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Talk and squawk in the news



“I want to thank you for coming out and voting and doing your part.”

—Actor Paul Rudd, '92, handing out cookies to fellow New York residents in pouring rain as they waited in Brooklyn. “One of the things that’s been really encouraging is seeing how many people are coming out early and voting all across the country,” he said. “Anybody who is waiting in line deserves to be, I think, thanked and encouraged and recognized, and that’s what we wanted to do.”



“It makes me feel good, that people know the food is there for them.”

—Washington Post coverage of Wichita fifth-grader Paxton Burns who, with his mom, Maggie Ballard, '06, in 2016 launched a network of “Paxton’s Blessing Box” food donation sites to assist neighbors in need. The crimson boxes—a nod to Paxton’s love of all things KU—have spread nationwide, and his big-hearted outreach recently earned a humanitarian award from the Wichita nonprofit HumanKind Ministries.

COURTESY MAGGIE BALLARD



“I call Lawrence and Douglas County a little beacon in the state of Kansas. It seems like we’re surrounded by a lot of areas that are lighting up and yet our numbers have continued to decline. ... I want to thank the community and everyone involved in this effort. It has been a daily—sometimes grinding but always rewarding—effort in bringing the school back.”

—Dr. Jennifer Schrimsher, h'00, g'05, m'10, infectious disease specialist at LMH Health, Oct. 28 on the University of Kansas Health System’s daily COVID video briefing, describing the collaboration of the University, KU Medical Center, the KU Health System, LMH Health and Lawrence Douglas County Public Health to keep the University open through the first nine weeks of the fall semester.



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COURTESY RAYMOND FINCH



“I’m not a fan of heights.”

—Retired Army major and Lawrence resident Raymond Finch, d'80, g'92, after leaping on Oct. 6 from a perfectly good airplane while strapped to a member of the Army’s Golden Knights aerial demonstration team, thanks to an invitation from his son, Lt. Col. John Finch, professor of military science and commander of KU Army ROTC’s Jayhawk Battalion. Learning that the Golden Knights sought local notables to skydive with their squadron, he thought of his father, a KU ROTC alumnus who had managed to retire from a distinguished military career without such a jump.



COVER STORY

The Last Cattle Drive Redux

In the long-awaited sequel to a classic Kansas novel, Leo Murdock searches for lost love.

by Robert Day

Cover photo illustration by Chris Millspaugh; Dodge City Cowboy Band photograph courtesy of Kansas Historical Society.



Moments of Inspiration

Orthopedic surgeon David Schneider brings to life the stories of how medicine became modern.

by Chris Lazzarino



The Storyteller

Anchor. Actor. Author. Musician. For multitalented journalist Devin Scillian, it's complicated.

by Steven Hill



Profile: Jasmin Moore

Douglas County's sustainability director nurtures partnerships—some with KU—that help Lawrence plan for a brighter future.

by Steven Hill

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FALL 2020

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ONLINE EXTRAS

From the Archives

A "rip-snortin'" tale: Professor Ed Wolfe on Bob Day's *The Last Cattle Drive*.

Video

View KJHK's historic internet debut and a newly created station timeline.

Digital Feature

Disability rights activist Judy Heumann visits KU to celebrate 30th anniversary of ADA.



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magazine.org**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

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Education and insight

THE MASTERFUL PIECE of writing by Steven Hill ["What's Going On," issue No. 3] brings Professor Kevin Willmott's assets to KU into full view of alumni. I was an MA film graduate back in the dark ages, and I wish I had had the opportunity to take a class from him then. But your magazine gave me a real eye-opening experience when reading his viewpoints on filmmaking and, most rewarding, on American history.

Professor Willmott makes so obvious what white Americans (that's me) have overlooked for so many decades: the Confederate States of America never went away after the Civil War. It still exists and still shapes the activities of those states. I will be looking at his films and furthering my education. Thanks to *Kansas Alumni* magazine and its staff who like to inform and educate.

—Peter Haggart, g'63
Moscow, Idaho

IT IS YOUR recent article on Kevin Willmott, one that portrays so vividly "What's Going On" through his vital film work, that makes me so appreciative of receiving *Kansas Alumni* magazine. This grand overview

you created of Willmott's film career and works gave me such valuable added insight into the Black experience in America and a much clearer understanding of the growing cancer and danger of white supremacy.

You capture how timely Willmott's works are because he dramatizes through his films the omnipresent manifestations of racism and white supremacy in America, so extreme in the alleged domestic terrorism plot to kidnap and assassinate the governor of Michigan. You portray through your fine article how Willmott goes beyond informing through his art. His powerful films transform and better equip whites of good will to fight and win the struggle for racial equality and true democracy for all Americans.

—Bob Swan Jr., c'64, g'69, g'72
Lawrence

I READ WITH INTEREST the article "What's Going On" in the summer issue of the *Kansas Alumni*. The excellent article by Steven Hill tells of Kevin Willmott, the KU professor of film and media studies and independent film producer. His work has earned recognition at the Cannes and Sundance film festivals and an Academy Award.

I was part of a committee of retired Kansas editors along with community volunteers from Emporia who raised about \$250,000 so Kevin could produce the documentary film "William Allen White: What's the Matter with Kansas" ["No joke," issue No. 4, 2018]. The committee

was concerned that the legacy of White, a well-known editor, not be lost. Many of the issues during White's era are still with us—overproduction of farm products, racism and inept public officials. The film is being aired on Public Broadcast System stations nationally thanks to Kevin's good work.

—Murrel Bland, j'63
Kansas City

Power of hope

YOUR ARTICLE ON The University of Kansas Health System's Medical News Network (MNN) was as well-written as it was timely ["Hope is Real," issue No. 3].

The MNN is a powerful and unprecedented resource that's already positively influencing (and in some cases changing) how health news is shared—not only in Kansas and Missouri, but nationwide. This can save lives.

While writing *Proud But Never Satisfied* with Kansas Health System [executives] Bob Page and Tammy Peterman, to be released this fall from Huron Publishing/The Studer Group, I interviewed Sen. Jerry Moran and his communications director, Tom Brandt. Brandt told me, "I've



had multiple Senate offices reaching out and asking me how we are coordinating this because they're trying to replicate it in their states. Not only is this a valuable thing for Kansas City, but it's being seen nationwide as the standard for how to communicate and share information. Love leading from the heartland!"

The importance of this news source and educational tool during a time of pandemic couldn't possibly be overstated. Thanks for writing about it with just the right combination of creativity and gravitas.

—Leeanne Seaver
Denver

Bluebonnet memories

I AM A 1963 graduate and greatly appreciated reading about John Hadl in the latest issue of *Kansas Alumni* [Hail to Old KU, issue No. 3]. While John and I have never met, I respected him greatly and never missed a game for the three years we shared at KU. I remember well his record-long 94-yard punt but always thought of it as a 98-yard punt. I remember John taking a step or two back from the snap and kicking the ball while standing on the goal line, forgetting that the measurement was made from the line of scrimmage rather than from the point of the kick. In any event, it was an awesome football feat.

On the Friday before the Bluebonnet Bowl, I finished my last class at noon. I am not certain but I seem to remember that it was the weekly seminar for Western Civilization Studies. While walking



back to the Pi Kappa Alpha house I started thinking about the boring weekend awaiting me. The active Pike members had agreed to turn the frat house over to the pledges for the weekend, which meant that all the members had to vacate the house. I had no plans to fill the weekend.

That started me thinking about the Bluebonnet Bowl game and I had the crazy thought of going to the game. I entered the Pike house around 12:30 and while in the foyer shouted out: "Anyone want to go with me to the Bluebonnet Bowl game?" Within a few minutes three other members eagerly agreed to go.

We departed Lawrence at about 3 p.m. in my 1961 Cutlass. We knew it was a long trip but really did not grasp that it was a 700-mile trip. Obviously, we drove all night and did not encounter interstate highways until near Dallas. All went well and we arrived in Houston at about 8 a.m. The weather was wet with light rain falling as we arrived. Unbelievably, without a reservation we checked into a hotel just a bit over a block from Rice Stadium. Went to our rooms only long enough to drop off our overnight luggage.

At this point we had just two urgent needs, getting breakfast

and finding four tickets to the game. While at breakfast, we discussed how we were going to get tickets, not having any real idea of how to get them so near the kickoff. As we were eating, a gentleman approached our table and said, "I understand you are in need of tickets for the game." We anxiously affirmed the need for tickets and asked if he had four. Unbelievably, he did. Thinking we were dealing with a scalper, the next question was, "How much and where are the seats?"

He advised he would sell the tickets for the regular price and that they were low on the 35-yard line. We did not hesitate a second to seal the deal. By game time, the weather was better, raining very lightly and intermittently. As you all know, the game was exciting, and KU won. After the final gun, we managed to get onto the field.

That evening we celebrated with KU fans at various venues, staying up later than we should. We departed Houston relatively early on Sunday morning and arrived back in Lawrence late that evening. Many will think we were completely out of our minds to attempt this trip. However, we were young and full of energy and gave no thought to just how grueling this adventure was going to be. We managed to pull it off and created a lifelong memory.

Today I am near 79 years old but still remember this adventure as if it happened just a few weeks ago rather than nearly 60 years ago.

—*Ralph B. Praeger, c'63*
Ogden, Utah



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Jennifer Jackson Sanner, Editor Oct. 6, 2020

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FAMILIES SPEAK their own languages—trading in fond or fiendish nicknames, shorthand allusions to treasured (or dreaded) stories and quirky sayings handed down through generations.

In our KU family, we know in our bones that our one-of-a-kind mascot is more than a bird. It's a word steeped in proud history, signifying the determination and courage of bold Kansas settlers who believed in freedom and opportunities for all, especially through education. Their noble ideals inspire the University's mission and help define what it means to be a Jayhawk.

Amid these past few anxious months, our family suffered the loss of five legendary Jayhawks. Although the cascade of sad news leaves us reeling, their lives as servant leaders remind us of the values we all hold dear.

Dick Bond, c'57, l'60, died July 23 at 84. His many lofty titles, including president of the Kansas Senate and chair of the Kansas Board of Regents, only hint at his enduring impact on Kansas. For 14 years in the Senate, he was a stern negotiator who also believed in compromise and the necessity of investing in the future. In 2008 he rallied his fellow citizens—amid the nation's financial crisis and looming recession—to approve a sales tax to fund the Johnson County Education and Research Triangle, which continues to expand teaching, research and health care at KU Medical Center, KU Edwards Campus and Kansas State University's Olathe campus, creating jobs and fueling workforce and economic growth. Dick Bond strengthened our state for years to come.

Gene Budig, KU's 14th chancellor, died Sept. 8 at 81, as issue 3 of *Kansas Alumni* went to press. We quickly remade a page to include a tribute ("Jayhawks mourn loss of a visionary leader," p. 14), but that story—and this refrain—cannot begin to capture the breadth of his wisdom, kindness and solid dedication to students and faculty. Chancellor Budig helped lift KU to new heights (and he quietly offered vital encouragement to a young magazine editor who remains forever grateful).



COURTESY DICK BOND



KU MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS



BUDIG, SAYERS PHOTOS COURTESY SPENCER RESEARCH LIBRARY



STEVE PUPPE



Great Jayhawks all (clockwise from top left): Dick Bond, Reggie Robinson, Gale Sayers, Dick Schiefelbusch and Chancellor Gene Budig.

Sept. 19 brought the devastating news that Reggie Robinson, c'80, l'87, for 40 years a guiding light among Jayhawks, died at 63. Reggie was a true public servant and genuine friend, beloved by all who knew him. He led with grace, humility and goodness in numerous leadership roles for KU, the state and the nation, beginning with his election as student body vice president and culminating most recently in his tenure as vice chancellor for public affairs, a role he left last December for what he called his dream job—the opportunity to improve the lives of even more fellow Kansans as CEO of the Kansas Health Foundation. We will never forget Reggie's radiant smile, his perfect blend of brilliance and humility, and his abiding affection and concern for others.

On a single September day, we lost two legends, one now memorialized in a bronze statue on campus (see *Hail to Old KU*, p. 88); the other whose name endures on one of KU's most productive and far-reaching research enterprises. Gale Sayers, d'75, g'77, died Sept. 23 at age 77. As the "Kansas Comet" and an NFL star with the Chicago Bears, he attained lasting football fame. He also offered a profound lesson for generations through his friendship with teammate Brian Piccolo, captured in the classic film "Brian's Song," the story of a bond that defied societal barriers. Sayers later became a successful entrepreneur and, in his third career, raised funds for his alma mater to benefit the

Williams Education Fund and the School of Education and Human Sciences.

Dr. Richard Schiefelbusch, g'47, namesake of KU's renowned Institute for Life Span Studies, also died Sept. 23, at 102. We have highlighted chapters of his amazing life often in *Kansas Alumni*, most notably in 2009, when we celebrated his vibrance at 91. His story began in World War II, when his plane was shot down over the Baltic Sea and he was taken to Stalag Luft III at Zagan, Germany, where he drew on a deep well of compassion to create a sense of community that sustained his fellow POWs. He emerged determined to pursue a career helping others. As a speech therapist, he founded the speech-language-hearing clinic, the first KU entity to bear his name. He also created the Bureau of Child Research, the precursor to the Life Span Institute. As a champion of independence and self-determination for people with disabilities, he led revolutionary research that transformed lives. Throughout his life and career, Dick Schiefelbusch embodied KU's mission to educate future leaders, build healthy communities and make discoveries that change the world.

In recent weeks, our family has shared memories and traded tributes to these incomparable Jayhawks. They join the ranks of heroes, known to few or to many, who continue to guide us. They affirm the best in us and all we hope to be.

—JENNIFER JACKSON SANNER

FIRST GLANCE

FILMMAKER Marc Havener's love letter to Lawrence, "Dear Larry," preserves for generations to come a taste of the local experience during the first six months of pandemic 2020. To read *Kansas Alumni's* coverage of Havener, c'96, and view his five-minute masterpiece of short-form visual storytelling, visit kansasalumnimagazine.org/dearlarry.

PHOTOGRAPH BY
MARC HAVENER







COURTESY UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS HEALTH SYSTEM

Grundstrom

HEALTH SYSTEM

Telehealth flies high

Pandemic helps launch new era of high-tech health care

AN APHORISM MAKING the rounds at 39th and Rainbow goes something like this: “A pandemic is like flying an airplane while you’re building it.” Few aspects of medicine in the age of COVID-19 better exemplify the notion of seat-of-the-pants piloting than telehealth, which matured, literally in a matter of days, into something resembling a fully formed mode of health care delivery.

From March 1 to March 14, the University of Kansas Health System recorded a total of 10 telehealth cases; by the end of March, it was 1,900 per day. From March 17 to Sept. 1, the hospital logged more than 115,000 telehealth encounters, surpassing, in a matter of months, a four-year goal set two years earlier for a cumulative total

of 100,000 telehealth visits.

Within the first two weeks of the pandemic declaration, the hospital trained 2,000 health care providers and their office teams, brought in software specialists to create new coding for electronic medical records, and set about acquiring 2,500 software licenses, cameras and headsets. (With most electronic equipment stranded in China, the hospital for a time relied on personal phones, tablets and laptops, which required upgrades to secure encryption.)

“I actually have not heard one negative thing,” says Jason Grundstrom, the University of Kansas Health System’s executive director of continuum of care. “We’ve had some glitches along the way that

we had to solve, but nobody has thrown their hands up in the air and said, ‘Stop! This is madness!’

“Just the opposite. We all get into health care because we want to help people who are hurting. This technology helps further that mission.”

As the immediate crisis eased and non-emergency patients, who made up the vast majority of telehealth consultations, have been allowed to return, the hospital’s rate of virtual health care cases has settled at about 20% of overall cases, a number that Grundstrom says is, for now, generally in line with other large institutions around the country and one he hopes University of Kansas Health System will be able to maintain.

That will depend, however, on the prospects for a Kansas “Parity Law,” which allows health care providers to be reimbursed for their services for telehealth consultations at rates similar to in-person visits, as well as a constantly fluctuating mix of private, state and federal policy.

Grundstrom and Health System colleagues this fall have begun meeting with state lawmakers and their legislative staff, with the hopes of enacting a Parity Law during the 2021 session of the Kansas Legislature. It is also hoped that a vibrant coordination of private insurers and public health care policy will enable the University of Kansas Health System, along with other health care providers, to continue the ascension of virtual consultations—which include not only patients, but also physicians and hospitals across the state—beyond the emergency declarations that allowed for 2020’s rapid telehealth growth.

So far, Grundstrom says, signs are encouraging, an outlook that seemed less certain mere months ago.

“It’s not yet 100 percent, wall-to-wall, but we are seeing some language come out that’s encouraging to us, to let us know that we can actually start making some decisions internally that will help us continue the telehealth program beyond the emergency declaration.”

As a teaching hospital, the University of Kansas Health System integrates student nurses and doctors into every aspect of virtual care, which aids current students as well as future patients.

“The expectation with just about every hospital in the nation,” Grundstrom says, “is that this will be a component of the work [current medical and nursing students] do.”

Anyone interested in a telehealth consultation is encouraged to either speak with a local health care provider or visit kansashealthsystem.com and register via the MyChart link.

—CHRIS LAZZARINO



ENROLLMENT

27,619

Total enrollment
across all campuses

Decline since fall 2019

2.8%

(including an 18.1% drop in international students and 7.2% fewer first-time freshmen)

Legacy freshmen

27.5%

 of Class of 2024

Average GPA
for 2020
freshmen
3.64
(tied KU record)

Average ACT
25.5
(third-highest
on record)

One-year
retention rate for
2019 freshmen
85.7%

(second-highest in
KU history)

Two-year retention
for 2018 freshmen

77.1%
(new record)

Overall out-of-state
enrollment
39.3%

Overall Diversity

Minority students are
23.5% of total enrollment
Black students are **4.2%**
(KU record)



Kristin Bowman-James, Distinguished Professor and director of Kansas National Science Foundation Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (NSF EPSCoR), will receive the 2021 Award in Inorganic Chemistry from the American Chemical Society in March. She is only the second woman to receive the award since its inception in 1962; it recognizes her work in expanding the structural concepts of transition metal coordination chemistry to include negatively charged ions, known as anions. Bowman-James is co-editor of the first book devoted to anion chemistry, in 1997, and its 2012 sequel.

TIM SELEY/KU MARCOMM



“Even in the midst of the pandemic, good things continue to happen.”

—Chancellor Doug Girod, above with (left) Dale Seufferling, KU Endowment president, and (right) Sen. Jerry Moran.



DAN STOREY

BIOSCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Economic engine

\$7.8 million federal grant helps expand KU’s entrepreneurship hub

THE UNIVERSITY AND federal, state and local partners in October announced significant expansion of KU’s Bioscience and Technology Business Center (BTBC), thanks to a \$7.8 million grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce; nearly \$1.2 million from the city, county and state; and \$15.5 million from private capital sources.

BTBC’s expansion will create a 70,000-square-foot building whose tenants are expected to create 250 new high-tech jobs and generate more than \$140 million in private investment. The third phase of a 20-year plan announced when BTBC opened on West Campus in 2010 is a key component of the University’s ultimate goal of a project dubbed the KU Innovation Park.

“This is a collaboration bringing people together that changes the nature of our state,” said Sen. Jerry Moran, c’76, l’82, one of the many dignitaries on hand for the Oct. 15 event.

The University anticipates that when actual construction begins, about 60% of the new space—including wet labs, offices and collaborative areas—will be pre-leased to existing BTBC companies that need to expand their specialized laboratories. That will free labs and offices within the 80,000 square feet contained in the current structures on

West Campus and in west Lawrence, which have been full for more than two years, allowing them to return to their intended roles as incubators for entrepreneurial research enterprises in bioscience and technology.

“The BTBC is a great example of how our schools are taking a dynamic approach to expanding their footprint in their communities,” said Gov. Laura Kelly. “By building our state’s high-tech and bioscience industry clusters around the many strengths of KU, the Phase III expansion will further the BTBC’s mission, and the mission of my administration, to create a local infrastructure of talent, resources and business support that fosters sustainable economic resilience in our state.

“With the help of the emerging KU Innovation park, this BTBC expansion will bring the kind of high-wage jobs that will help Kansas retain its young, skilled and talented STEM graduates.”

In a video address to the campus community, Chancellor Doug Girod noted that with West Campus and west Lawrence BTBC facilities at full capacity with both startup companies, some of which originated at KU, and established firms, the Phase III expansion adds “significant capacity for us to welcome additional partner companies to the University.”

“Even in the midst of the pandemic,” Girod said, “good things continue to happen.”

Hinting at future prospects for the KU Innovation Park, Girod signed off his address at the Oct. 15 event with, “I hope in the very near future we’ll be here for groundbreaking on Phase IV, so stay tuned.”

