT applications manager at

Sprint, live in Overland Park.

2002 Jennie Neumann Carter, b'02, l'04, is an attorney at Counts Law Firm in Prairie Village.

Doug Herbers, e'02, g'06, lives in San Diego, where he works at Naval Information Warfare Center Pacific.

Jerrihlyn Miller McGee, n'02, g'05, DNP'15, was promoted to vice chancellor for diversity, equity and inclusion at KU Medical Center. She has been a clinical assistant professor and director of graduate leadership programs in the School of Nursing.

Sara Ott, g'02, is city manager of Aspen, Colorado.

Stephanie Stewart Pedersen, l'02, is senior director of Medicaid market development at Express Scripts. She makes

her home in Aurora, Colorado.

Matthew Stratemeier, c'02, l'05, is vice president of Gradient Financial Group in Topeka. He lives in Lawrence.

2003 Eric Aufdengarten, l'03, is associate general counsel at KU. He commutes from Lenexa.

Jeff Boschee, d'03, in June will be inducted in the North Dakota Sports Hall of Fame. A Valley City, North Dakota, native, he played basketball for KU from 1998 to 2002 and helped the Jayhawks advance to the Final Four during his senior year. He's the head men's basketball coach at Missouri Southern State University in Joplin.

Michele Casavant, PhD'03, is assistant dean of the KU School of Education. She has

been with the University since 2003.

Brian Iverson, g'03, is senior commercial relationship manager at INTRUST Bank in Lawrence.

Amber Lutz-Sewell, d'03, co-owns Lutz Plumbing in Shawnee.

Maria Lara Ojeda, g'03, is assistant city manager of American Canyon, California.

2004 Julie May Austin, c'04, is associate athletic director of marketing and licensing at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth.

Jerald Cook, b'04, l'09, is an attorney at Cook Law Firm in Leawood. He lives in Stilwell.

John Tyler Marshall, e'04, a'06, lives in Croton-on-Hudson, New York, where he's managing director of New York

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The KU Alumni Association has partnered with KU Libraries to create the Jayhawk Book Club for alumni, students and friends.

Here's how it works

Each semester, KU Libraries staff will select a book and create discussion questions. The discussions will take place in a closed Facebook group, and you can participate as much or as little as you like.

We'll hold a reception and discussion May 6, led by KU Libraries staff.

Spring 2020 book

The One by John Marrs.

How to join

1. Visit kualumni.org/bookclub and fill out the form to join the Jayhawk Book Club and receive emails.
2. Join the Jayhawk Book Club Facebook group. Discussion questions will be posted in this group.

Questions?

Contact Michelle Lang, director of alumni programs, at michellem@kualumni.org or 785.864.9769.



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City-based design and architecture firm Workshop/APD.

Travis, f'04, and **Brooke Wehner Russell**, j'03, co-own Public at the Brickyard in Wichita.

2005 Jon Cline, c'05, g'09, l'09, makes his home in Houston, where he's senior corporate counsel at Hines, a real estate firm.

Ben Gholson, a'05, an architect and senior associate at Cooper Carry in Atlanta, was part of a team that won the 2019 Radical Innovation Award in October.

Ronald Huston Jr., c'05, l'09, is a staff attorney at YoungWilliams. He lives in Shawnee.

Brandon Snook, f'05, recently performed in "Looking at You," an opera featured at

HERE Arts Center in New York City. He makes his home in Jersey City, New Jersey.

Laci Wright, j'05, is a digital marketing specialist for the KU Edwards Campus in Overland Park.

Born to:

Elaine Fukunaga, f'05, and her husband, Christopher, son, Baley, July 27 in Bulach, Switzerland, where he joins a sister, Aspen, who recently turned 2.

2006 Anna Kowalewski

Lloyd, c'06, l'09, lives in Chicago, where she's executive director at the Chicago Committee, a nonprofit organization that provides networking opportunities and support for minority lawyers.

Quinton McElhaney, l'06, is an e-discovery consultant at Wiley Rein in Washington, D.C.

2007 Katharine Fisher

Dernier, l'07, lives in Kansas City, where she's underwriting counsel at First American Title Insurance Company.

Deanna Hanson-Abromeit, PhD'07, is associate professor of music education and music therapy at KU. She lives in Lawrence with her husband and their two children.

Alonzo Jamison, c'07, is section manager at Hallmark Cards in Lawrence. He and **Colleen Rodgers Jamison**, f'87, live in Tecumseh.

Whitney Novak, j'07, l'14, recently moved to Washington, D.C., where she's a legisla-

tive attorney at the Congressional Research Service in the Library of Congress.

Joshua Roehr, d'07, manages consumer marketing at Kansas Speedway. He and **Kelli Nuss Roehr**, c'07, director of Educare Kansas City at KU Medical Center's Project Eagle, live in Gladstone, Missouri.

Eric Schlickman, a'07, lives in Wheaton, Illinois, where he owns 302 Wheaton, a burger restaurant.

Megan Simpson, f'07, l'12, is compliance and privacy business partner at Saint Luke's Health System in Kansas City.

Sarah Sims, c'07, '08, directs engagement and accessibility at the Missouri Historical Society in St. Louis.

Lucas Thompson, c'07, is

president of Ad Astra Insights. He lives in Los Angeles.

2008 Amber Clifford-Napoleone, PhD'08, is professor of anthropology and director of the McClure Archives and University Museum at the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg.

Megan Dodge, c'08, g'10, is deputy secretary of operations for the Kansas Department for Children and Families. She and **Scott Gustafson**, c'08, live in Lawrence and have two children.

Catherine Wilcox Fuller, s'08, s'09, l'14, is assistant attorney general in the Texas Office of the Attorney General. She and her husband, Levi, live in Georgetown, Texas.

Eric Jorgensen, j'08, lives in Los Angeles, where he's

associate creative director at Critical Mass, a digital-experience design agency.

Matthew Meyer, c'08, l'12, is vice president of CAC Specialty, an insurance brokerage and investment banking company. He lives in Centennial, Colorado.

Glen Stansberry, c'08, is a web developer at KU Edwards Campus in Overland Park.

Born to:

Andrew Sherwood, j'08, and his wife, Kayla, twins William and Adelaide, Oct. 21, in Plano, Texas. Andrew is a leadership gifts officer at Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

Eric, g'08, and **Jordann Parsons Snow**, c'08, son, Henry, Aug. 28 in Prairie Village, where he joins a

sister, Nora, who just turned 5.

2009 Jessica Shannon Burtin, j'09, l'12, is an attorney at Ascension Via Christi in Wichita.

Brendan Fletcher, l'09, is a compliance specialist at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment in Denver.

Ashley Epperly Schubert, l'09, is a dispute resolution and policy specialist at the Colorado Department of Education. She lives in Denver with her husband, Cameron.

Timothy Spencer, c'09, u'10, coordinates grants at KU. He and **Kim Adams Spencer**, c'07, '11, live in Lawrence.

Darrell Stuckey, c'09, in October was inducted in the Ring of Honor at David Booth Kansas Memorial Stadium

during the KU Homecoming game. He was a safety for the Jayhawks from 2006 to '09 and went on to play professionally for the San Diego Chargers.

2010 Jenny Brockel, j'10, is a flight attendant for Sun Country Airlines. She lives in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Kevin Hardy, c'10, j'10, covers business for the Kansas City Star.