—CHRIS LAZZARINO

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–Provost
Barbara Bichelmeyer



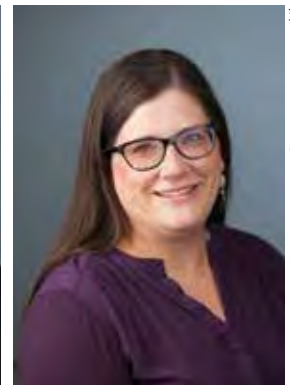
Blunt



Ginther



Lane



Deer

KU MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS (4)

ACADEMICS

The awards go to ...

KU celebrates faculty for teaching, research, advocacy

AT A TIME WHEN teaching and research have never been more challenging, the University’s unofficial fall awards season recognized six notable scholars who have risen to challenges across the length of distinguished careers.

Provost Barbara Bichelmeyer in September appointed professors Shannon Blunt, electrical engineering & computer science; Donna Ginther, economics; and Kathleen Lynne Lane, special education, as Roy A. Roberts Distinguished Professors. She named Sarah Deer, department of women, gender & sexuality studies, as a University Distinguished Professor.

“These faculty members represent the best of KU,” says Bichelmeyer, j’82, c’86, g’88, PhD’92, “and their accomplishments demonstrate an insatiable spirit for knowledge.”

Blunt, a fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and a member of the U.S. President’s Council of Advisors on Science & Technology, specializes in radar research, which has contributed significantly to development of fielded radar and sonar systems. He has obtained more than \$10 million in research funding over his career, which at KU began in 2005, and has 16 patents or patents-pending. He is a two-time winner of his department’s teaching award, and was honored in 2013 by the KU Center for Teaching Excellence and in 2019 with the School of Engineering’s Miller Professional Development Award for Service.

Deer, c’96, l’99, professor of women, gender & sexuality studies since 2017, carries a joint appointment in the School of Public Affairs & Administration and is a courtesy professor in the School of Law, where she spent 2016 as the Langston Hughes Visiting Professor. Her research and advocacy on gender-based violence in Native American communities earned Deer the MacArthur Fellowship, an Andrew Carnegie Fellowship and induction in the National Women’s Hall of Fame. Deer’s work was considered crucial to passage of the 2010 Tribal Law and Order Act and the two reauthorizations of the Violence Against Women Act.

Ginther’s research, reports and consulting work with state leaders and institutions have been considered critical in the state’s economic development. The recipient of more than \$7 million in grant funding, Ginther investigates areas as diverse as labor economics, gender and racial differences in grant funding, and equity and diversity in science funding. Ginther also directs KU’s Institute for Policy & Social Research, which recently made worldwide headlines with research indicating that counties with mask mandates had roughly half as many COVID-19 cases as the statewide average, when adjusted for population. Her other recent honors include the Byron T. Shutz Award for Excellence in Teaching, the University Scholar Award and the Leading Light Award.

Lane, associate vice chancellor for research, began her career with five years as a classroom teacher in general and special education, and she continued to work in school systems through 1997, even while completing master’s and doctoral degrees. Since joining KU in 2012 after previous stints at, among other universities, Arizona, North Carolina and Vanderbilt, Lane has secured nearly \$10 million in grant-funded projects from the U.S.

Department of Education. Other recent honors include KU's Scholarly Achievement Award and Lawrence Public Schools' Outstanding Service to Public Education Award.

Also honored this fall were University Distinguished Professor Maryemma Graham of English and Jeffrey Burns, co-director of the KU Alzheimer's Disease Center. Graham received the Chancellors Club Teaching Award, and Burns received the Chancellors Club Research Award; both honors are from KU Endowment.

Graham, founder and director of the Project

on the History of Black Writing (HBW), was hailed by nominators for her innovative teaching and research as well as her mentorship, advocacy, recruitment and development of both her students and her fellow teachers. She founded HBW in 1983 and brought it to KU when she joined the faculty in 1998.

Burns founded the KU Alzheimer and Memory Clinic, a precursor of the KU Alzheimer's Disease Center, in 2004, his first year as a KU Medical Center faculty member. The award honors his research on the ways in which aerobic exercise benefits cognitive function and slows the disease's progression. The Alzheimer's Disease Center earned designation from the National Institute of Aging in 2011 and is one of only 31 national Alzheimer's disease research centers. Burns also is the Edward H. Hashinger Professor in the School of Medicine's department of neurology, and he directs the Frontiers Clinical and Translational Science Unit.

—CHRIS LAZZARINO



KU ENDOWMENT

Four alumni join Endowment's board

KU ENDOWMENT TRUSTEES on Oct. 2 elected four alumni to join their ranks: Paul DeBruce of Mission Hills; Gerry Dixon of Franklin Lakes, New Jersey; Dana Valdois Hensley of Andover; and Dave Roland of Shorewood, Minnesota.

DeBruce, b'73, is CEO of DeBruce Companies and the DeBruce Foundation, which was instrumental in creation of KU's DeBruce Center, home to James Naismith's original rules of basketball and a vibrant hub for students and visitors alike. DeBruce served on the executive committee of the Board of the National Grain and Feed Association and is a past board member of the Kansas City Board of Trade; he is a Chancellors Club member and Alumni Association Life Member.

Dixon, b'90, is managing partner for U.S.-East markets at Ernst & Young LLP, based in New York City. He is a member of the School of Business Board of Advisors and the Accounting Advisory Council. He is a Chancellors Club member and Alumni Association Life Member.

Hensley, d'73, g'76, a retired principal at Wichita Collegiate School, is a member of Jayhawks for Higher Education, the Alumni Association's legislative advocacy organization, and a past member of the Hall Center for the Humanities Advisory Board. She was a member of the Hall Center committee for Endowment's Far Above capital campaign, and is an Alumni Association Life Member.

Roland, e'80, a member of the KU Engineering Advisory Board, recently completed his term as chair of the Alumni Association's national Board of Directors as well as his service as president and CEO of NDC Technologies in Dayton, Ohio. He currently provides consulting and leadership to businesses needing restructuring, realignment and strategy development.



Graham



Burns

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Here are a few virtual offerings this fall. For full listings of events, visit the links below.

Lied Center

Dec. 13 96th-annual Vespers Concert

lied.ku.edu

Spencer Museum of Art

"Audubon in the Anthropocene"

spencerart.ku.edu

KU Theatre & Dance

Dec. 3 University Dance Company Fall Concert

dance.ku.edu

Dole Institute

Dec. 3 Ft. Leavenworth Series: The Battle of Ramadi, 2006

doleinstitute.org

Natural History Museum

"Museum From Home"

biodiversity.ku.edu

Alumni events

Dec. 1 Online discussion with Robert Kolker, author of *Hidden Valley Road: Inside the Mind of an American Family*

kualumni.org/
kuconnection

Academic Calendar

Nov. 25-29

Thanksgiving break

Nov. 30-Dec. 4 Study week

Dec. 7-11 Finals week

RESEARCH

Critical test*KU researchers developing a new, at-home assay for COVID-19*

AS SOON AS KU REOPENED its campus laboratories in June, months after on-campus research was suspended because of COVID-19, Steven Soper and his team of graduate students quickly began work on a test they had conceived remotely in the spring, based on technology KU researchers launched in 2018.

For several years, Soper led a team of scientists in the development of a chip-based blood test that could be programmed to detect a variety of diseases, including breast cancer, prostate cancer and blood-based cancers such as leukemia and multiple myeloma. With the onset of the pandemic, it became clear to Soper that that same technology might be used to diagnose COVID-19 infections.

“We repurposed one of the chips we developed for isolating blood biomarkers for cancer diseases in order to isolate SARS-CoV-2 virus particles from saliva,” says Soper, PhD’90, Foundation Distinguished Professor of chemistry and mechanical engineering. “It’s almost the exact same chip.”

The chip in the new test is about the size of half a credit card and includes 1.5 million microscopic pillars; each pillar contains a piece of RNA, or ribonucleic acid, that can detect a protein found on the COVID-19 virus particle. When a contaminated saliva sample is deposited on the chip, those pillars collect the virus particles, which are then exposed to a blue light embedded in the test. The light releases the captured virus particles from the pillars, sending them through an opening just 200 nanometers in diameter, where they can be counted. An electrical signal will alert users if the virus is present. All of these complex components fit conveniently into a single handheld instrument, roughly the size of a cell phone.

“You just apply the saliva sample and it’ll tell you whether you have COVID-19 or not—at home,” Soper explains. “It’s very easy to use, and it takes less than 15 minutes to supply the result.”

The fact that the test can be performed at home, with an accurate result in minutes, imparts a huge advantage over other viral tests currently used to diagnose COVID-19 infections. The commonly used



COURTESY STEVEN SOPER (3)

Soper

PCR test, while highly accurate, requires submission to a laboratory and results are often not available for several days. Serologic tests, which identify antibodies to COVID-19 in a blood sample, detect only past infection. The test developed at KU not only recognizes active infection but also the extent of a person’s viral load, key factors in determining whether an individual is at risk of exposing others.

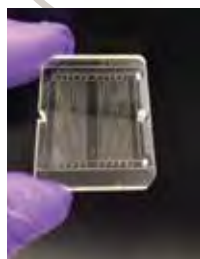
Thanks to funding provided by the National Institutes of Health, Soper and his team of about a dozen graduate students in bioengineering and chemistry are currently completing the final stages of validation for the test and will work closely with KU Medical Center in December to conduct clinical trials.

“I think it’s crazy, just seeing how quickly it’s gone,” says Katie Childers, a Self Graduate Fellow and doctoral student in bioengineering, who has been working on this project since March. “Complete props to all of my fellow colleagues and lab mates. They have been in the lab day in and day out for hours over the summer and throughout this whole fall semester. Seeing how quickly it’s coming together is shocking, but looking back at how much time and effort and passion has been put into the project, it’s not as surprising. Just knowing how long research generally takes, it’s really been impressive to be a part of this and to see the outcome.”

As with the blood-based chip test KU launched a few years ago, Soper plans to market the new test through BioFluidica, a San Francisco-based company that has an advanced research lab in Lawrence, pending emergency use authorization by the Food and Drug Administration.

“With that in place, we might be able to get this out in late first quarter of 2021,” he says.

—HEATHER BIELE



KU researchers have developed an at-home, handheld test for COVID-19, which provides results in about 15 minutes.

UPDATE

River restoration shows results

A PROJECT TO REJUVENATE a mile of Kansas River shoreline in Douglas County is already bearing fruit—flowers, more accurately—thanks to a habitat restoration effort led by Courtney Masterson, g'17.

Funded by a \$78,000 Douglas County Natural and Cultural Heritage Grant, the project enlisted volunteers to remove invasive species near City of Lawrence river trails in North Lawrence. The partnership between Friends of the Kaw and the Kaw Valley Native Plant Coalition, which Masterson founded [“Passion for prairie plants leads alumna to her niche,” issue No. 6, 2018], replaced honeysuckle, poison ivy and winter creeper with more than 500 native trees and shrubs (including American hazelnut, Ohio buckeye and pawpaw); more than 2,000 native wildflower and grass plugs; and more than 50 pounds of native seeds. By June the riverbank was blooming with lanceleaf coreopsis, purple poppy mallow, butterfly milkweed and Western yarrow.

“New blooms and shoots in a restoration always get my heart pumping,” Masterson says. “They’re a promising sign that the newly created ecosystem is starting to function, to create space for wildlife. Long term, this restoration will provide diverse resources to native animals, plants, and even the tiny life forms like soil microbes. It will also help to anchor our precious riverbank soil, demonstrating how native plants help to protect water quality. As the trees and shrubs mature, they will begin to produce nuts and berries that were once important food sources in the region. The leaves of many of the added species will host important insects that form the foundation of a native forest ecosystem, providing resources for a complex web of wildlife. This is just the beginning of something truly transformational.”



COURTESY DAWN BUEHLER

CHRIS LAZZARINO



KJHK’s student-designed programming posters were highlights of a 45th-anniversary exhibition in the Kansas Union gallery.

THE SOUND ALTERNATIVE

In 1994 KJHK was the world’s first radio station to broadcast a live 24-hour signal over the internet. A technological lifetime later, KU’s student-run station has again prospered in a completely altered landscape, with student DJs overcoming the pandemic’s campus access rules by programming and broadcasting remotely.

Those innovations are just two of many factors that keep KJ as vibrant as ever as it celebrates its 45th anniversary.

“It’s a pretty big deal,” says communications director Erin Bugee, a St. Louis junior, “for a radio station to be around this long.”

Tune in to 90.7 FM, kjhk.org or the exceptionally user-friendly phone app, check out cool videos and a station timeline at kansasalumnimagazine.org, and chill with the Sound Alternative. You’ll travel back in time and place while also tapping directly into the latest campus vibe.

“I don’t tell the students what to play. Ever,” says general manager Mike Macfarland, f’97. “It really is their station, so the station will always change with what college students are interested in. The music is always interesting. Always changing. We don’t really have a format, so we can be a lot of different things to a lot of different people.”

On behalf of your devoted lifelong listeners, happy anniversary, KJHK. We adore you.



STEVE PUPPE

McCart

RESEARCH

Education advocates

*KU's SWIFT Center partners
with Gates Foundation*

THANKS TO A \$1.2 MILLION GRANT from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the SWIFT Center at the KU Life Span Institute will expand its impact as a national leader in providing research and services that improve learning for all students, especially those left out by traditional teaching methods. In November 2019 the center became a partner in the foundation's Charter Students with Disabilities Pilot Community Initiative, a \$10 million venture that aims to help Black, Latinx and low-income students with disabilities.

Throughout the yearlong pilot project, the SWIFT Center will work with 10 charter management organizations (CMOs) in California, Colorado, Illinois, Louisiana, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania, each of which oversees two charter schools participating in the initiative. Ninety-one percent of students in the program are Black or Latinx and 83% live in low-income households; SWIFT Center researchers are currently working to determine how many of these students have disabilities.

“Right now in education, if you think of the children who have the most challenges facing them, you find that it is students who are either Black or brown, have disabilities and live in poverty,” says Amy Beers McCart, c’88, g’98, PhD’03, research professor and co-director of the SWIFT Center. “We want to support those students in those populations.”

McCart and co-director and professor Wayne Sailor, g’67, PhD’70, founded the center in 2012 with a five-year, \$24.5 million grant—then the largest in KU history—from the U.S. Department of Education Office of Special Education Programs to implement KU’s successful model for integrating students of all abilities in classrooms. SWIFT stands for Schoolwide Integrated Framework for Transformation.

As part of the Gates Foundation project, each CMO will create its own goal and devise a plan to improve key measures in math, English language arts, student engagement or transition to post-secondary life. McCart and her team will provide support and assistance to the 20 schools by helping build strong and engaged leadership, examine educational practices and team structures, and provide tools to improve academic, behavioral and socio-emotional outcomes. By March, SWIFT Center staff had met with nearly half of the participating schools; they have since transitioned to virtual visits because of COVID-19.

McCart believes this work is especially important right now, as educational systems across the country have been disrupted not only by the pandemic but also by racial tension and widespread civil unrest. “For years and years, we’ve operated in a system that was built for children who were predominantly white and who didn’t have a variety of intersections of their identity,” she says. “Over the years, education has failed to meet the needs of Black, brown, poor students with disabilities. And we have years upon years of data indicating that the disproportionate impact on those children is really inexcusable.”

By partnering with the Gates Foundation, McCart hopes to make significant strides in educational improvements for marginalized students—particularly those with disabilities—now and in the years to come. “We’ve been funded because of our experience and expertise to actually address the very population who needs it the most. So, we’re really, really excited about this opportunity.”

—HEATHER BIELE



Student
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CAMPUS

Spring semester to bring continued safety measures, in-person Commencement

CITING LESSONS LEARNED after more than half a year of maintaining classes and other campus operations amid a global pandemic, the Office of the Provost on Oct. 16 announced plans for the coming spring semester.

“There are some areas where we can safely make changes to our approach, and other areas where we must continue with our current course,” Provost Barbara Bichelmeyer wrote in an email to students, faculty, staff and affiliates.

Safety protocols that mandate masks, physical distancing, and enhanced cleaning of classrooms, work spaces and common areas will continue after on-campus classes begin Feb. 1. The CVKey app will still be required for entry into campus buildings, staff who have been able to work remotely should continue to do so, and only “mission-critical” events will be allowed and must be approved by the Office of Event Management and Protocol.

The University is planning to conduct mandatory reentry testing for COVID-19 in the spring, according to the provost’s message. Because testing capabilities are constantly evolving, the KU Pan-

dem Medical Advisory Team has not yet determined what form testing will take.

From Aug. 1 to Nov. 4, the University conducted 34,395 tests, with 1,158 positive results, a positivity rate of 3.37%.

In addition to the late start, the academic calendar also features no mid-semester spring break. Finals will end May 14, and “a team is working on plans for what an appropriate in-person Commencement program might look like,” wrote Bichelmeyer, j’82, c’86, g’88, PhD’92.

During his weekly COVID-19 update Oct. 28, Chancellor Doug Girod also expressed his commitment to an in-person event on May 16.

“We will figure that out in the football stadium in a fashion that is safe, whatever the conditions are come next May,” Girod said. “Whether that’s a physically distanced set up as well, which it may well need to be, that’s what we’ll work for. ... We will figure out how to have an in-person event.”

Plans are also underway for a celebration of the Class of 2020 a week after the 2021 Commencement. “We are working towards two Commencements, because we really did not have an opportunity to celebrate our class of 2020,” Girod said. “We are planning a Commencement for the Class of ’20, to welcome them back.”

Kansas Alumni will continue to update the story as it develops; for the most recent news, visit kansasalumnimagazine.org.

KU MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS (2)



COURTESY JANE GRANT



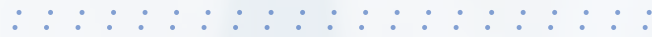
ALL IN THE FAMILY

When Will Grant arrived on Mount Oread this fall, he became his family’s sixth Jayhawk generation. Not only did his parents, Bill, c’99, and Sarah Remley Grant, ’99, go to KU, but his grandparents, Tom, c’72, and Jane Hedrick Grant, d’72, and Cathy Dunn Remley, ’74, and great-grandparents, Clay, c’48 and Nancy Goering Hedrick, c’48, g’49, and William, c’39, and Mary Noel Grant, c’40, also attended. Even his great-great-grandparents, Jane Krehbiel Goering, c’22, and William Thomas Grant, c’1905, and great-great-great-grandfather, Daniel Krehbiel, c’1892, were Jayhawks. Truly a family tradition worth celebrating.

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1. Retrieved on March 2, 2020, from usnews.com/education/online-education/university-of-kansas-OBUS0696/mba

2. Retrieved on March 2, 2020, from gmacc.com/-/media/files/gmac/research/employment-outlook/business-school-hiring-report_corporate-recruiters-survey-2019_may-2019.pdf



“In my family country music was foremost a language among women. It’s how we talked to each other in a place where feelings weren’t discussed.”

—Sarah Smarsh



She Come by It Natural: Dolly Parton and the Women Who Lived Her Songs

By Sarah Smarsh

Scribner, \$22

BOOKS

Natural woman

The world according to Dolly subject of Smarsh’s newest nonfiction

IN HER 2018 book, *Heartland: A Memoir of Working Hard and Being Broke in the Richest Country on Earth*, Sarah Smarsh took a sledgehammer to the myth that America is a classless society, using her own upbringing in south central Kansas to look at the barriers the globalized economy raises to working-class families like hers. A finalist for the National Book Award, *Heartland* spun whip-smart critiques of the systemic roots of income inequality while also paying tribute to the strong, hard-working people in Smarsh’s life, especially her mother and grandmother. More than culture criticism, the memoir gave working-class women a voice.

While finishing that project, Smarsh, c’03, j’03, was taking on another: A journalism fellowship sponsored by FreshGrass—a grassroots music foundation that publishes the esteemed music journal *No Depression*—commissioned her to write a four-part series on Dolly Parton.

She Come By It Natural: Dolly Parton and the Women Who Lived Her Songs, a slightly edited version of the series *No Depression* published in 2017, brings the same savory mix of biography and analysis to bear on a woman who, Smarsh convinc-

ingly argues, is the most successful female artist in country music history.

The big surprise, for both country fans and for those who see the singer from Tennessee’s Smoky Mountains as a caricature, is by how many measures that “most successful” title applies.

Smarsh examines Parton’s legacy as music and film star, savvy business magnate and genre-busting global pop-culture icon, arguing that she’s a feminist role model for women unlikely (as is Parton herself) to use the term. Given the importance life experience holds in all of Smarsh’s writing, it’s no surprise that the “women who lived her songs” are to a great degree the same women who formed the bedrock of *Heartland*—her mother, grandmother and Smarsh herself.

“I was a reader, when I could get ahold of something to read,” she writes in the introduction, “and literature showed me places I’d never seen. Another art form, though, showed me my own place: country music.” Education opened up a broader world, in other words, but country music affirmed that the world she grew up in was integral to her identity, not something to escape from.



Smarsh

Among the more powerful anecdotes Smarsh shares is an admission that country songs were often as close as her family got to emotional communion. “In my family country music was foremost a language among women,” she writes. “It’s how we talked to each other in a place where feelings weren’t discussed.” For her and her mother, this happened most often in the car, not face to face but side by side, rolling down a country road with the radio on. “Listen to the lyrics,” her mother would say.

Though she didn’t get an audience with Parton, Smarsh has plenty of extant interviews to plumb—including some cringeworthy TV appearances where Oprah Winfrey, Phil Donahue and Barbara Walters all asked her to stand so they could scrutinize her famously curvy figure. She also draws to good effect on Parton’s autobiography, *Dolly: My Life and Other Unfinished Business*, and her movie roles, especially “9 to 5,” in which she and co-stars Jane Fonda and Lily Tomlin turn the tables on their male chauvinist boss, a precursor to #MeToo power shifts. Smarsh also explores Parton’s ongoing moment in today’s pop culture maelstrom, where the 74-year-old has been name-checked by Nicki Minaj, celebrated as a kind of kitschy female goddess and hailed as a hero by LGBTQ youth, for whom she’s long expressed support.

The power of *She Come By It Natural* lies not in new revelations about Parton’s personal or public life, but in how Smarsh draws out the impact she has left on the culture. Exploring Dolly’s role as an entrepreneur who made all the right moves, from leaving a professional partnership with the dominating singer Porter Wagoner to controlling her own publishing rights and opening a series of successful ventures that have allowed her to inject mil-

lions into the Appalachian region where she grew up, Smarsh finds a woman who leads by example. Calling Parton “a skillful ‘uneducated’ ambassador for feminism,” she notes that “most women I grew up among in rural Kansas do not know who Gloria Steinem is, but they know the lines in Parton’s late twentieth-century movies by heart and recognize themselves in her image.” Women should be given the freedom “to do feminism however they please,” she writes—Parton’s way or Steinem’s way—because “both charted the course for us to nominate a woman for president in 2016.”

By tracing how Parton’s music grew out of her childhood poverty, Smarsh finds a connection not only to her own life, but also to the lives of working-class women. For those folks, she argues, Dolly’s songs are not just songs, they’re a way of life. And those songs—and presumably the women they speak to—are far more multidimensional than some give them credit for.

—STEVEN HILL



JACKIE HOSSEY

Pharmacy students fan out across state

WHEN COVID-19 shut down campus in mid-March, and pharmacy students in their fourth and final year still had two months of clerkship rotations to earn PharmD degrees, their professors posed a pivotal question: Were the students willing to travel to community pharmacies, knowing the risks, or would they prefer to delay their service—and possibly

their graduation? “We honestly struggled with it,” says Joe Heidrick, PharmD’04, assistant dean for experiential education. “We did present it to the class and said, ‘How do you feel about this? Is this something you want to do as a class?’”

They quickly answered yes—nearly unanimously—and not only to scoop up graduation requirements. “They knew they are health care providers and they were going to have to be on the frontline of this,” Heidrick says.

The Class of 2021 answered the call to service equally enthusiastically, heading out for pharmacies, hospitals, doctors’ offices and research venues despite inherent dangers of frequent travel and patient interaction during a pandemic. Each class of about 150 student pharmacists will eventually deliver more than 200,000 hours of uncompensated direct patient care.

“There’s been challenges in getting them in sites and keeping them safe in those care environments,” says Dean Ronald Ragan, p’84, g’97, PhD’98, “but I’m incredibly proud of how they’ve responded.”



STEVE PUPPE

ACADEMICS

Supply meets demand

KU Edwards Campus launches School of Professional Studies to meet Kansas City area workforce and student needs

TO BETTER SERVE THE NEEDS of transfer and nontraditional students in the Kansas City area, the KU Edwards Campus in January launched the School of Professional Studies, which offers 25 undergraduate and graduate programs in a variety of in-demand disciplines, including:

- American Sign Language & Deaf Studies
- Biotechnology
- Communication
- Health
- Information Technology
- Professional Management

Before the Kansas Board of Regents approved the new school in December 2019, a task force of KU leaders, faculty and staff from Lawrence and Kansas City campuses met with representatives from KC Rising and Mid-America Regional Council for more than a year to study the workforce needs in the Kansas City area. In addition, KU interviewed leaders at several peer institutions that support similar professional schools and academic units, including Colorado State, Northwestern, Purdue

and the University of Virginia.

“It was a really impressive, inclusive process,” says Stuart Day, who this summer became dean of the Edwards Campus and School of Professional Studies after Dave Cook, g’96, PhD’99, former vice chancellor of the Edwards Campus, was named KU’s vice chancellor of public affairs and economic development.

While many programs in the school were well-established, new ones have been added, including a minor and certificate in nutrition, a minor and certificate in public and population health, and a certificate in advanced professional studies. The school will continue to offer its courses in online, in-person and hybrid formats to meet the needs of a diverse population of students, many of whom work full time, have commitments outside of the classroom or have previous college-level credit.

That flexibility in learning structure worked to the school’s advantage when COVID-19 forced many courses online earlier this year. “It was tough to switch over, but we already had a lot of practice meeting students where they are,” Day says. “A lot of our offerings were already online. A lot of courses were

already hybrid. We were very aware of the impact that had on students, faculty and staff, but in some ways, we were well positioned for the transition.”

Over the past four years, Edwards Campus enrollment has climbed nearly 40%, and the trend continued this semester, surging 12% since fall 2019 despite the pandemic. Day credits much of the growth to top-notch teaching, including full-time faculty and instructors who also have careers in various industries and professions. In addition, the Edwards Campus employs academic success coaches who guide students from day one through their educational journeys.

“From the time you sign up for your degree through graduation, you have the same coach,” Day explains. “So, there’s that consistency. Those coaches work closely with faculty, so they understand the programs. They really take the time to understand the needs of the student.”

Also critical to student success are the smaller class sizes the school offers. Randy Logan, professor of practice and director and creator of the biotechnology degree program, oversees classes that average around 20 students. “If you look at science education, small cohorts, a lot of hands-on experience, a lot of direct mentorship, a lot of open-inquiry experimental work—that’s what’s most valuable to the student.”

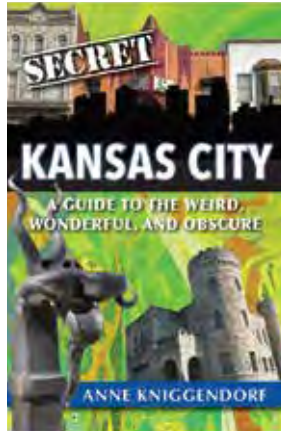
To prepare his students for successful transition into the workforce or into advanced study programs, Logan and fellow program co-creator and instructor Jack Treml require all students to complete independent research projects, create research proposal presentations, and participate in industry or academic internships and courses that empower them to become effective leaders and communicators in the bioscience community.

“We’ve focused our content to allow our students to be successful in agricultural health, human health and animal health, which are three giant sectors in the Kansas City area,” says Logan, c’06, g’11, PhD’14. “We’re building the foundational skills so that they’re going to be successful in all of those.”

In the months ahead, Day expects to continue to expand the school’s offerings and adapt to the changing talent needs of employers in the Greater Kansas City area and beyond. “We’re really planning to grow health and life sciences,” he says. “So many people are thinking about the science behind COVID, for example, that that interest is heightened. We really see a demand for any area where students feel they can make a positive impact on society.”

—HEATHER BIELE

BOOKS



Secret Kansas City

By Anne Kniggendorf

Reedy Press, \$22.50

NOOKS AND CRANNIES past and present make *Secret Kansas City: A Guide to the Weird, Wonderful, and Obscure* a delightful insider’s guide for Kansas Citians near and far, young and old. Author Anne Kniggendorf, g’20, includes the silly and the serious: William Rockhill Nelson’s imported

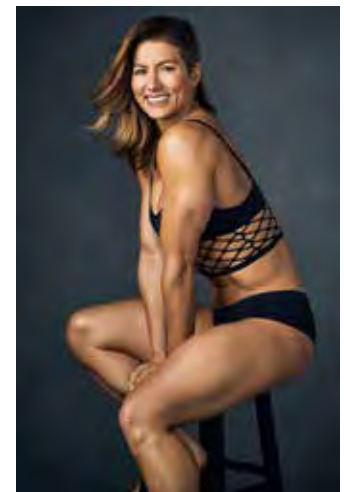
squirrels, tough-as-nails pioneering lawyer Eliza Burton Conley, a giant iron in downtown KCK, the Argentine’s 169-step stairway to nowhere, a statue commemorating a U.S. senator who might or might not have been president for a day, a bricklayer known as “Indian Jim” who was personally responsible for much of Johnson County’s original brick streets. Kniggendorf keeps the fun going by encouraging readers to show off their own KC finds by posting #SecretKansasCity pics to social media platforms.

Strong Like Her

By Haley Shapley, with photographs by Sophy Holland

Gallery Books, \$29.99

SUPERSTAR FITNESS COACH and author Jen Widerstrom, d’05, is one of numerous inspirational athletes featured in *Strong Like Her: A Celebration of Rule Breakers, History Makers, and Unstoppable Athletes*, by Haley Shapley. Sophy Holland’s portraits—including Widerstrom’s, seen here—are dazzling, as is Shapley’s insightful journey through the “untold history of female strength.” Noting Widerstrom’s disappointment at the cancellation of “American Gladiators,” after which she forged far greater fame on “The Biggest Loser,” Shapley writes, “She subsequently found her voice in the fitness industry as a positive presence who meets people where they are. Instead of instilling fear in her clients, she empowers them to take pride in their health journey.”



SOPHY HOLLAND

Mass Street & More

Local play

WITH LAWRENCE'S VIBRANT live music scene shuttered by COVID-19, the Lawrence Public Library offers a high-tech alternative: a free digital archive of music from Lawrence and surrounding areas that fans can stream from home. The Kaw Valley Jukebox, music.lplks.org, launched in July, features about 80 local artists "both contemporary and completely lost to history" dating back to the 1960s.

"We want to build a collection that connects Lawrence music history with what's currently out there," says project director Kevin Corcoran, c'10. "We really like to see musicians who are now performing have their music right alongside music that's been there for decades."

Listeners can help build the collection by recommending acts; email KawValleyJukebox@lplks.org. The biggest gap is the 1970s and '80s, Corcoran says, but recommendations from all eras are welcomed.

"Everybody working on this has an age range or musical scene they're into, so we all have these little threads we pull at. If people can provide more of those threads, we'll keep tugging."

And Lawrence will keep rocking.

Wax nostalgic

HIS JOURNEY took him from his hometown in upstate New York to junior college in Dodge City, where he noodled with a candle-making kit ordered from the back of a magazine. A semester at KU did not flame his imagination as candles already had, and in 1970 Bob Werts transformed his hobby into the now-beloved Waxman Candles.

Though COVID canceled a September party, Bob and Deb Werts and their three children are celebrating their fragrant shop's 50th anniversary as a stalwart of the Mass Street scene. They're happily receiving well wishes from longtime customers and countless former student employees, and they look forward to in-person reunions during holiday shopping.

"School was always their main thing," Bob Werts says of devoted Waxman alumni, "but we keep it fresh and fun. It's a happy place, a friendly,

open place, and I'm happy our employees are nice to our customers."

The good times continue in 2021, perhaps this time with an actual in-person party, when Waxman's store on Chicago's Lincoln Avenue—managed by son Mitchell, c'13—celebrates its 25th anniversary.



COURTESY BOB WERTS

The Werts family in downtown's candle haven



"Midnight arrives at Ascher Plaza. 'Pssst ... it's time to move.'"

So begins **Jayhawk Birthday: A Nesting Story**, a charming tale

of being part of a flock, created in celebration of the 100th birthday of the 1920 Jayhawk, who frets, "Am I really a Jayhawk? With these talons, I don't look like the flock."

As the Jays meander throughout the Kansas Union, they eventually greet their friend in the Hawk's Nest with a festive birthday cake and shout, "Surprise! We love you, Talons!"

Jayhawk Birthday is available for \$12.95 at the Union's KU Bookstore and online at kubookstore.com/Jayhawk-Birthday-A-Nesting-Story.

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“To me, Marcus should make this his team, but if he makes it his team, it's a responsibility he owns, that he's responsible for everyone else.”

—Coach Bill Self, on senior guard Marcus Garrett



STEVE PUPPE (2)

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Begin again

Hoops hopes to pick up where 2020 abruptly left off

WHEN LAST SEEN, men's basketball was on a serious roll. The Jayhawks finished their regular season 28-3 overall and, at 17-1, won their 19th Big 12 regular season title, reclaiming their perennial spot atop the conference after placing third in 2019 with six losses. The 'Hawks were ranked No. 1 in the country and, with the Big 12 Tournament set to tip in Kansas City, looked to be the consensus pick as the NCAA Tournament's top overall seed.

“We put ourselves in a position maybe to be that,” coach Bill Self said March 9, “but who knows what will happen?”

Exactly nobody.

After two high-seed games March 11, the Big 12 announced that subsequent games would be closed to fans and even bands and cheer squads; the following morning, two hours before KU's scheduled opener against Oklahoma State, the conference first announced a delay to the first game of the day while

it considered more drastic actions, then called the whole thing off.

“Everything happened so fast, and I remember like it was yesterday,” says junior forward David McCormack. “We were ready to play the game, everybody was getting dressed up, and it was just, OK, pushed back ... then, no fans ... then all of a sudden, it's gone.”

The NCAA followed shortly thereafter, and, just like that, KU's national championship dreams were done. Players left for their first spring break ever, then didn't see each other again until August.

ABOVE Even without a true center, coach Bill Self will still rely on guard Marcus Garrett (0) and forward David McCormack (33) to run his high-low offense and motivate a tough defense.



STEVE PUPPE

Bill Self insists he hasn't allowed himself to stew over the abrupt end to his 17th season as KU's coach—"I'm disappointed we didn't get a chance to validate what the guys had accomplished during the regular season, but it's not something I've dwelled on at all"—but players, facing limits to the number of opportunities they'll have to make history, profess a different perspective.

"Guys who were on that team are still hungry," says senior guard Marcus Garrett. "We didn't get to finish what we wanted."

As a unanimous selection for the Preseason All-Big 12 Team, Garrett would naturally be considered a team leader. Two complications: Self generally prefers that team leaders, especially guards, be comfortable being vocal, and Garrett is so quiet as to make Frank Mason III seem chatty; and, more crucially, leadership this season also means helping guide the team through COVID-19.

Under guidelines issued in September—and subject to change—the NCAA is asking all schools to limit full access to men's and women's basketball programs to 15 players and about 25 to 30 people overall; should any person within the so-called "Tier 1" inner bubble test positive for coronavirus, the team quarantines for 14 days.

"We told [players] that we need to be very smart come August and September, and now that we're in October and November, we need to be as bright as we've ever been," Self says. "Think about this: If your entire team has to quarantine for 14 days and you're expected to play games the first week you come back, you have absolutely no chance to be suc-

cessful, for the most part, as far as from a technical standpoint or a playing standpoint, because you'll be out of shape and you'll have no rhythm.

"One or two mishaps could set a team back for a month, and in that month's time your regular season, or your chance to win a league, could basically be taken away."

Which is why leadership is more valuable than ever, and why Self says he took a proactive step in asking Garrett whether he's willing to take it on.

"To me, Marcus should make this his team, but if he makes it his team, it's a responsibility that he owns, that he's responsible for everybody else," Self says. "If he's not willing to do that then it's not really his team."

Garrett, in his laconic way, says he accepted the challenge, gladly.

"It means a lot. I've learned from a lot of good leaders who have come through and been fortunate enough to play with. It's definitely a big challenge with everything being different, but when we get on the court it's still basketball, so I'm just going out there and try to lead the best way I know how."

Last season's Naismith Defensive Player of the Year and Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year, Garrett led the Big 12 in assists, with 4.6 per game, and assist-to-turnover ratio, 2.7. He averaged 9.2 points, 4.5 rebounds and 4.5 deflections, and was fifth in the conference with 1.8 steals per game.

With a backcourt that features height and length—Garrett and junior Ochai Agbaji are 6 feet 5, junior transfer Tyon Grant-Foster is 6-7, sophomore Christian Braun is 6-6, and freshman Bryce Thompson is 6-5—Garrett says that when the team "locks in," KU "can be great defensively again."

But the keystone is in the frontcourt, where McCormack takes over for 7-footer Udoka Azubuike, 2020 Big 12 Player of the Year and the NCAA's all-time field goal percentage leader (79.4%). Garrett says he's been reminding McCormack about his rim-protection responsibilities without asking him to be the next Azubuike.

"Dok was great at that, but I also feel David can protect the rim, too," Garrett says. "That's the biggest thing I try to tell him. If not block it, at least try to make the offense take a contested shot."

When he appeared in KU's online Media Day teleconference in mid-October, McCormack offered immediate visual evidence that he had prepared long and hard. His already impressive physique was noticeably altered, with a lean, muscular and thoroughly athletic appearance.

"There's an advantage for me in isolation,"



KU MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS



EVERETT NELSON, TOPEKA CAPITAL-JOURNAL-POOL PHOTO

FOOTBALL

Small victories

Stadium access granted amid pandemic restrictions

McCormack says of a summer spent away from his teammates and coaches. “Anytime I’m isolated, I’m focused and locked in. I have my racehorse blinders on. If I’m home there’s no reason to be lazy. Attack, eat right, that’s what I’ve been doing as far as changing my body, putting on muscle, leaning out, dropping weight, all those things in order to be a better player.”

A flurry of schedule changes left KU wondering when it might play the Champions Classic event with Kentucky (as *Kansas Alumni* went to press, the Wildcats’ new schedule had the game Dec. 1, site to be determined), but a Thanksgiving matchup with Gonzaga—broadcast by Fox Sports from Fort Myers, Florida—and Saint Joseph’s the following day, had been confirmed. KU and Gonzaga were ranked 1 and 2 in the AP’s final 2020 poll.

The Big 12 also moved up the conference season to leave wiggle room for in-season changes, so KU opens conference play Dec. 17 at Texas Tech. The first Big 12 home game is Dec. 22 against West Virginia. Reports have surfaced of KU Athletics informing season ticket holders that attendance would be limited to 1,500 fans dispersed throughout Allen Field House, although that had yet to be confirmed as of press time.

WHEN FOOTBALL kicked off its season at 9:20 pm on Sept. 12, the old stadium was empty of all but the teams. No fans, no band, no nothing; COVID restrictions limited access so severely that even alumni magazine reporters got to park close.

Little went right that night, a 38-23 loss to Coastal Carolina, but when the Jayhawks next returned to the Hill, hope had returned. Or, if not hope, at least fans. Attendance was limited to 10,000 at the Oct. 3 Homecoming game against Oklahoma State, but symbolism mattered: It was the first time fans had been allowed to attend an athletics event or even been invited to return to a campus toiling under strict access edicts.

“Jayhawks were genuinely happy to be together for some sort of normalcy,” reported Alumni Association president Heath Peterson, d’04, g’09, who hosted a few Association members in the north end zone seating area. “It was good to be together again.”

KU’s hopes of righting the ship were damped by midseason opt-outs by two stars, junior running back Pooka Williams and junior linebacker Dru Prox, neither of whom confirmed any intention to return.

“I’m not going to worry so much about the guys we didn’t have as much as the ones we did,” coach Les Miles said after a 52-22 loss to Iowa State. “We aren’t perfect, but we can still put this team together.”



Pooka Williams

EVERT NELSON, TOPEKA CAPITAL JOURNAL-POOL PHOTO

UPDATE

Soccer entered its Nov. 6 Senior Day match against Iowa State ranked No. 12 in the country, thanks in large part to senior midfielder **Ceri Holland**, who was named National Player of the Week and Big 12 Player of the Week after scoring the game-winning goal in the season opener against Texas. Junior goalkeeper **Sarah Peters** recorded her 21st career shutout in the match,

KU ATHLETICS



Holland

earning the Big 12’s first Goalkeeper of the Week award. ... Volleyball coach **Ray Bechard** on Oct. 29 won the 400th match of his 23-year KU career with a four-set victory over Kansas State in Horejsi

Family Volleyball Arena. “It means I’ve been living my dream job for a long, long time,” Bechard said afterward. ...

Freshman **Kara Church** won the 1,000-yard freestyle at swimming and diving’s first dual meet—a 187-122 victory Oct. 17 over TCU—and followed that with a victory in the 500 free. ... A highlight of the fall tennis season was a second-place finish Oct. 25 at the ITA Central Regional Championship by junior **Malkia Ngonoue**. She earned a spot

in the final with a 6-2, 6-1 victory over TCU’s Mercedes Aristegui, but lost the final in three sets to Missouri’s Bronte Murgett. ...