Erica Braker Potter, b'10, is a marketing and communications specialist at Allied National. She and **Samuel**, c'17, live in Overland Park.

Kate Renner, g'10, g'12, an associate at HKS in Washington, D.C., received the Young Architect/Designer Award from the KU School of Architecture & Design in September.

Gear Up in Rock Chalk Style

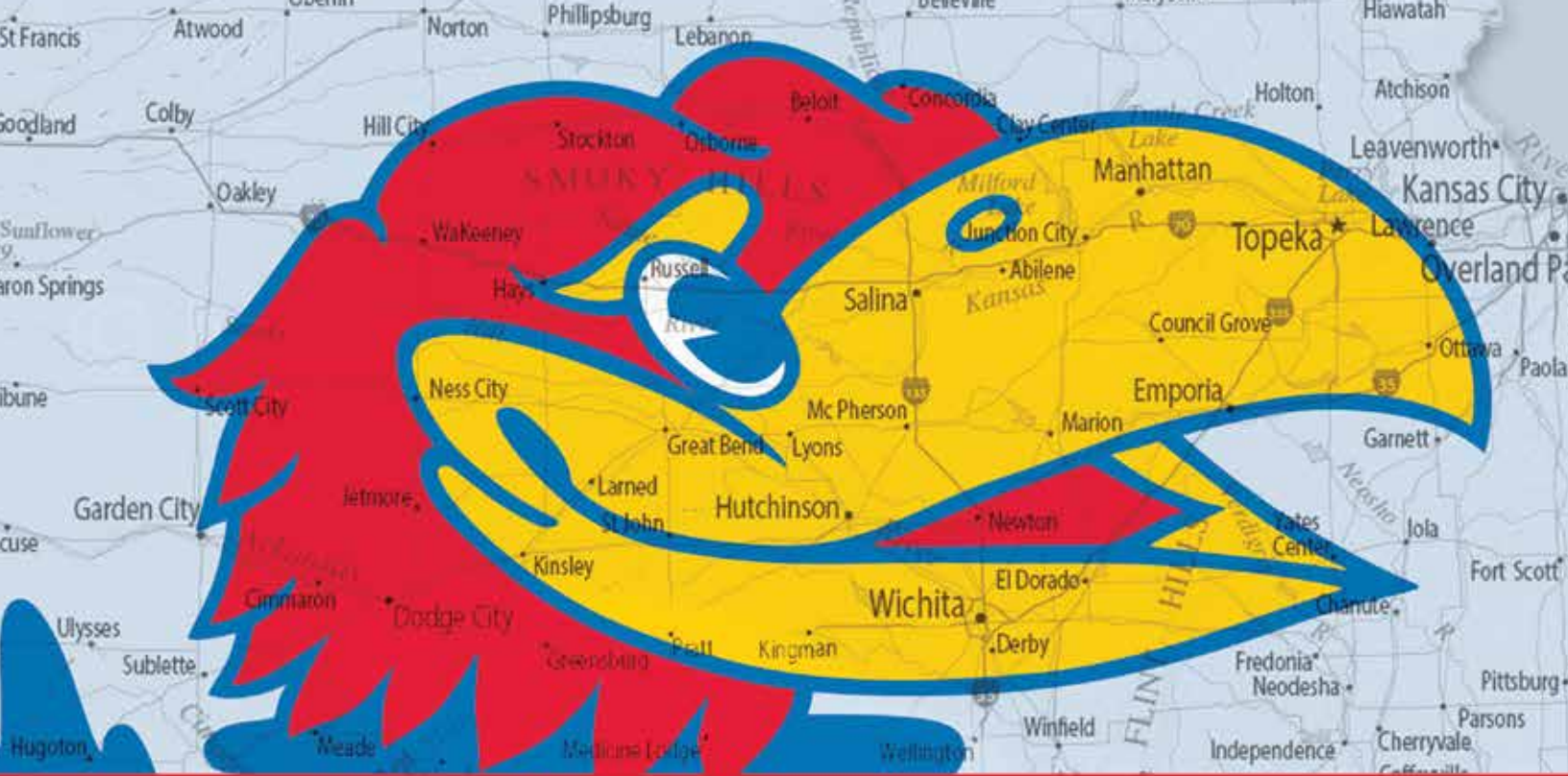


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Mario Rodriguez, c'10, '14, is a home-equity mortgage representative at CommunityAmerica Credit Union. He lives in Kansas City.

Adam Samson, j'10, is assistant athletic director of media and communications at Missouri Baptist University in St. Louis. He and his wife, Megan, live in Maryland Heights, Missouri, and have a son, Benjamin, who recently turned 3.

Jenny Conner Smith, b'10, l'13, works for the city of Shawnee as assistant city attorney.

Wade Whiting, l'10, is district attorney of Crook County in Prineville, Oregon.

Nick Woolery, g'10, lives in Baytown, Texas, where he's assistant city manager.

2011 Alex Aguilera, l'11, is assistant general counsel of litigation and compliance at Leggett & Platt in Carthage, Missouri.

Sonia Hall, c'11, PhD'16, is president and CEO of BioKansas in Mission.

Estelle Johnson, c'11, is a professional soccer player for the New Jersey-based Sky Blue FC and the Cameroon women's national team. She was a defender for the Jayhawks from 2006 to '09.

Janelle McCoy, g'11, directs engagement at Bernstein-Rein in Kansas City. She makes her home in Tonganoxie.

Matthew Nahrstedt, a'11, is a senior project associate at MIG in Pasadena, California.

Jake Silverman, c'11, is a

lobbyist and political strategist at Strategic Capitol Consulting in Chesterfield, Missouri. He lives in Wildwood.

Sumere Smith, h'11, g'13, lives in Durham, North Carolina, where she's a medical records administration specialist.

Connor Treanor, g'11, manages projects at TreanorHL, an architecture firm in Lawrence.

Mary Tunakan, b'11, l'14, is an attorney at Creative Planning Legal in Overland Park.

2012 Sarah Bell, g'12, PhD'19, is a development officer at the Watkins Museum of History in downtown Lawrence.

Matt Franzblau, g'12, is a

development officer for the Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County in Boca Raton, Florida. He also serves as vice chair of communications on JNFuture's national board of directors and chair of the local Broward chapter.

Brian Gardiner, b'12, l'16, is an attorney at McDonald Veon in Overland Park.

Brian Greer, g'12, PhD'14, is assistant professor of pediatrics at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey. He also is assistant director of Children's Specialized Hospital-Rutgers Center for Autism Research, Education and Services.

Weston Pletcher, j'12, is assistant director of communi-

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cations for Wichita State Athletics. He and **Lyndsay Leisinger Pletcher**, '11, a human resources generalist at the university, live in Park City and have a son, Payne, who turns 1 in March.

Jud Travis, c'12, is a self-employed comedian in Los Angeles.

Marcy Farguson Vandament, c'12, g'14, PhD'19, has accepted a two-year post-doctoral fellowship in pediatric neuropsychology at Sutter Medical Foundation in Sacramento, California.

Joe Watson, b'12, is senior finance manager at Molson Coors in Denver.

Andy White, c'12, is a photographer at KU.