Track and field opens its indoor season with the Dec. 6 Bob Timmons Challenge. ... Women’s basketball is set to tip Nov. 25 in Allen Field House against Northern Colorado. ... **Udoka Azubuike**, c’20, on Oct. 30 recorded a 37-inch vertical leap, the highest mark among centers in the history of the NBA’s pre-draft combine.

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*In the sequel to a Kansas classic,
Leo Murdock rides again*

THE LAST CATTLE DRIVE REDUX



BY ROBERT DAY

When *The Last Cattle Drive* appeared in 1977, the comic tale of a prickly Kansas rancher's quixotic bid to drive a herd of cattle from Hays to Kansas City became an unlikely best seller and Book-of-the-Month-Club selection. After a brief, distracting dalliance with Hollywood—a rumored film starring Jack Nicholson was never made, and a lawsuit prompted by its demise hastened the bankruptcy of MGM Studios—Bob Day, c'64, g'66, got back to



writing novellas, novels and short stories. (A 550-page opus of his short fiction, *The Collected Stories*, will be published in December by Serving House Books.) But never did he pen a sequel of *The Last Cattle Drive*. Until now.

For Not Finding You, excerpted here, finds Leo Murdock in Paris. Removed by age and distance from his days as a young ranch hand, in search of lost time and a lost love, he looks back on his Kansas adventures from afar, his recollections as immediate as his daily round in the French cities and villages he frequents throughout the novel. That's a tribute to Day's keen eye for detail and fine feel for the rhythm and rhyme of ranch life. "In all my fiction," he has written, "I'm mindful of Hemingway's remark that he knew the time and place on every page." That time and place, in Day's book, is distinctly, indelibly Kansas.

—The editors

I have come to Paris in search of lost love. Many have done it. I live in a small apartment on Rue de Poitiers just behind the Musée d'Orsay that I share with a character from a short story I recently wrote. In spite of who we are to one another, there is room enough for both of us. Monique's collection of Montaigne's selected essays (in both French and English, with her admonishment inscribed on the flyleaf—*traduit par Montaigne tout seul*) is on the desk where I am now typing—along with her French/English *Larousse Dictionary*, inscribed: *For the first time you see Paris. With me!* I have bought my own *Plan de Paris*.

It is fall here. The Bateau Bus is still on the Seine, dropping passengers at various stops: Eiffel Tower, Saint-Germain-des-Prés, Notre Dame, Hôtel de Ville, among others. I am up high enough to watch its wake. I can see the Pont des Arts. I have Monique's postcard.

By now I have lived here a year. (My fictional doppelgänger has been here a month or so. In this way he has moved in on me.) I do not know what has kept me from what I am now writing, nor did I know I was being kept from it. *For Not Finding You* is my provisional title; I hope that will change. I walk a lot to make that possible. Like my character, I am keeping a diary.



I ONCE WORKED on a small ranch north of Hays, Kansas, in Buckeye Township—above the Saline River and the breaks that run into it. Some days I taught school as a substitute. I lived in that country six years before I left for Paris. I did not marry.

One Friday, toward the end of summer, the rancher got a call from the banker who had loaned him money to buy the heifers. We had hopes of breeding them and selling the calves for a fat profit. But the price of money was going higher, and the price of beef was going lower. That's when the phone rang. I told the banker that the owner was outside but I would get him.

I will use Buck for his name, but that was not his name. I am superstitious about some things, and writing about the dead and using their names is one of them.



“Hello,” Buck said when he got on the phone. He had been walking toward the Home-House when I called him. Long, even strides. He was a tall man with big hands. The phone vanished in his fist. He listened and frowned.

“I don’t have that kind of money unless I sell the herd, which I won’t,” he said. “They’re just bred. And the price is piss-poor.”

He was shaking his head back and forth. That usually meant he was about to swear. He was gifted at it, and the more he shook his head before he got started, the richer the gift—and the better it gave.

“Tell those pig buggers on your board that’s what they get for lending money at 14 percent.” Hanging up, he said: “You guys are lower than snake shit at the bottom of a posthole.”

It wasn’t funny, but later that night when we poured ourselves Black Jack it got us laughing as we retold the story more than once, back and forth, adding something with each version. Not about bankers being lower than snake shit at the bottom of a posthole; that was for real.

There were just the two of us working the place in those days. The ranch had been in Buck’s family for three generations; however, Buck and his wife, Ellen (also not her real name), had lived most of their lives in Hays. When their hired man died they sold the Hays house and moved to the ranch. And I was to move out from my apartment in Gorham to be with them, living in a small Sears and Roebuck cabin that I was fixing up to the north of the larger Home-House. But then Ellen died in a crash with a grain truck on the Seven Hills Road from the ranch to Hays. I was still in Gorham when it happened. It took me the fall to fix up the cabin and then I moved in and began helping Buck more or less full time.

The following spring Monique started coming out. We had known each other at the university but got separated the way you do when you are young: she went on a student exchange to France; I took a job teaching school in Gorham. Before we found each other again there had been another woman in my life. Very crazy. There had been a man in Monique’s life. Not that she talked about him much. His name was Bruno. That was his real name. As Monique is hers. They met here in Paris.

Monique would drive out Fridays from Lawrence and stay through Sundays from teaching grade school. In summers she’d live with us weeks at a time. Monique was tall and trim. Hair cut just above her ears. A pail of fresh milk, as Buck called her. And blond nearly

to cream. We lived together that way for about five years until she returned to Paris.

Well, we had Amos, a black lab of mine, and later, Murphy, a mutt that Monique found at a rest stop. Everywhere were chickens scratching and hens running to hide their eggs—plus rabbits and squirrels and cats mixed in for good measure.

At the beginning there was Milky, who was past her prime, but now and then I’d give her a try. I thought it might please the old cow to be of use, the ranch cats gathered under her, milling and meowing.

“You get in some good thinking putting your head into the side of a cow,” Buck said when he saw me going into the barn with a bucket.

The first summer Monique stayed with me, she put her head into the side of Milky as much for what I’d told her Buck had said as for the cats.

“It works,” she said.

“Good thinking?”

“Yes,” she said.

“What do you think about?”

“Us. That you are *mon coeur*. ‘My dear heart,’ in English. I will teach you more French as you want to learn.”

I went to get a Polaroid Ellen had bought when they first moved to the ranch.

Later that summer, Milky died one night and it was Monique who found her in the morning. Buck hooked up the backhoe to the tractor and dug a burial pit south of the Home-House, where, after Buck hired Patsy a year or so later, she planted her first garden, never knowing why it came on so well from the beginning—and for all the years afterward. It seemed a pleasure to keep the secret.

The evening we buried Milky, Monique sang a version of “The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down” in her fine alto voice, with the chorus as “The Night Old Milky Died,” and there was no irony in her version, only woe, even though she had not known Milky but that summer.

“She’s a fine woman,” Buck said to me the next morning when we were alone over coffee. “A pail of fresh milk to be sure, but more than that.”

Later, there was Moshe, a one-eyed tomcat that Patsy brought out to catch mice but whose specialty was not mice, but anything bigger than himself: chickens, box turtles—in addition to the pheasants, ducks, turkeys, rabbits and deer we’d hang in the well house behind my cabin. Moshe would get to the game with a leap and a hiss and hang on. I’d find him chewing as best he could on a shot mallard until he fell off and went to look for a yard rabbit. Without Milky and

with the arrival of Moshe, the other cats hit the dusty trail. Buck used to say that the farms and ranches in Western Kansas were so far apart each had its own tomcat. Moshe was ours.



ONE BLUE BIZZARD NIGHT the first winter after we hired Patsy she brought Moshe into the house and fed him grocery-store cat food.

“You know what that is?” Buck said, pointing at Moshe.

“A cat,” said Patsy.

“That’s the only animal in the world that can turn money into cat shit.” It was Monique who gave Moshe his name.

Sometimes you’d see rattlesnakes. Two owls: Dame and Monsieur *Pas Blanche* as Monique named them, saying that meant “Not White” in French. Doves came in and out of the shelterbelt. The summer he got rattlesnake bit, Moshe took himself into the heat of the south pasture to die.

“Leave him be,” said Patsy when Monique thought she might drive him to the vet. “Leave him to himself. He knows what he’s doing. When he’s gone the fire ants will finish him. ‘What goes around comes around’—Jesus-God.”

We had hired Patsy to help with the chores around the Home-House, cook our meals, and make a garden—and for her company—in exchange for her wage and meals.

We were good company, and not hard to please with what she fixed: Stews and soups in winter at noon, what is called “dinner” in that country. Chicken or pig for supper in the evening. Buffalo meat from a bull Patsy’s hippie nephew and his girlfriend won in a lottery and had us kill. Channel catfish out of the pond. Ducks we shot. Pheasants. A deer in winter. Cold beet and vegetable soups from Patsy’s garden in summer. Salads as well from the garden for what Patsy called our “cesspool systems.”

Patsy was no rose. Not even a shriveled flower at the stem’s end. Mostly thorns—especially if you crossed her. And given to “Jesus-God.” That was her word: Jesus-God. Also, we didn’t live in Buckeye Township, Ellis County; we lived in West Jesus Land, Kansas. Every place else was The Rest of America.

If Patsy had a dress we never saw it. (Well, I did: once.) Summer or winter she’d wear blue-striped bib overalls and work boots. In winter she layered

shirts and sweaters. In spring and early fall she’d wear T-shirts, and in summer, when it got up past “Hell’s high roast number” (100), she’d wear nothing but her bib outfit and sockless boots.

In the side straps and pockets Patsy carried pliers, gloves, a beer opener (bottle or can), baling twine, a snub-nosed .22 revolver, golf balls she’d put in the hen’s nests to fool them into setting, a small cloth bag for eggs, and, always hanging at her side, a hatchet for beheading chickens and snapping turtles on the cottonwood stump by her garden.

Buck’s ranch was small, but good grass. No plow land. Springs that flowed into the draws, deep water wells, one big pond and a few smaller ponds in the horse back pastures. We had windmills that fed the stock tanks, and there were limestone outbuildings from an abandoned homestead on the northwest quarter. Good fences, solid gates with deep-buried dead men to hold both corner posts straight. Stout corrals. Rattlesnake quarters with rock outcroppings and soapweed down to the river.



THERE IS A MAN on Rue Bonaparte who is especially curious because he is not so much woebegone as a man of more than modest accomplishment in another life: a man who went out one afternoon from a wife and family in a remote French village in the Dordogne to get a bottle of wine and never returned.

Here in Paris he has used what funds he has to buy a sturdy three-wheel bike with a tow-behind small camper of sorts. He arranges himself out of the way under an arch, and unlike the other homeless he does not beg, but instead has a small bowl set out should you want to leave some change. And a bowl for the dog as well—a dog that reminds me of Murphy. I am trying to make friends with “Murphy” by bringing him table scraps. As to the man, we do not talk but nod to one another. In his leaving where he came from to live in Paris we are *camarades*. And if my editor comes here she will observe that the man and I look alike. I think so myself.

I have also seen a woman now and then in a café on the Right Bank where I sometimes take a coffee. She has a battered mink coat she wears when the weather is cold and carries when it is not. I am reminded of a character out of a Jean Rhys novel: *Good Morning, Midnight*, I think. At first we just looked at one



another; more recently we have begun to nod. I think we have resolved never to talk, but how I sense this (in myself and as well for her) I do not know. The transmigration of *tristesse*. And then there is this from Montaigne:

The Italians do well to use the same word for sadness, "la tristezza," as for malignity: for it is a passion as harmful as it is cowardly and base—and always useless.



OUR HERD was about 200. First-calf heifers. They had been bought cheaper that way, even though we'd have trouble calving them—which we planned to do in January so we could beat the late summer market at the sale barn when everybody was bringing in their cattle before the grass dried up and winter came on. Supply and demand. But with the cattle market, it's mostly luck.

One day we lost two heifers on the Saline when they got into quicksand. I found them up to their bellies, dead, the water going around them, making eddies. Maybe one wasn't dead, but trying to rescue her was foolish. My horse got his front hooves stuck at the edge of the river, and I had to rear him up and spin around to firm ground. Across the river was Mencken Cody's ranch, so when I got back I told Buck he might give Mencken a call about the quicksand should he have any cattle along the Saline. It was Mencken's Gomer bull we were using to mark the herd.

A week later when Buck and I rode back to check our fences the heifers were mostly skin and bones. Both heads were on the carcasses. Eyes gone.

"At least someone got to eat," Buck said. "What goes around comes around' isn't bad thinking." We rode back to the Home-House, and when we got there Patsy was ringing the yard bell for dinner.

There were lodgepole pine fences around both the Home-House and my cabin, and the larger yard of about five acres was fenced with barbed wire. In that yard were tool sheds, calving pens, horse stalls, and a storage garage where we worked on trucks and parked equipment. To the north, west and south ran a WPA shelterbelt of shrubs and trees, leaving the east side open. One year we found a beehive in a dead cottonwood tree on the south side. We let it get started until the following year, then every year after that I'd put on a long-sleeved shirt and gloves and stretch a ski mask stocking cap over my head and dig out a few combs

with a small trowel, while leaving most of it intact. From the honey Patsy made syrup and oatcakes.

We also had a pack rat named Gone. Whatever was missing: gloves, hats, light tools, a washed dish towel that blew off the clothesline, T-shirts left out overnight from a summer day, rags from the shop bench, once the ski mask I put on the porch of the cabin—it was Gone. For some unspoken reason we all agreed to leave Gone alone—with Buck only saying that what goes around doesn't always come back around.

"He is our archaeologist," I said.

"What's that?" asked Buck.

"They find out who we were by sorting through our trash."

"Sort of like they are the socialists of the dead?" he asked.

"That will be Gone when he's gone," I said.



ONE FRIDAY in late summer Monique was to come out after a teacher's workshop to stay a week or so until school started. Saturday was Patsy's birthday and the plan was to fix her a meal in the Whorehouse Room. That was the big room in the Home-House with a Woodsman stove at one end and a large fireplace at the other that we'd stoke up with cottonwood on special occasions. After Patsy started cooking and cleaning for us we let her decorate it.

"She wants to buy red wallpaper," I had said to Buck. "It's furry with gold gilt in it. And paint the window trim red." There were two windows on the north side of the room, on either side of the Woodsman. By this time Patsy and Monique had met and, for reasons that were mysterious to both Buck and me, become *chères amies*—as Monique put it.

"And hang framed mirrors," I said.

"Just as long as she doesn't get scared away for seeing herself," Buck said.

"And chandeliers. When she's done it will look like a whorehouse."

"Good thinking."

One weekend early in the summer when Monique came out we went to Hays with Patsy to buy what she wanted. She had us put down a purple shag carpet. She covered the chairs with deerskins, and the couch with a large bedspread that had a stag's head in the middle. We weren't allowed in with our work boots. I bought a player piano from the Woodcutter's Widow in Bly

who was selling out piece by piece. The deal came with 50 rolls of old-time songs—all of them in good shape. Even though Monique could play the piano (and a guitar that she'd leave so she didn't have to bring it out each time), she'd pump the pedals and we'd all sing along: *You are my sunshine, my only sunshine, you make me happy when skies are gray, you'll never know dear, how much I love you, please don't take my sunshine away.* Patsy would join in.

"She can't carry a tune in a pickup," Buck said. But when we went "goodbye" with a stout glass of Black Jack, we didn't much care.

After I bought the piano, Buck and Patsy bought Monique a French horn we also kept in the Whorehouse Room.

"I don't know how to play it," Monique said when they gave it to her.

"Well, it's French and on sale," said Patsy, "and I know how you like France so..."

"I can learn. And thank you," Monique said. "Both of you." I suspect she knew it was Patsy's idea and Buck's money.

The next time out, Monique brought an enlarged photograph of the Dodge City Cowboy Band from the 1900s that she got from the Kansas Historical Society. It showed 20 or so bug-eyed and half-drunk cowboys with their instruments, some men lounging on the floor in the front, others on risers leading up to a lone woman, young to be sure, but not a pail of fresh milk, sitting on a set of very large longhorns. There were tubas and trumpets and tambourines. Drums and clarinets. One man was holding a pistol. But no French horns.

"For the Whorehouse Room," Monique said when she gave the picture to Patsy. It was framed in barn wood.

"I like the men with the tubas," said Patsy.

"They are upright E-flat altos," said Buck. "Not tubas."

"How did you know that?" Monique said.

"I used to play one in the high school band," Buck said.

"Then you can play my French horn."

"I only play upright E-flat altos," Buck said.

"I'd like 'Red River Valley,'" said Patsy, when she saw that Monique had brought a book of French horn instructions and sheet music. For my part, I had bought a music stand also from the Widow Bly.

"I'll try," said Monique. "I'll try."

Over time we'd hear Monique doing what she could with the French horn, and when she was not around, we'd find Patsy giving it a polish.

"Jesus-God told me to keep it shiny for Monique," she said.

To Patsy's credit the Whorehouse Room was always clean, and it looked as if a high-dollar Dodge City dove of low moral character might leave her perch on longhorns and join us at the player piano to sing "Red River Valley." And, as it turned out, the Whorehouse Room was where we had our Black Jack every night after work—but not before we had showered, tended to cuts and bruises, combed our hair (Patsy was big on combed hair) and put on clean clothes. "Be clean and combed for Jesus-God once a day." *Evaticus 7:3.*

"Goodbye," Buck would say by way of a toast when he tipped his whiskey glass. Goodbye, so said we all as the pain of work began to fade.



SOMETIMES I'D COOK for Patsy. She'd sit in the sunshine on the south side of the house by her garden, pulling on her long-necked Coors. She liked being called to dinner or supper instead of ringing the bell for the calling. Not always, but for a break. Small luxuries are better than big ones if you live in the country. And I liked fixing the meal. Even setting the table and washing up.

Buck didn't cook. Only slabs of venison on the pit grill when we shot a deer. Patsy knew how to make jerky, and we had a hand-crank meat grinder for everything but the good cuts. A deer could feed us through to spring if we portioned it out: steaks, ground meat for chili, a couple of roasts, jerky for the truck when we were windshield ranching. Patsy would mix the ground deer with the ground buffalo and call it "two-beast burger," and she'd use it for meatloaf, chili, or "two-beast burgers." We tanned and tacked hides on the south side of my cabin to cure.

Patsy grew hot peppers that she'd string and hang in the kitchen to dry for the chili. And braid onions and hang those in the well house. Keep carrots and potatoes covered with straw so sometimes we'd have them into December. She planted sweet corn and tomatoes and green and red salad peppers. One year she had me bring sand up from the Saline and mix it in on the south edge of the garden where she grew watermelon. She also asked for the ashes from the woodstove and the fireplace and she'd mix those into the topsoil. The garden got better until it became "abundant." It was a word Buck had once used and Patsy borrowed. "The



abundance of Jesus-God,” Patsy would say when looking over the garden. Most anything good in those days was “abundant” to her. Patsy liked words. We all liked words. Propensity was a favorite. “She’s an abundance of Jesus, that’s for sure,” Buck would say after Patsy had gone off on one of her religious benders. “With a propensity for Hell,” I said.

“That too,” said Buck.

“Have you decided to tell her about Milky?” I asked.

“No. Let her have Jesus-God as the tomato deity and we’ll worship the old cow.” Patsy had me build a “moat” around her garden by putting up a chicken-wire fence so she could keep a dozen or so hens there to eat the grasshoppers before they got to her plants. The other chickens ran in the yard, but Patsy thought the best ones for cooking came from the moat because of the grasshoppers they ate. The yard chickens were for soup or stir-fries. And eggs.

“When Jesus-God made a chicken, He was thinking of women,” Patsy used to say. “You take a chicken and a woman who knows how to pick it and she can feed all of West Jesus Land, Kansas, and half of The Rest of America, and be pleased to do so.”

One spring when we had good rains the plum thickets around the edge of the ranch bloomed. I cut the flowers for Monique when she came out, and for Patsy as well.

“We’ll have sandhill plums in the fall,” Patsy said. “I can make jam of them.”

“You can also put them on the table for treats,” said Buck. Sometimes that fall when we were windshield ranching, Buck would get out and pick plums for ourselves and to take back to Patsy.



MY DIARY seems to have grown a self unto itself; now there are three of us here in Paris, plus of course shades from the past as we go along, one of us (*moi*) looking over my shoulder at the other two—or maybe we are arm in arm.

In any case all of us wonder at my extensive details about the food in Kansas, given that here in Paris all along the *rues* and mansard roofs there are gifted cafés and restaurants.

My list of Kansas foods might be only a slim pamphlet, but Brillat-Savarin’s *The Physiology of Taste* at over 400 pages is a *très* fat one. I like his English title: *The Joys of the Table*. I hereby steal it

for our Kansas fare.

It is my diary (he/she needs a *nom de plume*) who wonders why we were all more pleased with sandhill plums and caught channel catfish than a *homard thermidor*. And it is also true that all the time I lived there we never went out for dinner.