2013 David Austin, l'13, works as a law clerk at the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the

Southern District of Ohio in Cincinnati.

Erin Borry, PhD'13, was promoted to associate professor of political science and public administration at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She also directs the university's master of public administration program.

Casey Cox Combs, c'13, AUD'17, is a clinical audiologist at Mid-Kansas Ear, Nose & Throat Associates in Wichita.

Jared Doke, g'13, is a program specialist for the National Alliance for Public Safety GIS Foundation in Washington, D.C. He lives in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Robert Domsch, g'13, l'13, is vice president of regional operations at Mariner Wealth Advisors in Overland Park,

where he lives with **Ashley Speck Domsch**, n'09, who works at Children's Mercy Hospital.

Jenna Christophel Driskell, c'13, is an attorney at LeBaron-Ramos Law Firm in Kansas City. She lives in Leawood with her husband, Hank.

Tyler Dumler, l'13, is a program specialist for the Federal Emergency Management Agency in Washington, D.C.

Justine Greve, g'13, coordinates research at Jackson County Family Court in Kansas City.

Henry Kapka, c'13, is a project manager at Pace Analytical Services in Lenexa. He lives in Leawood.

Grady Millikan, g'13, lives in Manor, Texas, where he's a data analyst at ScaleFactor, an

accounting software company.

Brooke Anderson Parker, g'13, manages learning and development at water.org. She lives in Olathe and has two daughters, Maggie and Molly.

James Rankin, l'13, is chief operating officer and chief compliance officer at Change-Path in Leawood. He and his wife, Melissa, make their home in Prairie Village.

Shannon Collins Schroeder, c'13, lives in Houston, where she's an associate at Locke Lord.

Christopher Teters, e'13, l'16, is assistant attorney general at the Kansas Attorney General's Office in Topeka.

2014 Edward Bain, l'14, is assistant counsel for the Unified Government of Wyandotte County in Kansas City.

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Perry Brill, c'14, manages Brill Eye Center in Mission.

Immanuel Chioco, c'14, lives in New York City, where he's a law clerk for the New York State Unified Court System.

Peter Conley, l'14, is a trial attorney for the Death Penalty Defense Unit, a division of the Kansas Board of Indigents' Defense Services, in Topeka.

Austin Drake, b'14, is a portfolio adviser at Sterneck Capital Management. He makes his home in Topeka.

Philip Gonzalez, c'14, lives in Lawrence, where he's a billing specialist at The Hartford.

Ciara Malone, c'14, l'17, is an attorney at Cohen & Cohen in Washington, D.C. She lives in Arlington, Virginia.

Benjamin Martin, c'14, s'17, is a social worker at Truman Medical Center in Kansas City, where he lives with his partner, Zeb Duncan.

Laura Minton, g'14, curates exhibitions at the Fralin Museum of Art at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville.

Katie Rowe, e'14, is a chemical engineer at Honeywell Federal Manufacturing & Technologies in Kansas City. She lives in Olathe.

Mark Savoy, l'14, lives in Denver, where he's a criminal defense attorney at the Colorado Legal Defense Group.

2015 Montana Astorga, c'15, is a medical technologist at Quest Diagnostics in Lenexa.

Kurt Blankschaen, g'15, is assistant professor of philosophy at Daemen College in Amherst, New York. He and his partner, Robert Withrow, make their home in Williamsville, New York.

Jeffrey Carmody, c'15, l'19, is a research attorney for the

Kansas Court of Appeals in Topeka. He lives in Lawrence.

Julie Etzler, j'15, lives in Wichita, where she's a digital marketing coordinator at INTRUST Bank.

Taylor Hatfield, c'15, directs operations for Wichita State University women's softball program.

Julia Johnson, b'15, lives in New York City, where she manages customer service at Braze, Inc.

Lauren Longbine, j'15, is director of Midwest promotion for Sony Music Entertainment.

Travis Machelek, g'15, was promoted to town administrator of Estes Park, Colorado. He previously served in an assistant administrator role.

Hugo Macias Jr., g'15, is a high school professional communications teacher at Uplift Education in Dallas. He makes his home in Garland, Texas.

Nicole Multer, c'15, l'18, is an attorney at Rasmussen, Dickey & Moore in Kansas City.

Mitchell Spain, g'15, is a ceramics artist in Johnston, Iowa.

Teresa Martin Stanfill, DNP'15, directs nursing practice at St. Luke's Health System in Boise, Idaho.

Anthony West, b'15, is a real estate agent at John Moffitt & Associates in Kansas City.

Alyse Zadalis, l'15, works at Black & Veatch in Overland Park, where she's dispute resolution counsel.

Married

Liesel Reussner, c'15, to **Sean Callahan**, assoc., June 1

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in Lawrence. They live in Richmond, Virginia, where Liesel works in marketing and design at Thrivent.

2016 Molly Bernard, c'16, is a meteorologist at KETV in Omaha, Nebraska.

Perry Ellis, '16, in May was inducted in the Kansas State High School Activities Association Hall of Fame. He played basketball for the Jayhawks from 2012 to '16 and was the 2016 Big 12 Scholar Athlete of the Year. After playing briefly in the NBA's G-League, Perry has joined the KU basketball staff as video coordinator.

Matthew Frederick, c'16, l'19, lives in Lawrence, where he's an associate at Fagan & Emert.

Tom Joyce, b'16, directs sales at Naologic, a business

management company. He makes his home in Kansas City.

Anna Lavigne, j'16, l'19, is an associate at Niedner Law Firm in St. Charles, Missouri. She lives in St. Louis.

Morgan Linder, c'16, lives in Walla Walla, Washington, where she's an assessment and communication coordinator at the Walla Walla County Department of Community Health.

Michelle Marron, c'16, s'17, is a youth community support worker at Cornerstones of Care in Kansas City.

Sage Morander, b'16, works at Teak Media + Communication in South Boston, where she's an account executive.

Senushi Jayaratne O'Sullivan, m'16, is a hospitalist at Washington Regional Medical

Center in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Michael Portman, j'16, lives in Kansas City, where he's a communications and public relations specialist at Glynn-Devins.

Jessie Pringle, c'16, l'19, is an assistant revisor at the Kansas Office of Revisor of Statutes in Topeka. She commutes from Lawrence.

Megan Ryan, e'16, is a process automation engineer at Integrated Project Services in Overland Park.

Zach Stegenga, b'16, lives in New York City, where he's a business development associate at Leonis Partners.

Maureen Weber, m'16, is a hospitalist at Wright Memorial Hospital in Trenton, Missouri.

2017 Cole Anneberg, j'17, coordinates marketing at the Hawes Group in Vancouver, Washington.

Chad Archibald, l'17, lives in Dallas, where he's staff counsel at Allstate.

Ethan Brown, l'17, is an associate attorney at Stockton & Stern in Gardner.

Molly Bybee, g'17, is a music therapist at Paul's Run, a retirement community in Philadelphia.

Nathan Kakazu, l'17, lives in Kansas City, where he's an associate attorney at Blake & Uhlig.

Alison Peterson Tyler, j'17, is a community manager at SecurCare Self Storage in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

2018 Courtney Coppinger Barnes, c'18, is a footwear and gear specialist at Run Flagstaff.

Alyssa Bauer, l'18, lives in

Chicago, where she's a project manager at Cook County Circuit Court.