WE HAD HORSES to work the pastures down along the river; two old four-wheel-drive pickups with granny gears; a John Deere 4010 for ground we leased west of us to grow oats for the horses; a square baler (that was always breaking down) for the prairie hay when we could get a cutting, and for a small alfalfa patch in a creek bottom leading to the Saline. All of it mortgaged to the bank. Not the horses. Not the Home-House nor my cabin. Not Milky. They can’t take what you ride or where you live. Or what’s dead. It was good while it lasted, and to be fair to the fates, it lasted quite a while. Even with Ellen’s death partway into it. And even after we were broke. There’s a lot you can do without much money if you put your mind to it, and it’s not a bad use of your mind. In this way, we ate well and lived well, being careful. For a long time nobody got badly hurt or sick. We stayed together.

When the end came, it was Patsy who helped me bury the dogs, dead two months apart, in the shelter-belt west of my cabin, their nametags nailed to a tree near their graves. With the Polaroid I took Patsy’s picture by the tree, then we went to town where Patsy put on her dress for the service, what there was of it, just the two of us standing by the flat stone marker with no name on it. “I wonder where he went,” said Patsy.

“Maybe nowhere in particular. Maybe somewhere,” I said.

“Not to be found,” Patsy said. “He once told me that was where he wanted to go.”

After that we drove back to the ranch and Patsy packed up pots and pans, stuff, the French horn, books, and three live chickens to take to town. I helped her move. There was snow in the air. Later, Mencken Cody wrote me here in Paris to say Patsy had come back out to the ranch the following summer and they found her half-crazed in the heat and the wind of a bad August, tearing down the chicken moat around her garden and shooting pistol shots into the sky at the Anti-Christ. Mencken took her to Blaze to live with her sister.



SINCE I HAVE BEEN IN PARIS I have written a dozen short stories, some of them set here, some in Western Kansas, others set one place or another in The Rest of America. I have published them in various magazines and now I am arranging them for a book. The publisher is not a large New York firm, but rather a fine small publisher, and I am grateful for their offer. My name is Leo Murdock, but I use another name for my stories, and now for this book.

What I like about living in Paris is the distance it gives me on America, and paradoxically on Paris itself. I doubt a French writer would feel the same way were he or she to live in New York, and I cannot say why I feel a distance from Paris even as I am living in it. Perhaps if I were fluent in the language that distance would close. Translations of Montaigne help. Also, this from Twain (by my memory): “The French are amazing, even the children speak French.”

The proof for the book of short stories came the other day. The cover is the picture of the Dodge City

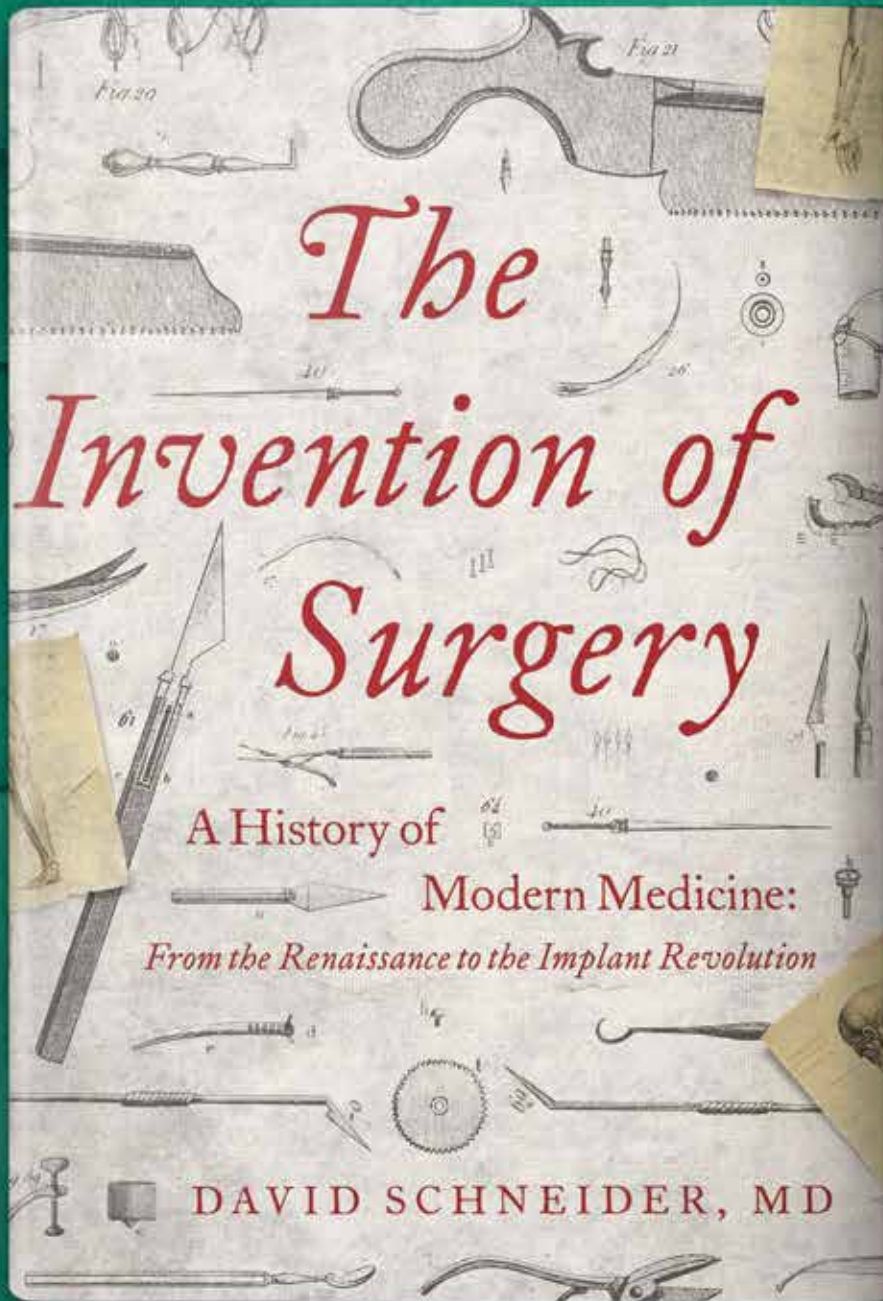
Cowboy Band—unless I save it for something else. I am to choose the title from one of the stories.

I need to think about it. And a dedication. Maybe a preface.


It has become a late fall or early winter here in Paris. Proust’s memory is triggered by scents. Mine, as it turns out, by memory. The other day I found a bistro that served *poule au pot*, the flavor of it floating into Place Dauphine. I have not found *soupe éternelle*. I suppose I could make it myself but I don’t cook here. Instead, I take a coffee and a *pain au chocolat* at the café where I first met the sad woman in the mink coat. Some days she is there, some days not. The same for me.

It is as if we are avoiding each other in order not to meet one another: A woman out of a Jean Rhys novel probably does not want to step into the fiction of West Jesus Land, Kansas—or even The Rest of America. Nor do I want to be absorbed into Rhys’s *triste* world of misery and woe, even if she does write better than I do. Here’s not looking for you, kid. —

MOMENTS OF



INSPIRATION



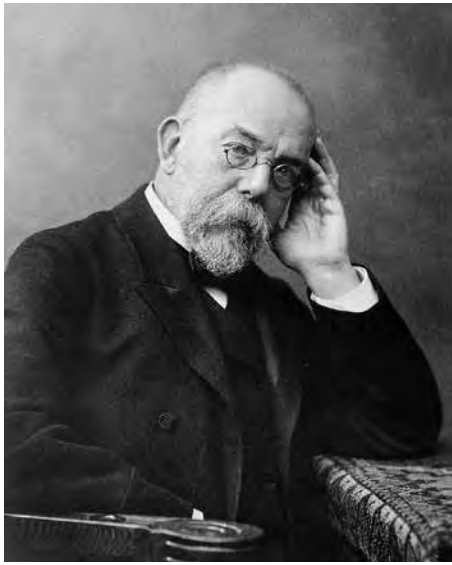
Orthopedic surgeon
weaves riveting narratives
in *The Invention of Surgery*

By Chris Lazzarino

Decades before winning the 1905 Nobel Prize for identifying tuberculosis as a bacteria-borne disease, among other insights that saved millions of lives and became bedrock of modern medicine, the newly minted physician Robert Koch found himself thrust into service as a Prussian army surgeon during the Franco-Prussian War. The conflict lasted but a year, from summer 1870 to late spring 1871, yet the wounds that men inflicted upon men provided, at terrible cost, urgent opportunity to advance the science of healing.

A mere five years earlier, the English surgeon-scientist Joseph Lister, practicing in Scotland, had changed a single patient's fate, as well as the world's, by applying carbolic-acid solutions before and after surgery on 11-year-old James Greenlee's open tibia fracture. As orthopedic surgeon David Schneider writes in *The Invention of Surgery*, a book hailed as "bold and compelling" by *The Wall Street Journal*, "what would have been routine amputation was instead uneventful healing, and James was discharged six weeks after injury."

When the French and Germans took up arms, it was, notes Schneider, m'94, m'95, "the first war in history fought with accurate guns and cannons." The antagonists' powerful projectiles impaled filthy bits of clothing deep within ravaged flesh and bone; unlike the French, who still treated open wounds with "greasy salves" and suffered 70% mortality rates from post-amputation infection, German surgeons embraced "Listerism" and doused wounds with carbolic poultice, "with the end result that, for the first time in warfare history, fewer men died from infections from their wounds than from the trauma itself."



LEFT Robert Koch (1843–1910), pioneering physician who unlocked the secrets of culturing and identifying bacteria.



Joseph Lister (1827–1912), perhaps the most important surgeon in world history, the physician scientist who introduced sterile technique and antiseptic surgery.

HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS AND CAPTIONS FROM *THE INVENTION OF SURGERY*, COURTESY THE AUTHOR.

When Koch emerged from his wartime service, during which he had helped prove the efficacy of the breakthrough that allowed surgeons to actually heal their patients—until Lister and his contemporaries, sick people usually improved their chances of recovery and survival by staying clear of physicians and surgeons, Schneider notes—the student of microscopy pioneer Jacob Henle might have been expected to alight in one of Germany’s great academic hubs. Instead, the quiet, studious physician in 1872 settled with his wife and child in the Prussian hamlet of Wöllstein, now a Polish town called Wolsztyn, where they moved into a two-story Gothic structure that became their home as well as Koch’s medical clinic and research laboratory.

Throughout *The Invention of Surgery* Schneider disavows “granular” theories of medical history, and instead embraces “eureka moments.” The carefully told tale of a cloistered rural health officer throwing himself into solving the deadly puzzle of “woolsorters disease,” otherwise known as anthrax, for example, is presented in a fast-paced and, considering the subject matter, surprisingly charming narrative.

Anthrax arrived in Koch’s village in 1873, spread to humans the following year, and arrived yet again shortly before Christmas 1875, when a frightened constable dropped on Koch’s doorstep the

bloated carcass of an animal suspected to have died from the disease. The young physician promptly analyzed the beast’s blood under his microscope. (“Happily for mankind,” Schneider writes, “Koch lavishly drained his bank account” to purchase the best microscopes then available, “obsessively examining tissues and experimenting on animals from his backyard collection.”) Koch saw the same bacteria he’d chronicled in earlier local outbreaks.

Recalling his mentor Henle’s dream of isolating contagious organisms to prove, once and for all, the fatal powers of bacteria, “Koch had a spark of inspiration.”

Schneider sets a scene of Koch “exiting the rear doors” of his old home to pull a healthy rabbit from its backyard cage. He acquired a blood sample with a tiny slice to the rabbit’s ear and verified with his microscope that the blood was free of the suspected bacteria. He then injected the healthy rabbit with blood from the carcass delivered to his doorstep. Citing Koch’s “singlemindedness and obsessive focus,” Schneider speculates that he likely endured fitful sleep, and arose the next morning, Christmas Eve, to a full clinic of patients, whom he saw in his upstairs exam room.

Because he visited Wolsztyn on one of *eight* research trips throughout Western Europe and the United States, Schneider offers the simple yet illustrative obser-

vation that the exam room where Koch treated patients overlooks the backyard. In those hours before he could return to the garden, where he later found the rabbit dead and the journey of his life’s work suddenly thrust in motion, Koch had to have been filled with anticipation, and likely paced from clinic to laboratory to window.

Listening to his own moment of inspiration, Schneider thought to look down.

“In the middle of the floor is a slightly angled strip of wood running across the grain of the rest of the floorboards,” he writes. “This is the border between his clinical and research space,” the vestige of a solitary scientist pacing his way through anxious experiments. “In this tiny little town, hours and hours from the closest academic bastion,” Schneider continues, “a self-funded and eccentric young voyager laid the foundation for modern medicine.”

Dave Schneider was an eighth-grader in Manhattan, where his father, J.E. Schneider, chaired the equine program at Kansas State University’s College of Veterinary Medicine, when he saw a CNN report on Dr. Frank Jobe. Then becoming well-known among sports fans for elbow and shoulder surgeries that famously salvaged injured pitchers’ careers, Jobe was filmed on the field at Dodger Stadium, mingling with players, and, in



His family's heritage of ranching forebears instilled in Schneider a work ethic that he identifies and admires in medicine's truly great historical figures. "The worst thing you can call someone is 'lazy,'" he says. "Kill me first."

that mysterious way that destinies can suddenly galvanize, a sports-mad Kansas boy become obsessed.

"When my dad got home that night, I told him about it," Schneider recalls from his Boulder, Colorado, home, "and he said, 'Yeah, Frank Jobe, he's very famous. He's an orthopedic surgeon.' And I was like, 'That's what I have to be.'"

Born in Fort Collins, where his father taught at Colorado State University, Schneider spent his early childhood in Nairobi, Kenya, where his father helped found the University of Nairobi's veterinary school. The family then moved on to Manhattan, which Schneider recalls as an idyllic boyhood haven, with wide-open spaces to roam along with a college town's intellectual energy.

Schneider joined his father on ranch calls, "getting to be there with the blood and guts in a way that my kids weren't able to with me. I was literally holding surgical retractors as a little kid for my dad. I was holding knives. I knew how to sew. I learned to use a needle driver 10 years be-

fore I got to medical school. The advantages that I had were just ridiculous."

At Oral Roberts University, Schneider's creative writing teachers were impressed enough to suggest that he could make his living as a writer; he tucked their encouragement away for later inspiration, but first he headed to the KU School of Medicine, where Schneider spent the summer after his first year doing stem-cell research in the lab of the eminent pathologist and bone researcher H. Clarke Anderson, focused on a type of brain tumor called meningioma. Schneider recalls that when his investigations revealed that the brain tumors in question—donated for his research by neurosurgeons from across Kansas City—

secreted proteins that signal and control bone growth, proving his initial theory, the formal, reserved professor "jumped out of his chair," tears in his eyes.

"It was like I told him I won the Nobel Prize," Schneider says. "That experience of having an idea that turned out to be true was this incredible moment. That set the path for me."

Schneider spent a full year in Anderson's world-class pathology lab following his second year of medical school, and the prestige of placing research papers in important orthopedic journals no doubt helped Schneider land a fellowship with his original inspiration, Frank Jobe, a serendipitous closing of the loop that still delights Schneider. Now established as one of the world's busiest and most respected elbow and shoulder surgeons, Schneider and his book were featured sources in an April 13 *New Yorker* magazine story about the advancements and dangers of modern implant surgery, a professional passion that Schneider explores in detail in the final chapters of *The Invention of Surgery*.

He practices with a large orthopedic surgery group in Denver, and says that rather than constantly grinding to maximize surgical procedures, and revenue, he and his colleagues support one another's outside interests. "We give each other room," he says. "We try and be real." One of the partners owns a distillery with her husband, many coach youth sports, and, five years ago, Schneider began carving out time to pursue his dream of researching and writing a historical narrative about the long arc of modern surgery.

Ever since he was 10, when he pulled down Volume 8—"H"—of his family's dazzling new *World Book Encyclopedia*, and became "arrested with wonder" upon finding clear acetate sheets illustrating progressive layers of the human body,



The Royal Society's first major publication, *Micrographia*, was the world's first scientific best seller. This is the engraving that led to the term "cell," for life's basic functioning organ.

Schneider has devoured any worthwhile book about medicine and its history. It is not a hobby he recommends.

“You can get a huge book about the history of surgery that you could never read,” he says. “You would just never be tempted, nor could you physically pull it off, to read the whole thing.”

He wanted a different fate for his book.

Late one evening, a Scottish man was brought to Schneider’s trauma center with a shattered shoulder. After surgery, Schneider met with the man’s wife, also Scottish, and when he found out she was a professional writer, he told her about his book project, in particular his notion that he might include some personal anecdotes to illustrate the education of a surgeon.

“She said, ‘That would lend immediacy to your entire work. You should consider doing it for every chapter.’” It was 2 a.m., Schneider still fresh from emergency surgery, the woman still processing her husband’s injury, and they ended up chatting about writing for half an hour. “Right then and there, I knew: She’s right.”

It’s a huge gamble, even for an experienced author, but Schneider pulls it off. One such passage describes the exhausted surgical resident being stopped on his way out the door, headed for much needed sleep, by the father of a 24-year-old sawmill worker whose four severed fingers had been too mangled to reattach: “Would it be possible take the fingers from my hand and put them on my boy?”

Another vignette tells of a 16-year-old boy, so badly injured in a car accident that killed three classmates that he’d “started to smell like death,” being brought back to the land of the living by a visit from his dog, Honey, a family request that Schneider had been too exhausted to deny, despite his fears of infection. “I told you,” the father said, “there was something about our son and that dog.”

Six months later, Schneider encountered the boy and his father. “Travis, this is one of the surgeons who saved your life.” Travis looked so healthy that Schneider did not recognize him. The father continued: “Dr. Schneider was also there when Honey brought you back to life.”



Title page from *De humani corporis fabrica* with Andreas Vesalius at the center of the engraving.

“Struggling for words,” Schneider writes, “all I can say is, ‘It’s nice to meet you, Travis.’”

The expanse of Schneider’s curiosity and intellect is evident in the starting point he chose for his history of surgery: 5,000 years ago, when people in South America, Africa and Asia all began spinning and weaving wild cotton into material that could be written upon, as with the Egyptians, who transformed their ubiquitous papyrus reeds into durable sheets.

Ancient libraries. Translation. Mathematics. Parchment codices. The printing press. Woodcut printmaking. Moveable type. The Renaissance. The Age of Discov-

ery. Copernicus. The birth, in Venice, of modern glass. The Scientific Revolution. Halley. Newton.

“The rise of surgery, in retrospect, followed a simple pattern: enhanced connectivity among scientists and physicians fueled discovery and communication, small groups of investigators learned how the human body functions, doctors in the 19th century untangled the cellular basis of disease processes, and 20th century surgeons discovered remedies,” Schneider writes. “Each advancement (with its own sub-advancements) rested upon an earlier breakthrough.”

Within the pages of *The Invention of Surgery*, Schneider describes, in precise

detail, the choreography of a modern operating room and the sensation of wielding a scalpel. (“Cutting skin feels like slicing into a fresh peach.”) How it feels to be seated before a 1543 copy of Andreas Vesalius’ *De humani corporis fabrica*. The “magic in the air” of the University of Padua lecture hall where Galileo once taught, and, next door, the low-ceilinged, heavy-timbered anatomy theatre within which Hieronymus Fabricius passed the baton of the earliest legitimate anatomical study to the Englishman William Harvey.

Physical and metaphorical doors closed to even the most respected academics, Schneider concedes, were opened to him because he is a surgeon, an initiated member of the tribe. He repaid this *entrée* by diligently and respectfully reporting, researching, reading and writing. For two years, one of the world’s busiest orthopedic surgeons carved out 30 hours a week for his book: 10 hours each Saturday and Sunday, with another 10 reclaimed from late nights during the week or taking the occasional Tuesday off from work. On a typical weekend, he’d arrive at a coffee shop near his Boulder home by 7 a.m., order a large latte and breakfast sandwich, lunch on cheese slices and apples, and power through mid-afternoon with more coffee. Grueling sessions earned the rewards of mountain hikes with his wife, Wendy.

The process will soon begin again, as Schneider dives into his next book, about Joseph Lister, the surgeon who “laid the cornerstone for modernity.” Previous Lister biographies pay too little attention to Lister’s wife, Agnes, Schneider argues, and “completely miss the magic of the Lister story. And that magic is their marriage.”

Schneider says he has already visited every archive in the world that holds their materials, including research papers and personal letters written and received. He’s visited every house that Lister ever lived in, except his birth house, and he and Wendy even reproduced the Listers’ Continental vacations, hiking the same Alpine routes. Despite their fitness and athletic clothes, the Schneiders found themselves “huffing and puffing” on routes that the Victorian surgeon and his wife, clad in formal period

clothing, trotted with ease, thanks to their *daily* walks of 10 to 12 miles.

“Every once in a while in life, the best person is the *best* person, and that’s Joseph Lister and his wife,” Schneider says. “They’re the most inspirational, magnificent characters in science I’ve ever encountered. Just truly incredible.”

Schneider happily describes himself as a “storyteller,” and clearly he is, but, as with his book, the stories that spark his imagination and wonder are about far more than monumental people doing momentous things.

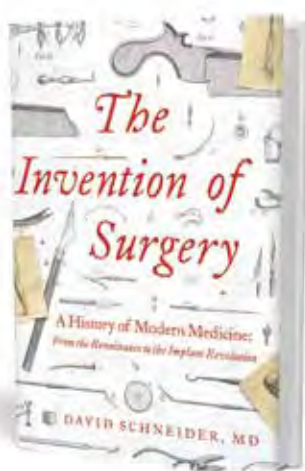
He describes his father as “a legendary, unique guy, a big, huge, powerful man, but also a very kindhearted guy.” Schneider’s reverential memories transport him back to the day when he saw this towering figure hunched over a tomato plant.

“Why do you like gardening so much?”

“He was working on a little tomato plant,” Schneider recalls, “and this great big guy just looked up at me and says, ‘I think it’s like everything in life. I just like to watch things grow.’”

Whether solving anthrax or growing tomatoes, the fundamental formula remains constant: It’s all about the magical moments of inspiration. —

The Invention of Surgery
By David Schneider, MD
Pegasus Books, \$28.95



The Storyteller

For a man of many talents,
one skill stands above:
the art of the tale

By Steven Hill

Devin Scillian anchors the evening newscasts on WDIV, Detroit's top-rated local TV news broadcast for nine years running. He has won the Edward R. Murrow Award, one of broadcast journalism's highest honors, four times; covered eight Olympiads; and broadcast live from Red Square, the Vatican and the Forbidden City, among other iconic international locales. He has interviewed many political figures and celebrities in a career that dates back to the mid 1980s, when he got his first anchor job on a Topeka station while still at KU. He's been around.

But to hear Scillian, j'85, tell it, one of his greatest professional thrills came in a Michigan shopping mall, when a high school kid whose name he didn't know walked up and dropped a rhyme on him that blew his mind.

If there were a checklist of anchorman attributes (and maybe there is, come to think of it—a fuzzy nth-generation photocopy tacked to the bulletin boards of news directors across America) the 57-year-old Scillian would seem to tick every box. Confident smile. Square jaw.

Great hair. Just-right mix of gravitas and avuncular good nature. But he also possesses a disarmingly goofy laugh, the subtext of which seems to be *Can you believe it, man?*, and a reputation for humble genuineness. His news director calls him “a man of many layers, and on all those layers he performs very highly, which is what makes him so special.” His old professor says he was “a big-timer but he never acted big time; he was just a guy and he still is.” The reputation rooted early and blossomed throughout his career; the laugh he dispenses generously—especially when discussing the myriad interests that fill his off-camera hours.

Scillian is an accomplished country music singer and songwriter, appearing frequently at festivals and music venues across Michigan with his band, Arizona Son, until COVID-19 slammed the lid on honky-tonkin'. He has recorded three albums of his own songs, and has mastered an impressive catalog of standards: Last spring, when Michigan became one of the first states to lock down in response to the pandemic, Scillian began posting a new performance every day to Instagram





"That I would be drawn to country music seems very natural to me," says Devin Scillian, who performs with the band Arizona Son. "It's storyteller music."

(where his bio reads "Journalist, author, musician ... It's complicated."), going seven weeks without repeating himself.

A high-school theatre geek who came to KU from Junction City on a theatre scholarship, Scillian has landed cameos in several movies, including Wes Craven's "Scream 4," where his ease at handling a last-second addition to his lines during a 3 a.m. shoot impressed the director so much that the Master of Horror later sent Scillian a bottle of wine in thanks. He also maintains a recurring role anchoring the "Breaking News" skits on "The Ellen Degeneres Show."

After spending years trying to publish a children's book—he wrote his first while a KU student—he broke through in 2000 with his second effort, *Fibblestax*, the charming tale of a mythical boy known as "the one who gives a name to every single thing. If not for him we couldn't talk. Or read, or write or sing..." The book, a feast of rhyme and wordplay, grew out of Scillian's love of language, and it was followed by 19 more books for kids, most recently *Memoirs of a Tortoise*, part of his popular series that started with *Memoirs of a Goldfish*.

Scillian visits schools not only to share his books and stories, but also to inspire kids to think about the written word. He asks students if they are good writers. Most say no. Then he asks if they are good storytellers. More hands this time. "If you're a good storyteller," he tells them, "you're already a good writer."

During one visit he shared with his young audience one of his favorite words: sprocket.

"I said, 'I just love the sound of it,' he recalls. "And one little girl held out her necklace and said, 'I'm wearing a locket.' Another kid pointed out, 'That rhymes with rocket.' In about two minutes, we'd come up with, 'I had a sprocket in my pocket. I locked it in a locket. I tightened it with a socket. I launched it in a rocket. I used a stopwatch to clock it. And boy did that thing go.'"

"We took a word that we liked, and built this whole world around it."

A decade passes and one day Scillian is walking through a shopping mall. A high school kid approaches.

"He repeats that full rhyme to me!" he says, his laugh tinged now with delight. "From that night! I was absolutely blown away."

"Teachers get this experience all the time, but most of us who don't teach don't get to see the lights come on that way. Not every kid is going to turn out a writer; not every kid is going to be all that interested. But the ones that you can spark their imagination, I think that's really worthwhile."

People see the Hollywood cameos, the kids' books and country tunes, "and they think I'm all over the place," Scillian says. But the thread connecting these disparate interests is apparent to him.

"They're all sort of wrapped up in storytelling," he says. "I really like a good story. The ones that I tell when I'm doing a documentary or reporting on the news—obviously I work in nonfiction then—and when I turn to music and storybooks it's a little more free-flowing, wherever I want it to go. But it all boils down to trying to tell a good story."

As soon as he arrived on Mount Oread, Scillian jumped straight into acting.

"One of the things I really loved about the theatre was the pressure of performance," he says. "I really enjoyed that part."

On top of acting in University Theatre productions, he took a few broadcast journalism classes and got a DJ gig at KJHK, an early Sunday morning shift. The studio had a small TV that students were supposed to use to check time and temperature.

"One morning I'm looking around while the music is playing, and I realize there's been an attack on the American

“IT ALL BOILS DOWN TO TELLING A GOOD STORY”

Marine base in Beirut,” Scillian recalls. On Oct. 23, 1983, 220 U.S. Marines and 21 other military service members died in a truck-bombing that was later traced to Hezbollah. It was the deadliest attack on U.S. Marines since Iwo Jima.

“I have no idea why I thought my audience, listening to Dead Kennedys or whatever I was playing, needed to know what was going on in Beirut,” Scillian says, “but I absolutely felt this responsibility to share what was happening.” His first break-in was breathless and panicked. “It was amateur hour,” he recalls. “But by the end of the morning I was waxing on about Mideast history and political science. I think it really whetted my appetite for the fact that in television news the script changes every day.”

He came to realize that a reporter was really a writer, “and that was what I loved to do, too,” he says. He had taken a couple of English classes with professor Alan Lichter: children’s lit and creative writing. Assigned to write a children’s story, Scillian reworked one he’d written in high school. Lichter photocopied the story for the entire class to read.

“He looked at me and said, ‘You could get this published tomorrow.’ Now, he was wrong,” Scillian says. “I wasn’t able to get it published tomorrow. But what he did is he instilled in me this idea that maybe I had a talent for writing.”

His first encounter with the high-wire act of breaking a developing story that morning at KJHK brought “a number of my passions together,” Scillian says: The performance pressure he relished, the need for precision and clarity in language, the thrill of telling a story that needed to be told.

He switched his major to journalism but stayed active in theatre, appearing in a dozen productions before graduating. The summer of his junior year he landed an internship at WIBW in Topeka, and parlayed that into a job as the anchor of the Saturday noon newscast. From that moment on, as he moved into full-time broadcasting in larger and larger markets—Decatur, Illinois; Tyler, Texas; Oklahoma City—he sought jobs that guaranteed



time at the anchor desk and time to report stories in the field. Gradually, Scillian says, “I became very intoxicated with writing the first draft of history every day.”

By 1995, Scillian was ready to step up to a top-15 market; that spring he signed a contract with WDIV to join the Detroit station as a reporter for a year before moving into the slot held by Mort Crim, the legendary news anchor (and the inspiration for Will Ferrell’s character Ron Burgundy in “Anchor Man”), who was planning to retire.

On April 19, Scillian was in bed at 9:02 a.m. when a massive boom rocked his neighborhood, more than 10 miles from downtown Oklahoma City.

His wife, Corey, ran outside, as did most of the neighbors. “We were sure it was right in our neighborhood, because it was so loud and so concussive,” Scillian says. “And of course it turned out it was all the way downtown.”

A truck bomb rigged with 7,000 pounds of ammonium nitrate fertilizer and diesel fuel had been detonated, destroying the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building and killing 168 people, including 19 children in a day care inside the complex.

Scillian spent 14 hours on air that day,

Scillian’s reporting has taken him to Olympiads (2016 in Rio, bottom), Capitol Hill (with U.S. Rep. John Lewis, center) and world capitals (Moscow, above). “I’ve been extremely fortunate to interview presidents at the White House and more than a few celebrities over the years, but the interviews that have really stayed with me are much lower in profile.” Among them: “A lovely and genteel old fellow whose name I have forgotten on the streets of Cambridge, England. After talking about the excitement of the Olympics coming to England, he told me, ‘Well, it’s been lovely chatting with you but I’m afraid it’s beginning to impinge on the cocktail hour.’ It was 11 in the morning.”

COURTESY DEVIN SCILLIAN (3)

breaking the shocking news of what is still the deadliest incident of domestic terrorism on American soil. NBC piped the KFOR feed to a disbelieving nation, and CNN spread it around the world. The news director at WDIV left Scillian a voice message: You're already making your debut in Detroit; we just didn't know it was coming so soon.

Max Utsler, then on leave from KU's William Allen White School of Journalism, where he was an associate professor in the broadcasting track, was working at KPNX-TV in Phoenix.

"The way that coverage unfolded that day, he had to be a reporter, he had to know what questions to ask to advance the story, and he did that flawlessly," recalls Utsler, now retired. "To me, that's one of the real positive things about him. Some folks get

City is, for every one or two truly evil people there's a million more ready to drop everything and run to help people they don't even know. And that's a world I can live in."

It's a lesson he draws on a lot these days, when deep polarization has poisoned the public sphere and his chosen profession is under attack from the highest levels of government. Practicing journalism now, Scillian says, using a memorable phrase coined by a friend, "is like being stuck in the dunk tank on a psychotic midway."

In late March, as WDIV cut away from live coverage of a White House coronavirus briefing in which President Trump accused the media of writing "fake news" about the pandemic in hopes of damaging his reelection bid, Scillian felt moved to offer a defense of his fellow journalists.

up for journalists that day."

Scillian's hard-earned credibility gave his words more punch, Voet believes.

"He's always been somebody that never lets his opinion get out there in the way of a story, and I applaud him for that too. What made his comments that day even more poignant and more powerful is that he is not someone who puts his opinion out there. If you listen to the comments that he said and the way he said it, he wasn't yelling from a mountaintop; he wasn't preaching. The message he conveyed is one that is and has been sung by many true journalists for quite some time. People like Devin are the epitome of true journalism."

Scillian followed up with an essay more fully explaining his thinking on the topic, while also confessing his ambivalence at sharing an opinion on the air.

Seven months later, that ambivalence lingered.

"I still believe, just as I was taught at KU, in the idea of a neutral journalist," Scillian says. "I tell people all the time, 'My job is to be an aggressive Switzerland every day.' I work really hard to control my temper and my emotions. But that moment, when I was watching our newsroom and newsrooms all over the country working in such extreme circumstances, to hear reporters being disparaged when the flow of reliable information to me seemed so critical as the pandemic was breaking out and people had to be able to trust what they were being told on television, on radio, in the papers—I thought that was a poorly chosen moment to go after reporters."

The response from readers was better than expected, he says, with even some supporters of the president agreeing that this was not the time to wage war on the press. Similarly, the response to the Sunday morning public affairs program he started, "Flashpoint," typically runs about 50-50.

"Half the people write to complain they can't understand why channel 4 puts a liberal like me on the air every week, and the other half can't understand how an unabashed conservative like myself can look in the mirror every day," Scillian says.

"I've always thought that's a fairly good

"I STILL BELIEVE, JUST AS I WAS TAUGHT AT KU, IN THE IDEA OF A NEUTRAL JOURNALIST"

a case of what we call 'anchortitis,' and they start thinking they're TV stars instead of journalists. He never went that route at all, and it really showed in Oklahoma City."

The traumatic, deeply emotional experience, Scillian says, "was the worst day of my life, and yet it also turned out to be a very powerful sermon for me on the potency of not only journalism, but love."

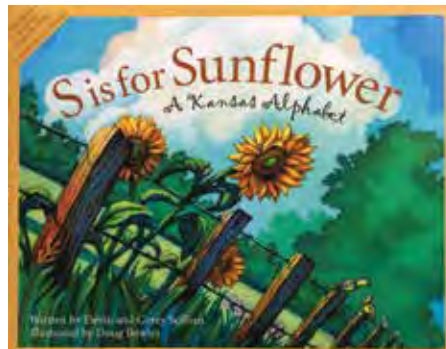
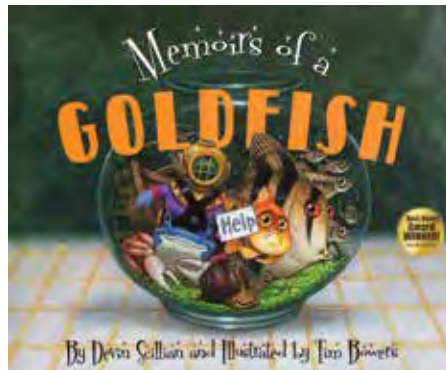
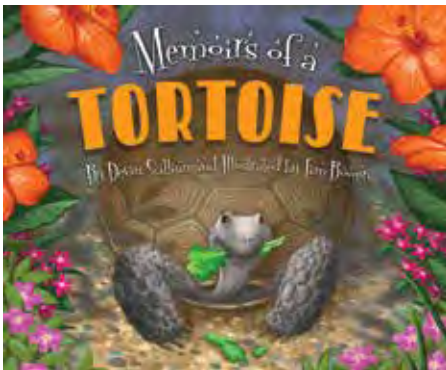
After 10 years in the news business, Scillian admits he'd "gotten a little cynical" about the world.

"I'd been to some awful places. I'd been to L.A. to cover the gang problem. I'd been to Haiti, the poorest country in the Western hemisphere, where little kids the ages of my kids were playing in sewage in the streets. I'd been to the Mideast, where hatred seemed to be baked into the stones. And it's still crazy to me that the worst day of life turned me back into an optimist. Because the lesson for me of Oklahoma

The Detroit Free Press called it "a rare step" by an anchor with "a solid reputation for delivering the news with fairness and impartiality."

"It's dispiriting, because I'm telling you right now American journalists are working in insane conditions to try to bring you the latest in a situation that is unprecedented for all of us, and I've never been prouder of the people in this building, of my colleagues at papers and television stations and radio stations all over the country," he told viewers. "So regardless of your support or nonsupport for the president, I'm begging you not to tolerate attacks on a lot of journalists right now who are working their tails off."

"Fabulous," says Kim Voet, WDIV news director. "Absolutely fabulous. I stood up and clapped in the newsroom. I really did. I think that journalism has been under fire, and I applaud him immensely for standing



COURTESY DEVIN SCILLIAN

“I just wanted to get one book published,” says Scillian, whose early efforts were met with a flood of rejection letters. “When that happened, it opened a whole new door. That was 20 books ago.”

sign; if I’m an equal opportunity offender, maybe I’m doing something right.”

Scillian remembers graduating from KU and thinking, Now I have to pick one thing to do for the rest of my life?

“I was a little despondent because there were so many creative things I like to do and explore,” he says, laughing this time at his younger self.

“I don’t know why I thought that. It’s been really gratifying to realize that of course you don’t just do one thing with your life, and I could continue to explore all these other passions of mine.”

Among his 20 children’s books, *One Kansas Farmer* and *S is for Sunflower*, both written with Corey, d’85, g’86, a ceramic artist, are particularly meaningful. “That was really, really fun to work on those together,” Scillian says. Special too is *Memoirs of a Goldfish*, which won several kids’ choice awards and, as a Michigan Reads selection, was read by every fourth-grader in the state. While *Memoirs of a Tortoise*, published in May, tackles a serious topic—the death of a long-lived pet’s owner—for the most part the books offer a break from worldly cares, Scillian allows.

As the run-up to the November election raised the stakes (and the temperature) on our political differences, an urge to step away from the carnival, if only for a little while, was understandable. Many must have it. But when the midway is your beat, taking that break is harder—and perhaps doubly important.

In that spirit Scillian started posting songs to Instagram during lockdown from his Grosse Pointe Park home, singing and accompanying himself on guitar, piano, mandolin, ukulele. Urged on by his 5,600 followers and fans who sent requests, he continued the Quarantine Interludes, as he calls them, daily for two months and intermittently after that.

“What it did for me every day to think about something else and pour some thought into a guitar or piano was such a great refuge,” Scillian says. “It really turned out to be an oasis. And books are the same: Anytime that I can kind of run to my creative space it usually feels like a bit of a vacation.”

On nearly every school visit, Scillian finds himself in the library, where he seeks out his favorite childhood book, *My Side of the Mountain*, the classic adventure tale

by Jean Craighead George.

“I always go look for *My Side of the Mountain*, just because I want to make sure it’s still there,” he says. “I don’t need to read it. I have it at home. I’ve practically got a lot of it memorized. I just want to touch it. I think that’s one of the things I’ve always appreciated and come to love about books is their permanence. I’ve always stayed very, very attached to the books that meant so much to me when I was a kid.”

After Scillian started writing his own books, he received a letter from a father. His son’s favorite book was *Cosmo’s Moon*, which Scillian published in 2003.

“He wrote to tell me that they had read it every night before bed for six months. I wrote it and I don’t think I could read it every night for six months,” Scillian says, again with the laugh. “I just stopped to think, ‘Is that little boy one day going to go into a library when he’s older and look for *Cosmo’s Moon* just because he wants to make sure it’s still there?’ That’s a feeling that kind of overwhelms me.”

Not the cranked-up-crazy-carnival brand of overwhelm, you understand. More like, *Man, can you believe it?*

“This year’s Homecoming didn’t quite look like what we are used to, but that didn’t stop students and alumni from joining in the week’s activities.”

–Megan McGinnis



HOME COMING

Rock Chalk Around the World

Jayhawks celebrate Homecoming virtually amid COVID-19

THE UNIVERSITY CELEBRATED its 108th Homecoming Sept. 28-Oct. 3 with the theme “Rock Chalk Around the World,” a fitting nod to the importance of strengthening connections with Jayhawks near and far in 2020. The week culminated in the KU football game against Oklahoma State Oct. 3 in David Booth Kansas Memorial Stadium.

Because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, several traditional Homecoming activities were replaced this year with digital events, including a weeklong game of bingo, which drew nearly 400 Jayhawk participants, and a virtual scavenger hunt, both of which were played via the KU Alumni app. More than 200 students and alumni also participated in Kyou Networking Week, a series of 11 online events in a variety of professional fields, hosted by the Alumni Association and its Jayhawk Career Network.

A Facebook Live event, featuring a performance by the Marching Jayhawks and a celebratory flyover by Team KC, rounded out the week and took the place of the annual Homecoming parade. In addition, the student-led Homecoming Steering Committee delivered “Homecoming in a Box”

packages, which featured an assortment of T-shirts, cups, stickers and pens, and provided grab-and-go lunches for students on Home Football Friday at the Adams Alumni Center.

During the KU football game, two senior students, Elaine Pope of Overland Park and Adrian Romero of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, were announced winners of the 30th-annual Excellence in Community, Education and Leadership (Ex.C.E.L.) Award, which provides an annual \$250 scholarship to students. Nominees were selected on the basis of leadership, effective communication skills, involvement at KU and in the Lawrence community, academic scholarship and ability to work with a variety of students and organizations.

The Association also honored Katy Wagner, a pre-medicine senior from Topeka, with the Jennifer Alderdice Homecoming Award, which recognizes students who demonstrate outstanding loyalty and dedication to the University. The award honors Alderdice, g’99, who led student programs for the Alumni Association from 1999 to 2009.

“This year’s Homecoming didn’t quite look like what we are used to, but that didn’t stop students

and alumni from joining in the week's activities no matter where they were," says Megan McGinnis, the Alumni Association's assistant director of student programs. "We had wonderful participation in each event, and we were excited to provide opportunities for both students and alumni to celebrate their KU pride."