DongJoo Kim, l'18, is an associate at Love & Blomquist in Lee's Summit, Missouri. He and his wife, June, live in Overland Park.

Nicholas LaPonte, g'18, l'18, is a staff attorney at GEICO. He and his wife, Katherine, make their home in Kenmore, Washington.

Keegan LeFevre, b'18, lives in Hesston, where he's a financial representative at Everence Financial Advisors.

Christopher Mantei, l'18, is a staff attorney for the KU Medical-Legal Partnership in Kansas City.

Victor Monteith, l'18, is an assistant state attorney at the Florida Office of the State Attorney in Clearwater.

Svi Mykhailiuk, c'18, plays

basketball for the Detroit Pistons. He was a guard for the Jayhawks from 2014 to '18 and was selected by the Los Angeles Lakers in the 2018 NBA draft.

Bridget Patti, '18, is a research project specialist at KU's Center for Public Partnerships & Research.

Andrew Pipes, l'18, is an associate at Coan Payton Payne in Fort Collins, Colorado. He and his wife, Shannon, live in Loveland.

Jason Rohloff, g'18, is a budget analyst for the city of Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

Jasmyn Wimbish, g'18, lives in Chicago, where she's an NBA writer for CBS Sports.

Born to:

Michelle Von Ruden, g'18, daughter, Emily, July 6 in Willard, Wisconsin.

2019 Zach Baden, l'19, lives in Overland Park, where he's an associate attorney at Watco Companies.

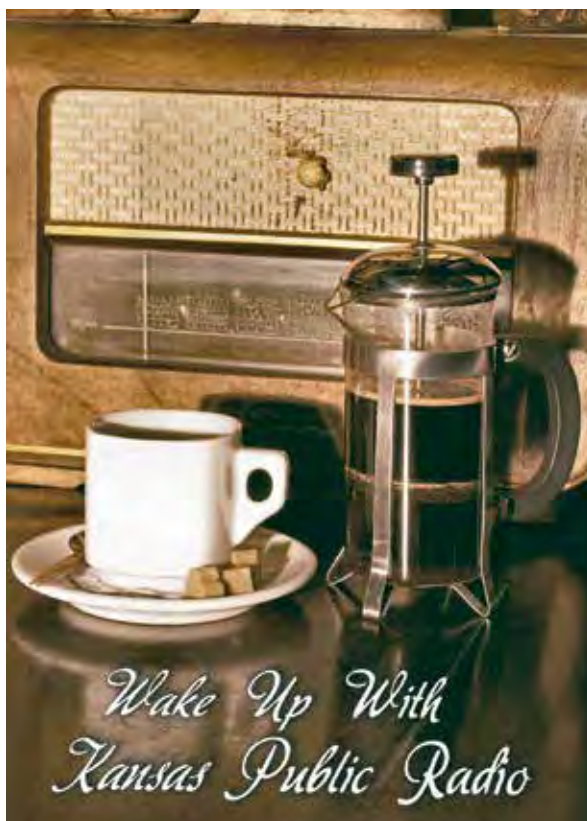
Katie Bernard, c'19, j'19, is a crime and cops reporter at the Kansas City Star. She lives in Overland Park.

Erik Blume, g'19, l'19, directs business management services at the KU Bioscience & Technology Business Center in Lawrence.

Zack Brenner, b'19, is a project manager at software developer Epic. He lives in Madison, Wisconsin.

Eric Buckels, b'19, makes his home in Shawnee, where he's a client relations manager and product consultant at Fountain City Consulting.

Elissa Burr, d'19, lives in Rosemount, Minnesota, where she's an associate territory manager at Vita Solutions.



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Karlee Canaday, l'19, is an attorney at Martin Pringle in Wichita. She lives in Valley Center.

Miguel Chavez, j'19, is the Kansas market manager for New Belgium Brewing Company.

Raffaele Cipriano, DMA'19, conducts the Overland Park Orchestra.

Ramsey Fowler, l'19, is a communications and outreach specialist for the U.S. Department of Defense in Washington, D.C. He and **Konner McIntire Fowler**, l'19, live in Alexandria, Virginia.

Matt Hamm, e'19, lives in Cleveland, where he's a project engineer at MMC Contractors.

Soohun Jang, l'19, is an attorney at LIG Nex1, an aerospace manufacturer and defense company in South Korea.

Sarah Kovalsky, g'19, is a career coach at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City.

Hannah Larson, c'19, lives in Apple Valley, Minnesota, where she's an analytical chemist at Pace Analytical.

Taylor LaRue, b'19, is a business adviser at the KU Small Business Development Center in Lawrence.

Nick Lewis, c'19, lives in Farmington, Missouri, where he's a programmer at KTJJ radio station.

Christalah Lyons, c'19, a former shooting guard for KU, is a member of Olimpia CSU Brasov professional women's basketball team in Romania.

Sarah Medlock, n'19, is a registered nurse at Via Christi Hospital in Manhattan. She recently graduated from the KU School of Nursing in Salina, one of nine students

who made up the first nursing class on the campus.

Nancy Musick, l'19, is a term law clerk at the U.S. District Court for the District of Kansas. She and her husband, Theodore, live in Roeland Park.

Zach Reyes, b'19, is an information security analyst at DefendEdge, a cybersecurity firm. He lives in West Chicago.

Reed Ripley, l'19, is an associate attorney at Morris Laing Evans Brock & Kennedy in Wichita, where he lives with **Mary Leathers Ripley**, d'12.

Justin Schmidt, g'19, works as a program manager at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City.

Mikaela Steutermann, b'19, lives in Kansas City, where she's a financial analyst at Tradebot Systems.

Danon Taylor, '19, manages college outreach and online programs at KU. She lives in Lawrence with her daughter, Olivia.

Owen Taylor, d'19, is a third baseman for the Grand Junction Rockies, a minor league affiliate of the Colorado Rockies professional baseball team.

Timothy Wealton, g'19, is a teacher in Elmhurst, Illinois. He lives in Wheaton and has a son, Elliot.

Cody Wright, l'19, is an attorney at Evans & Dixon in St. Louis.

ASSOCIATES

Cynthia Jewell, assoc., is assistant to the director of the Las Vegas Executives Association.

1940s Letha Epperly

Bush, '43, 97, Sept. 15 in Lyons, where she was a member of P.E.O. Sisterhood and was active in her community. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. She is survived by a daughter, Helen Bush Frick, c'66, g'74; two sons, Granville "Scotty," c'70, l'73, and John, '77; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Francis Carr, '49, 94, Sept. 14 in Wellington, where he had a long career in banking. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are a daughter, Sarah, c'72; a son, David, c'73; two grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Donna Holm Fisher, f'49, 91, Aug. 8 in Santa Ana, California. She was a pianist. Survivors include four sons, two of whom are John, c'75, l'78, and Mark, '79; and a daughter.

Glenna Creech Galloway, c'44, 97, Oct. 10 in Marysville, where she was a secretary at Marshall County Abstract and Title Company.

Russell Handy, c'47, 94, Nov. 13 in Sun City Center, Florida. He had a 32-year career as a pilot with Trans World Airlines and was recognized by Lockheed Martin for flying more than 10,000 hours in its L-1011 TriStar aircraft. Surviving are his wife, Margery Stubbs Handy, j'47; two daughters; a sister; eight grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

John Harbaugh, c'48, g'50, 92, July 28 in Santa Barbara, California. He was professor emeritus of geological and environmental sciences at Stanford University. A memorial has been established with KU

Endowment. Surviving are his wife, Audrey Wegst, PhD'79; three sons; two sisters; a brother; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Helen Markwell Hartman, c'41, 100, June 19 in Hays, where she was a homemaker and a 50-year volunteer at local hospitals. She is survived by two sons, Mark, j'72, and Bill, c'78; two daughters, one of whom is Kathy, '83; a brother, Calvin Markwell, b'50; 10 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Mary Wilson Hayman, c'42, 99, Sept. 12 in Raleigh, North Carolina, where she was a high school teacher and active in her church. Two daughters, two sons, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren survive.

Clarke Henry, c'44, m'47, 97, Sept. 20 in Fairway, where he had a long career as a cardiothoracic and vascular surgeon. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by two daughters, Carolyn Henry Coulson, d'71, and Anne Henry Ralls, d'72, l'75; a son, Clarke Jr., m'78; a sister, Shirley Henry Dixon, c'44; 10 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

John Meyer, c'49, 94, Oct. 5 in Topeka, where he was an engineer at the Kansas Department of Transportation. Surviving are his wife, Marilyn; two sons, one of whom is John Jr., e'80; a daughter; a stepdaughter, Jane Kaesler McCall, '89; a stepson; two sisters; five grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Jeannette Perkins Olin, f'47, 93, Aug. 4 in Lawrence, where she was a retired occupational therapist. She is sur-

vived by a daughter, Sara Olin Zimmerman, c'74, d'76, g'79, PhD'86; and a son, Ron, d'75, PhD'83.

Barbara Roberts, c'47, c'48, 93, Oct. 19 in Overland Park. She lived in Portland, Oregon, for several years and was a hospital lab supervisor.

Robert Smith, e'46, 92, Sept. 8 in Leawood. He was an engineer and founded Smith and Boucher and Energy Masters. Survivors include five sons, three of whom are Vince, c'77, Jim, e'78, and John, e'85; a daughter, Mary Smith Buechler, j'86; and nine grandchildren.

Norma Henry Sutherland, c'45, 95, Oct. 28 in Fairway, where she was a member of several clubs and charitable organizations. Surviving are three sons, two of whom are Dwight, l'77, and Todd, assoc.; a daughter, Martha Sutherland Conrad, g'79; a sister, Shirley Henry Dixon, c'44; 10 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

1950s Patsy Gardenhire Anderson, j'53, 87, Sept. 6 in Largo, Florida, where she participated in a theatre group. Survivors include a son and a daughter.

Lewis Theil Bloom, m'57, 87, Sept. 19 in Wichita, where he was a retired radiologist. He is survived by his wife, Olive Selfridge Bloom, '54; three sons, Barry, c'78, m'81, Lamont, m'79, and Jim, j'80, g'83, g'08; 11 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

Betty Park Chronister, j'51, 94, Oct. 27 in Kansas City, where she was a homemaker and volunteered at Children's Mercy Hospital. Survivors include her husband, Irvin, g'58; a daughter; a son;

seven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Gilbert Cuthbertson, c'59, 81, July 21 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He was a professor of political science at Rice University in Houston and received many teaching awards during his tenure.

Rodney Davis, j'54, g'59, 87, Nov. 5 in Knoxville, Illinois, where he was Szold Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus of History at Knox College of Galesburg. He is survived by his wife, Norma Glass Davis, f'54; three daughters; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Donald Dirks, c'53, l'55, 88, Oct. 13 in Bronxville, New York. He was an attorney. A daughter survives.

Murrell "Mert" Jessen, e'56, 89, Sept. 19 in Dallas. He was retired from Rockwell Collins. Surviving are his wife, Margaret, two sons and three grandchildren.

Emery Jones, c'52, s'56, 92, Sept. 6 in Denver. He lived in Leavenworth for many years, where he was a social worker at the U.S. Disciplinary Barracks at Fort Leavenworth. In retirement he taught classes at the military base's arts and craft center. He is survived by his wife, Ruth Fevurly Jones, c'49; and a daughter, Melissa, h'84.

Wayne Kohman, e'51, 92, Oct. 17 in Lynchburg, Virginia, where he was a retired mechanical engineer who contributed to the designs of Sky Lab and the Hubble Space Telescope. Surviving are his wife, Nancy; two sons, one of whom is Donald, e'83; a daughter; a brother; and four grandchildren.

Bill LaRue, c'57, 84, Oct. 3 in Leawood. He was a practicing attorney for 35 years in

Kansas City. He is survived by a son, William "Woody," e'85, g'87, PhD'96; a daughter, Melinda LaRue Brown, c'90; and six grandchildren.

Alberta Johnson McGrath, d'55, 86, Nov. 24 in Leawood. She was a docent for 50 years at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art and served as president of the museum's Friends of Art group. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. She is survived by two daughters, Andrea McGrath Wehner, c'86, l'89, and Virginia McGrath Popper, c'88, j'88, g'90; and four grandchildren.

June Hereford Mendenhall, d'55, 86, Sept. 16 in Sedan, where she was a teacher and also managed Mendenhall Drilling Properties with her late husband, Roscoe, '54. She is survived by a son, Roscoe III, e'81; two daughters, one of whom is Melissa Mendenhall McGrath, s'82; two sisters, Joan Hereford Underwood, '57, and Judith Hereford Kissell, d'69; nine grandchildren; and two great-granddaughters.

Frank Newby, c'54, PhD'64, 86, Oct. 9 in Tunnel Hill, Georgia. He taught physical chemistry for 38 years at East Tennessee State University. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include four sons and seven grandchildren.

Robert Perusich, e'58, 84, Nov. 10 in Lee's Summit, Missouri. His career as a mechanical engineer spanned 60 years. Survivors include his wife, Patricia Phillips Perusich, g'79; a son, Michael, '84; two brothers; and a granddaughter.

James "Dick" Pratt, b'50, 90, Oct. 23 in Topeka, where he owned Super D Drug stores. He is survived by two sons, Gary,

c'75, and Brian, '79; a daughter, Marianne Pratt Howell, c'84; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Nova Gene Stucker, e'52, 88, Nov. 13 in Houston, where he had a long career as a chemical engineer. Survivors include his wife, Dina Gaskell Stucker, e'54; two daughters; two sisters; six grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Edward Wall, c'56, l'65, 85, Nov. 19 in Appleton, Wisconsin. He worked for 25 years in the legal department at Kimberly Clark. Surviving are his wife, Marilyn Fuller Wall, c'56; two sons; a daughter; a sister; and four grandchildren.

1960s Sherry Smith

Ashenfelter, d'65, 75, Sept. 8 in St. Johns, Florida. She lived in Illinois for several years, where she was a school social worker and was named Social Worker of the Year in 1983 by the National Association of Social Workers. Survivors include her husband, John, a son and her stepmother.