This year's celebration was sponsored by the KU Bookstore and Truity Credit Union and supported by Crown Toyota, Volkswagen.

ALUMNI NETWORKS

Career connection

Recent KU graduate lands job thanks to local alumni network

AFTER SPENDING THE SUMMER in Washington, D.C., Jessica Guardiola knew she wanted to make the nation's capital her permanent home. So the recent KU graduate, armed with degrees in political science and history, packed her bags and left the Midwest, determined to find a job when she got there.

"I feel like I kind of did it backwards," says Guardiola, c'20, with a laugh. "I knew this is where I wanted to be after graduation. I just up and moved here without a job. I had been applying to jobs and put some feelers out, but I really hadn't had any luck."

Shortly after arriving in Washington, D.C., Guardiola, who was active in the Student Alumni Network as an undergraduate and served as president of its Student Alumni Leadership Board during her junior and senior years, joined the D.C. Alumni Network Facebook group and posted an introduction about her work background and her interest in finding a job at a law firm or nonprofit organization.

Within minutes, area alumni responded with job hunting tips, links to listings and job boards, and offers to chat. One post, from Deb Roby, b'93, of Alexandria, Virginia, was particularly helpful: Roby suggested Guardiola speak with Beverley Segel, managing director of direct hire legal placements at Palmer Legal Staffing in Washington, D.C. Guardiola found the woman's contact information online and emailed her, which quickly led to a phone call.

"Beverley mentioned they had gotten a position that day to work for this huge law firm doing immigration law," says Guardiola, who had worked for two years as a legal assistant at Treviño Law Office, an immigration law firm in Lawrence. "She checked my references, and I had an interview with Mayer



Guardiola

Brown the following day to be a temporary paralegal. They liked me and gave me a second interview, then hired me."

Though Guardiola had heard about the Jayhawk Career Network and the power of KU connections—especially when searching for internships and jobs—she was genuinely surprised by the response and support she received from her Facebook post. "I wasn't sure what to expect," she says. "But it was a good surprise, like people have my back and they're here to help me. I felt like a lot of people were very understanding, because they had been in my shoes before and also moved to D.C. without a job. They remembered what it was like when they graduated from KU 10, 20 years ago."

Guardiola not only made a valuable career connection through the network's Facebook group, but she also met several Jayhawks during an Alumni Association virtual happy hour and learned about KU and Kansas City Chiefs watch parties organized by Kyle Peterson, '14, the Washington, D.C., network leader. "I just moved to a new city during a pandemic, so it's pretty hard to meet people," she says. "But posting on those network-specific pages is such a good go-to that maybe some people don't think about. That's been a really good way to meet people who went to KU and understand the culture."

Nearly 6,900 Jayhawks are members of the Student Alumni Network, making it the largest student alumni group in the Big 12.



KU MENTORING

Trusted guidance*Journalism student bound for success with help from fellow Jayhawk and mentor*

KU Mentoring now includes nearly 7,000 total users, including 2,300 students.



EMMA GREENWOOD was studying abroad in fall 2019 when she decided to sign up for KU Mentoring, the Jayhawk Career Network's online platform that matches students and alumni in mentorships based on professional and personal interests and geographic locations, among other factors. The senior from Burke, Virginia, who's majoring in strategic communications, had heard about the program in one of her journalism classes and thought that by participating she could better prepare herself to enter the working world. Signing up, she says, was a cinch.

"I went on the platform, filled out my major and some interests, and it popped up with two or three people to connect with," Greenwood says. "It was as easy as that."

Greenwood sent an invitation to Crystal Fong, c'15, j'15, an operations training specialist at YRC Freight in Overland Park, who had often participated in the Alumni Association's online networking events and knew right away that she wanted to be part of KU Mentoring. "I am constantly seeking the right opportunities to grow, to learn and to use my knowledge, skills and abilities for my local community," Fong says. "I have not only designed and implemented mentoring programs for my

employers, but I have also benefited from participating in them. And I love staying involved with my alma mater. KU Mentoring provided the perfect vessel for fulfilling all my motivations."

After briefly discussing what kind of mentoring assistance Greenwood needed, the two agreed to meet at McLain's Market, adjacent to the Lawrence campus.

"At that time, I was having interviews for internships, so she helped me put together good answers and get ready for interviews," says Greenwood. "She also helped me with my résumé. From there she scheduled us to meet monthly and since then we've been working on my portfolio and LinkedIn profile to get ready for the job market."

Though their monthly conversations have transitioned online during the pandemic, the experience continues to be beneficial for Greenwood and Fong, and both Jayhawks anticipate that their mentoring relationship will last long after Greenwood graduates. "Emma and I have no plans to end our mentorship anytime soon, and she is a top priority for me," Fong says. "She is really making the most of our mentorship, and I feel a strong sense of purpose to be there for her and to give her my best."



Greenwood

DAN STOREY

Andrew Wymore

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Jayhawk Profiles



STEVE PUPPE

JASMIN MOORE

Sustainability advocate looks 'upstream' to help Lawrence shape future

by STEVEN HILL

LIKE LOTS OF KIDS, Jasmin Moore was fascinated by animals. Her childhood interest was so enduring that, when she began exploring potential careers in college, she looked for one that would let her interact with animals.

"I didn't think I wanted to be a vet, and I knew that wanting to be outside was a value for me," says Moore, c'05. "I wanted to be connected with nature in some way, and I liked animals."

She decided to become a zookeeper, a field that led—paradoxically, it might seem at first glance—to KU's department of human development and family life. The idea, an adviser told her, is that classes devoted to the study of human behavior (the unit changed its name to the department of applied behavioral science in 2004) are

good preparation for studying animal behavior.

"Along the way I realized that animal behavior was really interesting, but I found that human behavior is even more interesting," Moore says, "especially when we got beyond individual choices and looked at wide-scale behavior change and how you can really make a large impact on a community if you look upstream and look at the systems in play as opposed to doing one-on-one interactions with people."

Moore's realization led to a focus on community development, specifically behavior change in communities; a master's degree in community and regional planning from the University of Texas; planning jobs with the cities of San Antonio and Little Rock, Arkansas; and,

eventually, a job as Douglas County and City of Lawrence sustainability director.

In that role she consults with county and city governments and the public to develop policies and projects that keep sustainability front and center in planning efforts.

The term, Moore knows, can mean different things to different people.

"For this work, we like to talk about sustainability as living today like you really think there's going to be tomorrow," she says. "How we make decisions today related to our finances, related to the environment and our natural resources, related to how we treat people" all fall under the sustainability umbrella.

"That's a large scope, but it gives a sense that sustainability is less about solving technical problems and more about developing a culture where we consider those three elements—the economics, the environment and the human consequences of every decision—and that our actions today have consequences and impacts beyond our boundaries and far into the future."

Career enlightenment dawned when a Centers for Disease Control scientist visited her KU class. He shared data that

showed a 25% decrease in traffic during the 1996 Olympic games in Atlanta correlated with a 40% drop in asthma hospitalizations, suggesting how dramatically air quality improvements can affect community health. "I said, 'What is that job?' Because that has the ability to be so powerful in terms of making positive change. That's where I started to explore the field of public health, specifically urban planning and community planning, as a way to look at how you can make changes to make the healthier choices the easier choices."

Moore has developed partnerships with more than a dozen KU programs, including the KU Biodiesel Initiative, a student-run School of Engineering project that converts used cooking oil from campus kitchens to biodiesel fuel. Talks are underway to use that fuel in City of Lawrence vehicles.

Her office also supports Lawrence's Sustainability Advisory Board, which conceived the city's new policy to strive for 100% clean, renewable energy use city-wide by 2035. Moore helped broker a deal with electric utility Evergy to power all city facilities with clean energy starting in 2021, four years ahead of the 2025 goal for municipal operations.

Moore's office also guided development of the Douglas County Food System Plan, a strategy for developing a local food system, and is working with a local elementary school on a project that led to a school garden, changes in cafeteria waste handling and a study of energy use at the school. In both cases, her office helped facilitate the process, but community involvement and ownership sustain the efforts. "Community organizations are leading the work in partnership with us, not because of us," Moore says. "That's a huge measure of success, when we

ABOVE Sustainability director Jasmin Moore helps guide a planning process that relies on community involvement. "Community organizations are leading that work in partnership with us, not because of us," Moore says. "That is a huge measure of success for me, when we see the community driving the sustainability progress."

see the community driving the sustainability progress in our community.”

While sustainability can be a complex issue, her reasons for pursuing the work are pretty simple.

“One thing that motivates me is the concept of leaving this place better than I found it,” Moore says. “I have kids, so I’m invested in the future for that reason, but also I want to make sure there are opportunities for people to enjoy, appreciate and connect with nature in ways I did growing up, to make sure our ecosystem is healthy enough for enjoyment and connection in the future.

“That’s my main motivator: How can we improve this place in a way where it’s sustainable and can be sustained for generations beyond mine?”

DIANE YETTER

Guided by instinct, entrepreneur finds success in niche tax market

by HEATHER BIELE

AS ONE OF FIVE CHILDREN, Diane Yetter always knew she would have to pay her way through college. The Chicago-born Jayhawk, whose family landed in the Kansas City area during her sophomore year of high school after moving often—even to Panama—through much of her youth, applied to several universities, including Harvard, at her father’s suggestion. But the idea of paying in-state tuition, and the fact that her older sister went to KU, made attending Kansas’ flagship university an easy choice.

Financial awareness—and the drive to make her own money—came naturally to Yetter. As a young girl, she had a knack for starting small businesses and generated her own income by babysitting, mowing lawns, even ironing her neighbors’ clothing. She savored weekend trips to her father’s accounting office and dreamed of following in his footsteps.

“I knew I wanted to be an accountant from the time I was a little girl,” says Yetter, b’85. “I just always had an inkling for business and accounting.”

While her ultimate goal after graduating was to work for the global accounting firm Arthur Andersen, as her father did, Yetter first racked up experience as a sales and use tax auditor for the Kansas Department of Revenue and later as director of sales and use tax at Quaker Oats, a position that led her back to Chicago in 1988. Within a few years of her return, she finally landed a position at Arthur Andersen’s Chicago office, where she managed the firm’s state and local tax practice and led educational sessions for colleagues on sales tax fundamentals.

By the mid-1990s, as accounting firms were preparing for the uncertainty of Y2K and replacing their in-house sales tax calculation systems with more standardized products, Yetter was asked to help conduct trainings on the new software packages, working closely with the companies that created them.

“I’m learning the software and learning how to teach it in the classroom, realizing that all of these companies need help implementing it,” she recalls. Sensing a demand for this specialty, she pitched the

idea of starting a practice that focused on sales tax implementation. “I went to my partner and said, ‘I think this is the next thing. I think this is where we need to go.’ And they turned me down.”

Not one to dismiss her instincts, Yetter struck out on her own in 1996, founding YETTER Tax, a sales tax consulting and tax technology firm, and the Sales Tax Institute, which offers in-person and online training courses and resources for tax professionals. Over the past 24 years, she has adapted her practice to changing industry needs and has worked with a variety of companies, from Fortune 10 firms to small, family-owned businesses. In July she launched the Sales Tax Nerd Community, an affectionately named online membership platform that encourages networking and education among sales tax professionals.

Yetter has been recognized multiple times by Accounting Today as one of the “Top 100 Most Influential People in Accounting” and in September was named the 2020 Woman Business Owner of the Year by the Chicago area chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners. The award is especially meaningful to Yetter, who built her practice with little guidance at a time when the field was largely dominated by men. “It was challenging,” she says, “but you know, I had a real stick-to-it-ness and I was going to make it happen. I really haven’t looked back.”

Yetter credits much of her success to the education she received at KU, and she has remained active in the School of Business community, serving for the past 16 years on the dean’s advisory board and as an adjunct professor on state and local taxation and entrepreneurship. As a leader in the sales tax industry for more than three decades, she guides and encourages young business professionals to reach their goals.

“What I like to tell [students] is if you want to succeed, you need to have passion and you need to find that thing that excites you,” she says. “I have been lucky that I fell into something that I loved when I was 22 years old. I have no desire to do anything else.”



COURTESY DIANE YETTER

ABOVE “When I started my business, there was only one other firm doing what I was doing,” says Diane Yetter, president and founder of YETTER Tax. “Today all of the big accounting and consulting firms do what I do, and I compete against all of them.”

CLINT ROGERS**Education, outreach drive success for Ellsworth executive**

by CHRIS LAZZARINO

CLINT ROGERS REALIZED his boyhood dream by joining his father's company, Cashco, soon after graduating from the KU School of Business. As a rising sales and management executive, and now in his fifth year as president, he helped solidify and expand the Ellsworth-based company as a worldwide market leader in industrial controls—self-contained regulators and control valves relied upon by industries as diverse as food and beverage, pharmaceuticals, petrochemicals, and semiconductor and electronic component manufacturing.

The company's importance to central Kansas, where it currently employs a workforce of about 140, is so great that, when

its then-parent company in 1984 agreed to an outside sale that would close the Ellsworth plant, Sen. Bob Dole, '45, and other members of the congressional delegation pleaded with ownership to instead sell to a Kansas group led by company president Phillip Rogers, Clint's father.

Cashco is a big deal locally, and an annual highlight for Rogers is hosting plant tours for area second-graders, most of whom are appropriately awestruck by a state-of-the-art design and manufacturing plant that turns out highly engineered, exceedingly precise control devices that help turn the wheels of industry.

Most, but not all: *Hey, where do you make the bowling balls at?*, bellowed one befuddled kid during his class tour.

"And I'm like, 'We don't make bowling balls,'" Rogers, b'98, g'20, recalls with a laugh. "He automatically lost all interest, because for some reason he thought we were making bowling balls here."

Cashco, which in recent years also opened a design branch near Berlin to diversify into a line of flame and detonation arresters, hardly relies on drive-up business, so a certain lack of familiarity with its product line and global reach might not hurt business. But, Rogers points out, the relatively anonymous presence of many Kansas firms can contribute to a statewide workforce exodus; that's why he joined Jayhawks for Higher Education—a group of statewide volunteers, organized by the Alumni Association—to assist the University and Kansas Board of Regents in encouraging legislators to renew the University Engineering Initiative Act.

Originally passed in 2011, the legislation aimed to increase engineering graduates to bolster the state's workforce and spur economic development. The 10-year plan delivered annual appropriations of \$10.5 million, split equally among KU, Kansas State and Wichita State, with the requirement that each school match its \$3.5 million annual funding with non-state revenue sources.

The three engineering schools in 2019 reached their ambitious annual goal of graduating a combined 1,365 new engineers with bachelor's degrees by 2021, but

the act expires next year and much work remains, leading Chancellor Doug Girod and others to call for its renewal during the upcoming legislative session.

"I'm excited about how we may be able to grow this, not only as a state, but also at the university level and an employer level," Rogers says. "Unless you know what Cashco or another manufacturer does, you just drive by it every day and you don't get to see what that opportunity is, on a localized level."

A member of the Association's national Board of Directors since September 2019, Rogers last spring completed his online KU MBA and serves as a business mentor to students and young alumni with the Association's Jayhawk Career Network. After visiting KU engineering's Jayhawk Motorsports Formula SAE team during his first trip back to campus as an Association board member, Rogers offered Cashco's design and manufacturing assistance, a partnership that delivered high-quality racing hubs to the students and renewed energy to the company.

"It got our manufacturing group out of the comfort zone. It pushed our machining capabilities, it pushed our manufacturing capabilities, and improved us as a company, just by helping at JMS."

Asked what about his job allows him to relish a sense of pride as he's grilling steaks when the work day is done, Rogers cited the joy in "putting the puzzle pieces together." Whether an entry-level sales associate or executive-suite supervisor, employees should pull together to make the company "flow and function as clearly as possible" in a "dynamic and ever-evolving workplace and economy."

"The fortunate thing is," Rogers continues, "every day you wake up and that puzzle looks a little bit different. So how are you going to rise to the challenge and adapt to what today is bringing? Looking back and saying we were able to improve our daily operation, improve the community, trying to leave the day better than you found it, I think those are the most fulfilling things."

"Plus, you're going to eat a steak at the end of the day, so it can't be that bad."



COURTESY CLINT ROGERS

ABOVE "The ultimate goal of any Kansas business is to also make other businesses successful," Clint Rogers says. "If we can keep the Kansas economy stable and keep active and skilled individuals within the area, everyone benefits."

GEORGE L. COOPER

Jayhawk tells riveting stories beyond pilot's World War II missions

by CHRIS LAZZARINO

LAWRENCE COOPER, c'1907, spoke seven languages by the time he arrived in the Philippines, shortly after his KU graduation, to help create a U.S.-style education system in the former Spanish colony. As author Jay Stout notes in *Jayhawk: Love, Loss, Liberation, and Terror Over the Pacific*—a biography of Cooper's son George, a World War II B-25 pilot—the elder Cooper “was not a naïve rube on an altruistic lark.”

The son of homesteaders and ranchers in Peabody, on the Flint Hills' western fringe, Cooper had taught in a one-room schoolhouse, worked as a reporter in Mexico's turbulent prerevolutionary days and tramped around the globe aboard a steamship. He met and married a Filipina teacher from a well-to-do family and, after a decade as a teacher and administrator, rooted his family in the Philippines for good as an executive with the Goodyear tire company.

Their second son, George, left Manila in 1940, paying his passage to the United States by working as an apprentice seaman aboard a Danish freighter. As he reached the top of the gangplank and turned to wave goodbye, George saw his father striding toward him; he quickly checked his pockets, wondering what he'd forgotten.

What he'd forgotten, his father whispered in his ear, was to kiss his mother goodbye.

“I really think that taught me something,” Cooper, e'49, a centenarian and one of the few surviving World War II pilots who saw action over the Pacific, says from his longtime Tonganoxie home. “That's my philosophy now, that it's much better to be lovable and caring than anything else.”

Stout, himself a retired Marine Corps fighter pilot and combat veteran, contends—surprisingly, given how much drama he delivers—that Cooper's wartime exploits perhaps don't rate being preserved

in a book. “He'll be first to tell you that his [combat experience] was fairly typical,” Stout, the author of 12 previous books related to air combat, says from his Charlottesville, Virginia, home.

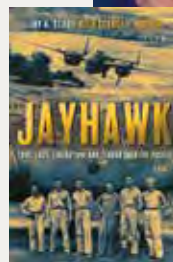
What sets Cooper's story apart, Stout says, was the All-American pilot's idyllic boyhood in prewar Philippines and his family's harrowing years of destruction and imprisonment as Japanese forces laid waste to their beloved homeland. It is a significant chapter of the World War II story that is too often overlooked, an unfortunate trend that Cooper is eager to help correct.

“You won't find anybody who really knows much about the Philippines,” Cooper says, “yet it was an integral part of our fight for freedom.”

Stout and Cooper describe in detail the story of how Cooper chose to name his factory-fresh B-25 the Jayhawk. The bomber turned out to be a bit of a lemon at first, requiring constant repairs and white-knuckle piloting on its long journey from California to its eventual base of combat operations, Port Moresby, New Guinea. Yet Jayhawk proved itself in battle, delivering Cooper and his crew safely through the war, then doing the same for subsequent crews—all of which kept Cooper's original moniker—until finally being retired as “war weary” after more than 120 missions.

Cooper explains that his grandmother spied Old North College while passing through Lawrence on the way to her sister's homestead in what would become Peabody; she vowed in that moment that her children would return to the idyllic spot as college students. Cooper's grandparents in 1902 moved the family from Peabody to Lawrence, where they bought 20 acres near the old Dutch mill on Ninth Street before opening a rooming house close to campus and downtown.

At home in the Philippines, Lawrence Cooper regaled the children with stories of KU and taught them the Rock Chalk Chant; when George boarded the freighter that day in 1940, he intended to find work and save money for his KU education. War intervened, but he made his way to Mount



COURTESY GEORGE L. COOPER

Oread as quickly as he could—by then with his own wife and child along for the adventure—and went on to a distinguished career in business, retiring in 1986 as vice president of medical gases for Puritan Bennett.

“Quite frankly,” Stout says, “I've never encountered someone so attached to a university, to have such a love for an institution, the way George does for KU.”

Cooper, a Life Member of the Alumni Association, also continued his military career with the U.S. Air Force Reserve, commanding the 935th Military Airlift Wing after his promotion to colonel and flying numerous troop and cargo transport missions into South Vietnam. He retired from the military in 1971, and in 2018 was named a distinguished alumnus of the School of Engineering's mechanical engineering department.

“I've had some real experiences through life,” Cooper says. “I think I can say that I never had any adverse feelings about anybody, and certainly not enough to bother me. I think that's the best way to go through life. Love thy neighbor.”

ABOVE Author Jay Stout says of George Cooper, “He's very genuine. A gentleman. He's kind to others and always strives to do the right thing.”

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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 Aug. 1 through Oct. 31.