Archie Bedford, e'61, 87, Sept. 19 in Baldwin City. He worked for the Kansas Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration before starting his own business as a surveyor. He is survived by two daughters, Danita, '80, and Brenda Beford Sampson, d'81, '92; three sons, one of whom is Doug, '88; three sisters; a brother; 13 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Richard Burke, b'65, 76, July 26 in Dodge City. He lived in Manhattan for several years, where he owned Burke's Shoes and the Shoe Center and also was professor of management and marketing

at Kansas State University College of Business. He retired as president of Dodge City Community College. Surviving are his wife, Georgia Scoggins Burke, n'74; a daughter, April Burke Bramini, '93; two sons, Ryan, c'00, and Tyler, '08; two stepdaughters; five grandchildren; and five step-grandchildren.

George Burket III, c'65, 77, Oct. 31 in Kingman, where he was CEO and president of Kingman Abstract and Title Company. He is survived by his wife, Linda, assoc.; a son, Christopher, c'05; a daughter; and two sisters.

Colene Slawson DeHoff, d'64, g'86, 89, Oct. 2 in Lawrence. She had a 36-year career as a teacher and administrator in Tonganoxie. Survivors include a son, Bill, c'67; a daughter; three stepchildren; three brothers; a sister; four grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Daniel Fair IV, f'66, 78, Oct. 28 in Fort Collins, Colorado. He was an illustrator and artist. Surviving are his wife, Roshan, and two daughters.

Anne Garlinghouse, c'65, g'78, 76, Sept. 14 in Vancouver, Washington, where she was an attorney and also sold real estate. She is survived by two sons, one of whom is Todd Reamon, '88; and four grandsons.

Mary Karen Smith Goselink, f'60, 81, Oct. 17 in Kitchener, Ontario. She was an occupational therapist at the Waterloo Regional Home Care Program. Survivors include her husband, Bob, c'56; and three sons.

Carolyn Bradley Harvey, d'60, 80, Nov. 27 in Colorado Springs, Colorado. She was an

elementary school teacher and school counselor. She is survived by two sons, John, e'90, and Brad, l'94; two daughters; a brother; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Walter Dean Henrichs, c'61, m'65, 80, Oct. 30 in Advance, North Carolina. He was a Navy flight surgeon and retired as captain before joining Winston-Salem Health Care as the organization's first dermatologist. Surviving are his wife, Barbara Bremer Henrichs, c'64; three sons, Matt, c'97, Mark, b'99, and Jon, '01; and two grandchildren.

Edward Horne, l'67, 83, Aug. 9 in Greenwood, Missouri. He lived in Manhattan for several years, where he retired as legal counsel at Kansas Farm Bureau. He is survived by four daughters, two of whom are Angela, l'90, and Laura Horne Popp, c'05; two sisters; and five grandchildren.

Ramona Lopez Hutchinson, c'63, 78, Nov. 4 in Russell. She lived in Kennewick, Washington, for many years and was an administrative assistant. Survivors include a son, Marc Bauman, b'86; a stepdaughter; two stepsons; her mother; a brother; two grandchildren; 10 step-grandchildren; and several step-great-grandchildren.

Harry Knoche, c'65, 82, Oct. 26 in Overland Park, where he had a long career in data processing at Hallmark Cards and Western Auto. A memorial has been established at KU Endowment. His wife, Kathy, two sons, two daughters, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren survive.

Bill Lloyd, c'63, m'67, 78, Sept. 27 in Corvallis, Oregon. He was a U.S. Air Force flight surgeon and later became a radiologist. Survivors include his wife, Gerry Thorp Lloyd, c'64; a son; a daughter; a brother; a sister; and three grandsons.

Reed Smalley, a'60, 86, Oct. 22 in Overland Park, where he had a 26-year career as a pilot with Trans World Airlines. Surviving are a son, Scott, c'88; two daughters; four grandchildren; and a step-grandchild.

David Stinson, c'64, 77, Sept. 13 in Duluth, Minnesota. He taught geology at several universities and later sold office equipment. He is survived by his wife, Carole; a son; his mother; a sister, Deborah Stinson Russell, '72; a brother; a stepbrother; and two grandsons.

Claude Werth, m'64, 82, Oct. 28 in Ocala, Florida. He lived in Kansas City for several years, where he was a neuropsychiatrist. Survivors include his wife, Linda Ross, s'86; four children, two of whom are Geoffrey, c'93, and Stacey Werth Jones, c'99; a brother; a sister; and six grandchildren.

James Williams, b'60, 82, Aug. 15 in Riverside, California, where he retired as lieutenant colonel after nearly 25 years of service in the U.S. Air Force. Surviving are his wife, Kathleen, two sons, a daughter, a stepson, three stepdaughters, 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

1970s Alan Braun, c'73, m'76, 68, Oct. 23 in Norwalk, Iowa. He was a rheumatologist and an active member of Boy Scouts. Survivors include his wife, Penny, six sons, two daughters, a brother, a sister

and six grandchildren.

Ronald Carter, j'71, g'72, 71, Oct. 11 in Greenwood Village, Colorado, where he had a 50-year career in marketing and advertising. His wife, Shannon, a daughter, a brother and two sisters survive.

Paul Faucher, c'73, 69, Oct. 8 in Leawood. He had a long career in sales and later started a consulting firm. Surviving are his wife, Karen; two daughters; a sister, Carol Faucher Kowalski, j'75; and a grandson.

Tom Hansen, j'78, 63, Nov. 17 in Dallas, where he was chief commercial officer at Vital-Tech Innovations. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include his wife, Patty; two daughters; and a brother, Chris, c'82.

Clement Hanson, c'72, 69, June 24 in Denver. He was a colonel in the U.S. Army and later was a physician in occupational medicine. Survivors include his wife, Mary Stromer Hanson, d'73; a son; a daughter; and granddaughter.

Cynthia Artman Hartman, d'71, 69, June 3 in Omaha, Nebraska, where she was a volunteer at local schools and civic organizations. She is survived by her husband, Herbert, c'69, m'73; a son; a daughter; two sisters, Pamela Artman, j'73, and Christine Artman Lawrence, s'75, s'76; a brother; and three grandchildren.

Louis "Bill" Heist, e'70, 71, Oct. 4 in Sugar Land, Texas. He was a retired engineer. Surviving are a son; a daughter; two sisters, one of whom is Georgianne Heist Kleiss, c'72; and six grandchildren.

Terry Henderson, e'76, g'78; 70, Jan. 19, 2019, in Federal Way, Washington, where he was an aeronautical engineer

at Boeing. Survivors include his wife, Patricia Brack Henderson, d'71; two daughters; a brother; two sisters; and two grandsons.

Leslie McCulley, e'72, 77, Oct. 11 in McKinney, Texas. He was an engineer at ONE-OK, Inc. He is survived by a daughter, Pam McCulley Clark, '85; two sons; a sister; two brothers; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Pat Gray Oakson, d'74, 67, Nov. 1 in Carlsbad, California. She lived in Overland Park for several years, where she worked for the Blue Valley School District. Surviving are a daughter, Jennifer Oakson Silver, j'00; and a brother, Bob Gray, j'73.

Harris Rayl, c'75, g'78, 66, Sept. 26 in Kansas City. He had a long career as a newspaper executive and worked for his family's company, Harris Enterprises, which owned several Kansas newspapers. Most recently he served as publisher of the Salina Journal. Survivors include his wife, Elizabeth; two daughters, Alex Rayl Metzler, h'11, and Sydney, c'14; three stepsons, two of whom are Scott McCroskey, c'04, and Spencer McCroskey, '04; his mother, Virginia Harris Rayl, c'49; two brothers, David, b'78, and Steven, b'80; and five grandchildren.

Matthew Sheets, '79, 62, Sept. 21 in Wichita, where he co-owned Mort's Cigar and Martini Bar in Old Town. He is survived by his wife, Sharon; and two brothers, Mark, c'78, and Morrie, c'82.

Argie Koons Staples, d'76, 69, Sept. 18 in Boston, where she was a photographer and participated in the Boston Camera Club. Surviving are her husband, Mark, c'75, PhD'79; a

son; a sister; and a granddaughter.

Peter Suess, c'72, 73, Sept. 26 in San Antonio, where he worked in sales and volunteered in his community. He is survived by his wife, Martha Ziegelmeyer Suess, f'69; a son; two daughters; a brother; and seven grandchildren.

1980s Henry Clark, c'84, 70, Oct. 15 in Warri, Nigeria, where he had a distinguished career as major general in the Nigerian army. His wife and several children and grandchildren survive.

Alan Hagman, j'87, 55, Nov. 11 in Long Beach, California. An award-winning photographer, he had a 32-year career at the Los Angeles Times and became the paper's deputy director of photography. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are his parents, William, c'57, and Frances Smoley Hagman, d'57; and a sister, Jennifer, m'86.

Ron Heape, l'83, g'83, '01, 71, Nov. 4 in Lawrence, where he volunteered at the Spencer Museum of Art and Ecumenical Campus Ministries. He is survived by his wife, Rose Mulally-Heape, '85; a son, Ryan, c'01; two daughters; his mother; and a granddaughter.

Michael Johnson, e'86, 62, Oct. 1 in Kansas City. He had a 26-year career as president of Excel Constructors in Overland Park. Surviving are his wife, Debra, assoc.; a son; a daughter; a brother; a sister; and two grandsons.

Elizabeth "Betsy" Metzler, c'81, 78, July 17 in Kansas City, where she was president of an event-planning company. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. She

is survived by a brother, John Metzler, e'74, g'79.

1990s Theodore Scott Lowder, j'98, 46, Sept. 23 in Yates Center, where he was an editor at the Yates Center News. Survivors include two nephews.

UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Malcolm Applegate, j'59, 83, Oct. 20 in Carmel, Indiana. He was assistant dean for the School of Journalism from 1965 to '69 and later became president and general manager of Indianapolis Newspapers Inc. and publisher of the Indianapolis Star. He served on the Alumni Association's national Board of Directors and the William Allen White Foundation board. Surviving are his wife, Connie, two daughters and four grandchildren.

Jon Blubaugh, g'63, PhD'66, 80, Oct. 22 in Lawrence. He was professor of communications and directed the undergraduate program in the communications studies department. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by three daughters, Katherine, '84, Karen Blubaugh Evans, j'85, g'88, and Carol Blubaugh Zoellner, b'86; a son Michael, d'90, g'92; a stepdaughter; four stepsons; nine grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Helen Bodkin Connors, PhD'87, 76, Sept. 23 in Lee's Summit, Missouri, where she retired after 35 years as associate dean of integrated technologies at the School of Nursing and executive director of the KU Center for Health Informatics. Surviving are two sons, one of whom is Mike, c'92; a sister; a brother; and six grandchildren.

Albert "Sandy" Cook, 88, Oct. 17 in Lawrence, where he was associate professor of English. He is survived by a son, David, '79; three daughters, one of whom is Ann, c'86, g'93; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Barbara Etzel, 93, Oct. 22 in Lawrence, where she was professor emerita of human development and family life. In 1975 she was inducted in the KU Women's Hall of Fame.

Mary Hawkins, 78, Oct. 6 in Lawrence, where she worked for nearly 40 years at KU Libraries. She also served as president of Faculty Senate during the 1999-'00 academic year. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. She is survived by a sister.

Robert Hoyt, j'62, g'63, 88, Nov. 29, 2018, in Crossville, Tennessee. He directed communications for nearly 30 years at the Life Span Institute. Survivors include his wife, Ragene Jones Hoyt, '66; two daughters, Vicki Hoyt Bars, '77, and Michelle, c'82; and a sister.

Jan Hurt Jess, s'82, 81, Nov. 8 in Lawrence. She had a 20-year career as assistant director of field practicum at the School of Social Welfare. Surviving are two sons, Jim, '83, and David, c'89; a daughter, Jill, j'90; a brother; a sister; and three grandchildren.

John Mullens, b'73, 70, Sept. 24 in Lawrence, where for 33 years he was a campus police officer and retired as assistant director of public safety. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Linda Nichols Mullens,

c'76, g'79; a son; two daughters; a stepson; a sister; 10 grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

Patricia Nicholas, 75, Nov. 11 in Starkville, Mississippi, where she retired after working for the KU Center for Research. She is survived by her husband, Charles, '80; and two brothers.

Bill Reed, m'56, 92, Oct. 1 in Kansas City. He was a cardiovascular surgeon and chaired the department of cardiovascular diseases at KU Medical Center. He also helped develop the hospital's Center for Advanced Heart Care. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include three sons, one of whom is Bryan, f'89; and five grandchildren.

Tom Stidham, 78, Oct. 1 in Lawrence, where he was professor emeritus of music and associate director of University bands. He also was longtime director of the men's basketball band and organized KU Band Day. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Linda, '01; two sons, Mark, '89, and Scott, '89; a daughter, Marci Stidham Ebberts, d'96; and seven grandchildren.

Allen Wiechert, assoc., 81, Oct. 29 in Overland Park. He joined the Office of Facilities Planning in 1968 and later became University architect. In retirement, he ushered and coordinated audience services at the Lied Center. Surviving are his wife, Sandra Swanson Wiechert, '80; a daughter, Kirstin Wiechert Novak, '89; a son, Brendan, b'91, c'92; and six grandchildren.

ASSOCIATES

Elaine Adkins, assoc., 88, Sept. 18 in Haysville. She was a high school teacher and proofreader for the Emporia Times newspaper. Two sons, David, c'83, f'86, and William, '85; and a granddaughter survive.

Treva Haden, assoc., 80, Oct. 25 in Wichita. She is survived by her husband, Richard, e'62; three children, one of whom is Marc, s'97; a sister; a brother; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Beth Klein, assoc., 67, Oct. 3 in Prairie Village, where she was a homemaker. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are her husband, Robert, assoc.; a daughter, Melanie, c'03, '06; two sons, one of whom is Jeffrey, m'10; two brothers; and four grandchildren.

Cherrie Koehn, assoc., 89, Oct. 16 in Topeka, where she was an administrative assistant and bookkeeper at her husband's business, Medical Arts Pharmacy. Survivors include a son, Brad, b'80; and three grandchildren.

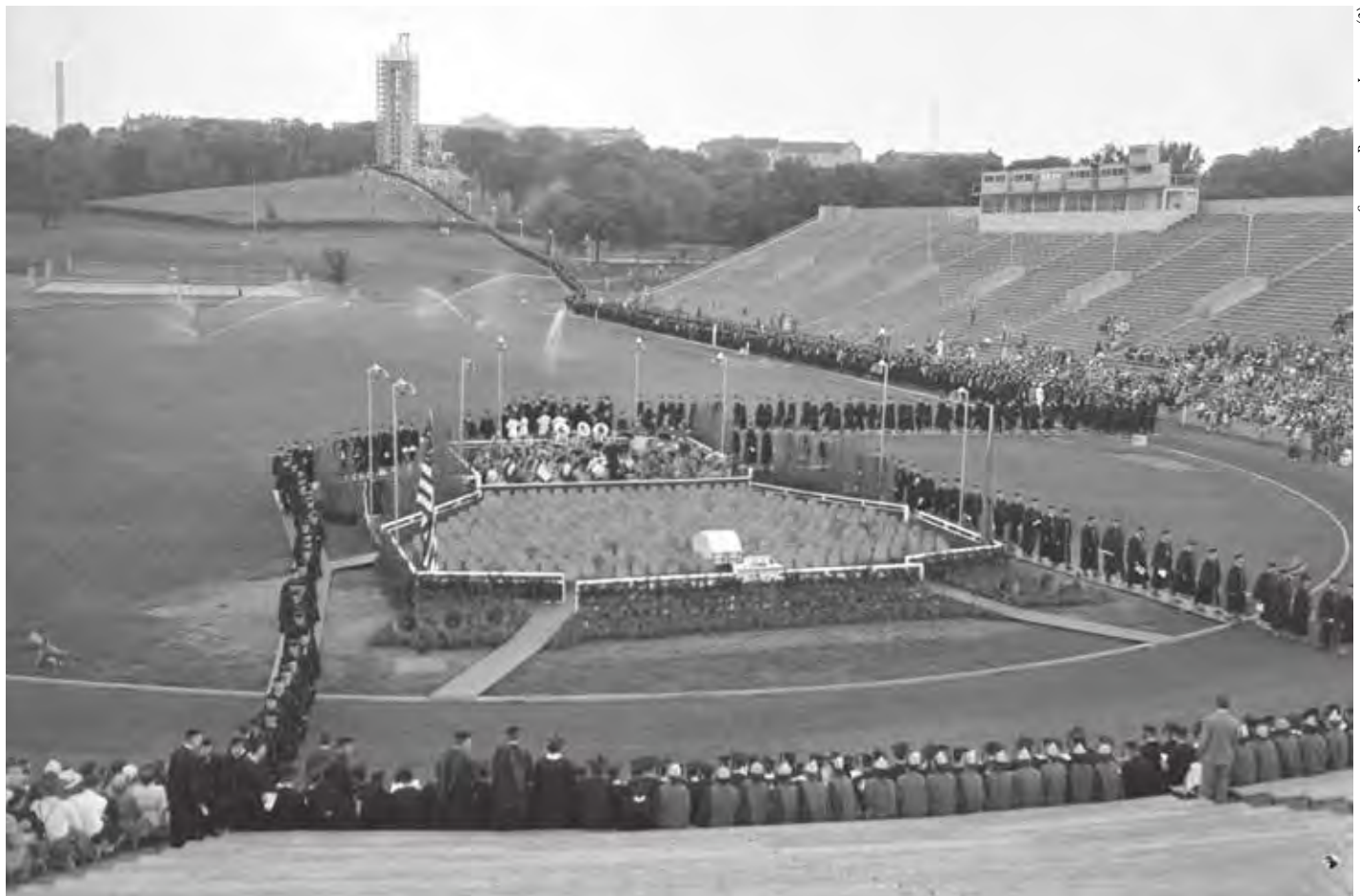
Joan McClure, assoc., 98, Sept. 29 in Kansas City. She retired after working for nearly three decades at the U.S. Disciplinary Barracks at Fort Leavenworth. She is survived by a son, Scott, j'80; two grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

Harris Webber, assoc., 79, Sept. 11 in Vero Beach, Florida. He founded a company that built and managed retirement communities. Surviving are his wife, Myra Anderson Webber, d'62; three daughters; and six grandchildren.

BAKER UNIVERSITY officials recently moved “Prairie Spirit,” by legendary KU sculptor and professor emeritus Elden Tefft, f’49, g’50, from the school’s Baldwin City campus to Baker Wetlands, just south of Lawrence. From its new perch near the wetlands’ Discovery Center, “Prairie Spirit,” in the estimation of an Instagram commentator, looks as if it “emerged from the earth.” Tefft, who died in 2015, sculpted KU’s iconic “Moses,” in front of Smith Hall, and Strong Hall’s “Academic Jay.”

PHOTOGRAPH BY
STEVE PUPPE





SPENCER RESEARCH LIBRARY (3)

HISTORY

A walk to remember

DEDICATED IN 1951, the KU Memorial Campanile honors the 278 KU men and women who gave their lives during World War II. In one of KU’s most cherished traditions, members of the Class of 2020 will walk through the 70-year-old carillon bell tower and down the Hill May 17 at Commencement, a tradition that began with the Class of 1950.

Through seven decades, the walk down the Hill has become a rite of passage for KU graduates, except on rare occasions when rain forced the proceedings into Allen Field House. During the tumultuous spring of 1970, rain sent the ceremony indoors, so graduates could not share in the timeless tradition—until now.

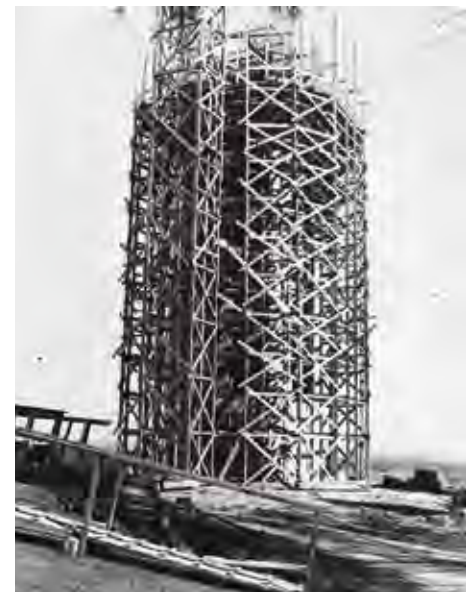
For their 50th reunion, members of the



Class of 1970 have been invited to walk down the Hill during Commencement, joining this year’s graduates in cap in gown, as part of the Alumni Association’s Gold Medal Club reunion weekend. For details, see the story on p. 50 or visit kualumni.org/reunion.

We hope the classes of 1970 and 2020 savor their moments in the sun.

—DAVID JOHNSTON



PRESERVING THE PHOG

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The University of Kansas Libraries are honored to debut a digital archive of more than 60,000 items related to Forrest "Phog" Allen, known around the world as the "Father of Basketball Coaching." Coach Allen made an unforgettable impact on the future of basketball at the University of Kansas during his 37 years as head coach.

In our historic Preserving the Phog collection, KU basketball fans can electronically browse a collection of materials showcasing Phog's contributions to the legacy of basketball at the university and beyond.

The digitization of this remarkable collection was made possible through the generous support of alumni and friends who helped to ensure these materials will be accessible for generations to come.

Find out how you can support this effort, and see the full digital collection at lib.ku.edu/Phog.

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Phog Allen sits atop the bleachers inside Allen Fieldhouse, 1956. KU University Archives.

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