Ronald L. Andrews
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1949 Elaine Magner Luman, d'49, and her husband, Merrill, celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary in August. She's a retired English teacher and school counselor. They make their home in Columbus, Texas, and have two sons and three grandchildren.

1959 Lynn Miller, c'59, g'62, wrote *Salut! France Meets Philadelphia*, which was published in November by Temple University Press. He lives in Philadelphia, where he's professor emeritus of political science at Temple University.

1962 Jeanne Howell Kennedy, f'62, makes her home in Greenville, North Carolina, with her husband, David. She's an artist.

1963 Robert Robertson, c'63, m'67, is a retired orthopedic surgeon in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he lives with his wife, Linda.

Married

Willard Hiebert, d'63, to Steve Olson, Sept. 26 in Moorhead, Minnesota, where they are retired.

1964 Richard Babcock, c'64, owns Amada Senior Care in Glendale, California.

Henry Brauer, p'64, is president of A&B Prescription

Shop in Mexico, Missouri.

Clyde Harms, b'64, is retired and lives in Aruba, his native home. Last year he published *An Aruban in Libya, Stories of My Years With Esso in Tripoli*, which details his work for the oil company from 1966 to '73. In 2002, Clyde was knighted in the Order of Orange-Nassau for his civic accomplishments, which include leading the Aruba Scholarship Foundation.

Thomas Thompson, c'64, lives in Englewood, Colorado, where he owns Refined Consign & Design.

1965 Gene La Follette, c'65, is an attorney in Alameda, California. He specializes in estate planning and litigation.

Brian Shewmake, c'65, e'70, g'71, and his wife, Cheryl, visited Yosemite and Lassen Volcanic national parks this year. Their travels over the years have included 52 national parks and all 50 states.

1966 Philip Gibbs, e'66, g'67, lives in Leawood, where he owns Continental Consulting Engineers.

Terry Shockley, g'66, owns Armada Media Corporation in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.

1967 Harry Baum, d'67, g'73, EdD'80, owns Sharon Lane Health & Rehabilitation

and Reflection Living Senior Care in Shawnee.

Margaret Wortman McWilliams, c'67, works at Altasciences in Overland Park. She and **J. Stewart**, l'70, live in Leawood and have two sons, **Nolan**, b'03, l'08, and **Nicholas**, h'03, '06.

1968 John Leary, b'68, lives in Olathe, where he owns Leary & Associates, a Medicare plan education and enrollment provider.

William McElfresh, f'68, is founder and managing director of Pacific Aviation Capital in San Francisco.

Richard Shroul, c'68, is founding partner at Potomac Indexing in Lawrence.

1969 Jacquelyn Andrews Ashcraft, d'69, '97, recently was honored for 50 years in public education by Sen. Ed Berger on behalf of the Kansas Senate. The presentation was made during the Board of Education meeting of Nicker-son-South Hutchinson school district, where Jackie taught English and Spanish for 38 years. She and **Stephen**, p'69, who owned Ashcraft Pharmacy for 36 years, are retired and stay active in their community.

Robert Taylor, c'69, of Prairie Village, is chairman emeritus and founder of Airshare (formerly Executive

Airshare), which celebrated its 20th anniversary this fall. He also owns Taylor FinancialKC.

1970 David Gaughan, b'70, is an attorney in Sugar Land, Texas. He specializes in business and family law and commercial litigation.

Bruce Coleman, b'70, owns Coleman Equipment in Shawnee. He lives in Bonner Springs.

Ken Guest, c'70, in September received the Nancy Klostermeyer Volunteer of the Year Award from the Salina Area United Way. He is a retired dentist and has been a volunteer in his community for several years.

1972 Ed Coulter, f'72, is a real estate agent at ReeceNichols in Overland Park.

Theodore Curry, b'72, g'74, g'75, retired in July as associate provost and associate vice president for academic human resources at Michigan State University. He makes his home in East Lansing, Michigan.

Clifford Otto, b'72, lives in Lakeland, Florida, where he's retired CEO at Saddle Creek Logistics Services.

1973 Edwin Liu, '73, is CEO and president of Edwin Liu & Associates, a real estate services firm in Modesto, California.

School Codes

- a** School of Architecture and Design
- b** School of Business
- c** College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- d** School of Education and Human Sciences
- 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

1974 Bruce Frazey, b'74, l'77, g'78, lives in Las Vegas, where he owns The Assurance Team, an accounting services provider.

Dennis Hammond, c'74, is head of institutional investments at Veriti Management. He and **Sheila Caldwell Hammond**, j'74, live in West Palm Beach, Florida.

1975 Judson Maillie, b'75, l'80, lives in Maryville, Tennessee, where he's a real estate agent at eXp Realty.

Charles Wood, c'75, is the Lewis Lehr 3M University Professor and director of the Nebraska Center for Virology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

1976 Martin Blair, g'76, owns Kansas City Barbeque in San Diego.

Kent Cornish, j'76, has been selected to receive the Distinguished Service Award from the Kansas Association of Broadcasters (KAB) and will be inducted into the Kansas Broadcasting Hall of Fame next year. He has been a Kansas broadcaster for more than 40 years, most recently serving as president of the KAB.

Daniel Kelly, b'76, g'78, owns Merle Kelly Ford in Chanute.

Michael Kollhoff, c'76, d'77, is a learning specialist at the KU School of Medicine in Salina, where he lives with **Lucy**, assoc., who directs facilities management and student support services at the school.

1977 David Andreas, b'77, l'80, lives in Winfield, where he's an attorney at

Andreas Law Office.

Sean Birmingham, c'77, owns Hawaiian Tobaccos in Hilo, Hawaii.

Thomas Carr, e'77, director of flight operations and chief test pilot at Garmin, in September received the 2020 Iven C. Kincheloe Award from the Society of Experimental Test Pilots for his professional accomplishments. He lives in Overland Park.

John Livengood, '77, is retired and makes his home in Benton with his wife, **Maralyn**, assoc. They have three sons.

1978 Jim Carter, f'78, lives in Denver, where he's CEO of Carter Design.

Bradley Frigon, c'78, is an attorney in Englewood, Colorado.

The Rev. **Oliver Lee**, c'78,

l'82, is assistant rector at Church of the Incarnation in Dallas, where he lives with **Kelly Learned Lee**, '82, a teacher.

David Weller, c'78, owns Weller Tractor Salvage in Great Bend.

1979 Scott Davies, a'79, of Hot Springs, Arkansas, recently honored his former architecture professor Lou Michel by making a \$1 million gift commitment to KU Endowment to establish the Lou Michel Architecture Professorship in Design Theory.

Steven Ediger, c'79, is an attorney in Westwood.

Melinda Starkey Maturo, d'79, '12, lives in Clearwater, Florida, where she retired after a long career as a special-education teacher.



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Michael Smallwood, b'79, g'81, is president and owner of Smallwood Lock & Supply, a fourth-generation family company in Kansas City.

Nancy Tilson-Mallett, m'79, is an assistant professor in the department of internal medicine at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine.

1980 Michael Bordy, PhD'80, lives in Los Angeles, where he's an attorney who specializes in commercial real estate.

Sheila Kriegshauser, f'80, is a partner at HALO Brand Solutions in St. Louis.

R. Kent Pringle, l'80, is an estate-planning attorney. He and **Cathy Mifsud Pringle**, b'81, make their home in Chanute.

Melanie Anderson Trump, b'80, l'83, is an attorney. She lives in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

1981 C. Gilberto Brito, c'81, m'85, is a urologist at Arizona Urology Specialists in Phoenix.

1982 Mark Fried, b'82, just completed his sixth year serving as university counsel and secretary to the Board of Regents for Washburn University in Topeka.

Steven Koppes, g'82, lives in Beaverton, Oregon, where he is a writer and editor and owns Koppes Communications.

Jen Marie Rau, c'82, is a sales associate at Winhill Advisors-Kirby/J.M. Rau Properties in Houston.

1983 Ross Dalton, j'83, owns Villi USA, a tile manufacturing company in Alpharetta, Georgia.

Bradley Daniels, c'83, is CEO of Windtrax, a car-wash equipment supply company in Mission.

Barry Dull, e'83, lives in Dallas, where he directs sales at Psychemedics.

Brian Francis, c'83, g'89, retired in July after more than 30 years at the National Weather Service. His entire career in meteorology spanned 36 years and included posts at two private firms and as a graduate teaching assistant at KU. He makes his home in Tucson, Arizona.

David Robinett, c'83, and **Ann Pilar Johnson**, '93, celebrated their 30th wedding

anniversary in September. They make their home in Overland Park, where David is founder and chief marketing officer at #250, a marketing and advertising company.

Marcella McMillan Sim, e'83, is a senior manager of systems engineering at Raytheon Technologies. She lives in Redondo Beach, California, with her husband, **Michael**, assoc.

1984 Ken Audus, PhD'84, professor of pharmaceutical chemistry and former School of Pharmacy dean, was recently named editor-in-chief of the Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Elizabeth Fast, l'84, lives in Kansas City, where she's a partner at Spencer Fane Britt & Browne.



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Ross Myers, g'84, is a naval vice admiral and commander of the U.S. Fleet Cyber Command/10th Fleet. He lives in Fort Meade, Maryland.

Susan Oswald-Gibbons, j'84, g'86, owns Infiniti Logistics in Overland Park.

1985 Laurie Hermance-Moore, c'85, lives in Columbus, Ohio, where she's CEO at Heritage Bridge, a genealogy firm.

Charlotte Ross Herring, c'85, is founder of MNB Meridian Law in Philadelphia.

Diane Yetter, b'85, in August was named 2020 Woman Business Owner of the Year by the Chicago chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners. She is president and founder of YETTER, a sales tax consult-

ing and tax technology firm.

1986 Greg Beilman, m'86, is a trauma surgeon at M Health Fairview in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He also leads the health care system's COVID-19 incident command center.

Christy Cleaver Christoffersen, c'86, owns c3design, a website design and development firm in Danville, California.

Sharon Bodin Flood, j'86, c'87, g'87, supervises payroll at Hallmark Cards. She makes her home in Overland Park.

Alison Lang, j'86, is senior director of marketing at Home Helpers, an in-home care company in Cincinnati.

William Purinton, c'86, is pastor at Salem in Ballwin United Methodist Church in

Ballwin, Missouri. He makes his home in St. Louis.

1987 Stephen Johnson, f'87, f'87, a Lawrence artist, designed "Interconnections," a triptych of mosaic murals for the Lenexa City Center Library, which was selected as a Top 100 public artwork for 2020 by CODAworx.

Mike McBride, c'87, is a field manager at General Electric. He lives in San Diego.

Susan Carley Wagner, c'87, is vice president of global real estate and facilities at KLA Corporation in Ann Arbor, Michigan, where she makes her home with her spouse, Lorie Piper.

Suzanne Willey, j'87, lives in Prairie Village, where she's a sales associate at Reece-Nichols.

1988 Susan Dewell Cras-saerts, b'88, is chief financial officer at B Medical Systems in Luxembourg.

James Lowe, b'88, owns Prairie Land Insurance in Lawrence.

Philip Percich, a'88, g'93, g'94, is a registered architect at CODA Consulting Group. He lives in Lawrence.

1989 Annie Gowen, c'89, j'89, a national correspondent for the Washington Post, covered the Midwest through the 2020 presidential election. She recently wrote an article about the owner of Ladybird Diner in downtown Lawrence, which appeared on the front page of the paper.

Lois Kotkoskie, PhD'89, owns LAK3 Consulting, a cosmetic regulatory consulting firm in Hopewell, New Jersey.

1990 Karen Gipson Gartner, c'90, is the assistant vice president of the system leadership initiative at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. She and **Daniel**, assoc., president and CEO of Garnter Investment Group, live in Glen Rock, Pennsylvania.

Dawn Page Monroe, j'90, owns Dawn Monroe Training and specializes in computer skills education in Wichita, where she lives with **Gregory**, c'91.

1991 John Koprowski, PhD'91, is dean of the Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources at the University of Wyoming in Laramie.

1992 Phil Boatman, c'92, lives in Lexington, Kentucky, where he's vice president of dealer sales in the south at Konica Minolta Business Solutions.

Jim Brown, j'92, is CEO of MBB, a marketing and advertising agency in Overland Park.

Darren James, a'92, in August was appointed by Texas Gov. Greg Abbott to the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners. He's president of KAI Enterprises in Dallas.

Andrew Scheffter, c'92, owns Impossible Gardens, a film production service company in Miami, where he lives with **Erika Ostertag Scheffter**, b'93.

Kristopher Weidling, c'92, makes his home in Frederick, Maryland, where he's vice president of Civica Rx, a nonprofit pharmaceutical company.

1993 Jason Jundt, e'93, g'96, is president and general



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manager at 3rd Coast Insights, a firm that provides support for U.S. military and law enforcement. He lives in Ada, Michigan.

Bill Peterson, g'93, is director of the State Historical Society of North Dakota. He and his wife, Susan, make their home in Bismark.

Ellen White, '93, owns DEW Ad Specialities in Olathe.

1994 Bradley Harvey, l'94, is president and CEO of Harvey Investment Management in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Kandi Longenecker, c'94, lives in Wichita, where she's a community investment manager at United Way of the Plains.

Troy Moody, c'94, is vice president and chief operating officer at Moody Insurance Agency in Denver.

Cindy Yelkin Samuelson,

j'94, was promoted to senior vice president of member and public relations at the Kansas Hospital Association. She lives in Topeka with her husband, Chris, and their daughter.

1995 Libbie Peterson Bodde, b'95, g'05, owns KC DigiCAL, a printing company in Lenexa.

Andrew Marshall, c'95, g'98, is a financial planner and owns Andrew Marshall Financial in Carlsbad, California.

Amy Garrelts Young, c'95, lives in Overland Park, where she's an enterprise information security analyst at T-Mobile.

1996 Lowrey Burnett, c'96, owns Fountainhead Commercial, a real estate firm in Wheat Ridge, Colorado.

Gregory Bush, g'96, is

president of GSB Search Associates, an executive recruiting firm in Olathe.

Michael Collins, c'96, is vice president of strategic sales at v Armour, a software company. He and **Betty Douglas Collins**, c'97, live in Overland Park.

Jenipher Scott, e'96, is an aviation system engineer at MITRE. She lives in Denver.

1997 Leonika Charging-Davison, c'97, is partner at Big Fire Law & Policy Group in Bellevue, Nebraska.

Sheri Williams Heath, l'97, is state tax counsel at T-Mobile in Overland Park.

Brandon Myers, j'97, owns Lundmark Advertising in Kansas City. He and **Amanda Cox Myers**, c'98, make their home in Leawood.

1998 Cheryl Anderson Barker, g'98, is a physical therapist at Nevada Regional Medical Center in Nevada, Missouri. She and her husband, Mitch, live in Fort Scott and have three children.

1999 John Owens, b'99, of Leawood, is president and CEO of Airshare, which celebrated its 20th anniversary this fall.

2000 Thomas Atteberry, m'00, is an orthopedic surgeon at Manning Regional Healthcare Center in Manning, Iowa.

Jacob Dale, c'00, is vice president of Landmark National Bank in Topeka.

Isreal Jirak, c'00, is a science and operations officer at the National Weather Service and Storm Prediction Center



The KU Black Alumni Network

Mike and Joyce Shinn

Leaders and Innovators Award

The KU Black Alumni Network is proud to honor African-American alumni who have distinguished themselves and made a difference through demonstrated leadership and/or innovation to the University, their profession or society at large. The project acknowledges the contributions of individuals who have made their mark in varied ways and highlights in photographs and text the accomplishments of our honorees.

Recipients are selected from nominations submitted to the KU Black Alumni Network Mike and Joyce Shinn Leaders and Innovators Award Committee.

The committee will accept nominations for the 2021 awards through January 31, 2021.

To nominate an individual, complete the nomination form online at kualumni.org/kublackalumni.

in Norman, Oklahoma. He and **Hannah Wood Jirak**, n'00, live in Blanchard and have three children, Landon, Layton and Loxton.

Aaron Swarts, b'00, c'00, g'01, directs career services at Houston Baptist University in Houston.

2001 Prentiss Earl III, c'01, directs entrepreneurship at Notre Dame de Sion Schools in Kansas City.

Erin Lesh Flett, f'01, is a graphic designer and owns Erin Flett Textiles & Home in Gorham, Maine.

Ryan Gerstner, b'01, lives in Kansas City, where he owns Prime Insurance Agency.

Paul Gottesburen, c'01, g'09, owns Jayhawk Chemical Compliance in Lawrence,

where he and his wife, **Morgan**, assoc., live.

Christopher Stoppel, b'01, g'02, '20, directs budget and financial planning at the Colorado School of Mines in Golden.

2002 Sarah Hoskinson, c'02, is deputy special counsel to the chief justice of the Kansas Supreme Court in Topeka.

Beau Hudson, j'02, is founder and CEO of C. Lynn Companies, a commercial real estate firm. He makes his home in Andover with his wife, Diana, and their daughter, Crosby Lynn, who's 1.

Joshua Tate, f'02, is CEO of ForumPay, a point-of-sale solutions provider. He lives in St. Croix, Virgin Islands.

Married

Anne Marie Kauffman, c'02, '13, and **Peter Adany**, e'05, g'08, PhD'13, June 14 in Overland Park. They make their home in Mission.

2003 Brandon Graham, j'03, owns Jefferson's and Basil Leaf Café in Lawrence.

Nathan Gronberg, b'03, is vice president, controller and chief accounting officer at Vail Resorts Management Company in Broomfield, Colorado.

Sarah Warren Henning, c'03, j'03, wrote *The Princess Will Save You*, which was published in July by Tor Teen. It's her fourth young adult novel.

Adam Murray, c'03, is vice president at WeldFit. He makes his home in Melissa, Texas.

Jennifer Snell Owens,

b'03, g'18, is an associate staff accountant at Kindred CPA. She lives in Lawrence.

Kara Walters, c'03, lives in Overland Park, where she manages client services at Prudential Retirement.

2004 Patrick Allen, d'04, is president of KAPA Company in Overland Park.

Gina Lopez-Ferguson, g'04, in August received the 2020 Southwest Region Alpha Delta Kappa Excellence in Education Award. She is executive director of TRIO programs at Colorado State University at Pueblo. Gina and her husband, Andrew, have two sons, AJ, 14, and Gabriel, 9.

Joel Worthington, j'04, g'07, lives in Pittsburgh, where he owns JW Collective, a strategic design firm.

Andrew Wymore, '04, is a real estate agent at ReeceNichols in Leawood. He makes his home in Prairie Village.

2005 Jennifer Goetz, '05, is a crisis case manager at Valeo Behavioral Health in Topeka, where she lives with her partner, **Mark Aaron**, assoc., who also works at Valeo.

Elizabeth Kinney Johnson, f'05, is an interior designer at Seville Home in Leawood. She and **Patrick**, c'12, g'18, live in Overland Park with their daughter, Caroline, and son, Franklin.

Melissa Moffitt-Craft, n'05, is a registered nurse anesthetist at Lotus Anesthesia Services. She and her wife, Jessica Moffitt, live in Pratt.

2006 Matt Beverlin, g'06, PhD'11, is a visiting assistant professor in the pre-law program at Loyola University Maryland. He makes his home in Towson, Maryland.

Dominic Gutierrez, j'06, is vice president of development at Calance, an information technology services firm. He and his wife, Erin, live in Frisco, Texas, with their three children, Roman, Lydia and Ariana.

2007 Mayra Aguirre, f'07, was promoted to president of the Hall Family Foundation in Kansas City. She previously served as the foundation's vice president and secretary.

Kyle Babson, c'07, lives in Lawrence, where he's a content

strategist at Callahan.

Mary Bandu, PhD'07, is director of microbiology at Great Plains Analytical Lab in Kansas City.

Travis Riedel, c'07, is managing director at Kerafast in Boston.

Jaime Zazove, c'07, directs account services at Fixed Ops Digital. She lives in Northbrook, Illinois.

2008 Veronica Cooper, n'08, is CEO and co-founder of StellarNurse, a job data company for traveling nurses. She lives in Lawrence.

David Curry, c'08, is a senior customer success manager at VMware Carbon Black. He and his wife, Sarrisa, live in Overland Park.

James Gallivan, c'08, lives in Dallas, where he's a partner at Crazy Beautiful Wines.

Randy Oliver, EdD'08, owns eXp Realty in Sugar Creek, Missouri.

Jenny Wilson Unger, h'08, g'10, is a health coach and owns Unger for Success in Overland Park.

2009 Allyn Denning, c'09, is a public information officer at the Kansas Department of Administration in Topeka. She commutes from Lawrence.

David Hawley, f'09, owns Papa Keno's in downtown Lawrence.

Lynda McGinnis, PhD'09, is an assistant professor of research obstetrics and gynecology at the University

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- **Spain-Andalucia | In a Parador**
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- **Scottish Isles and Norwegian Fjords**
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June 4-7
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June 7-14
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June 19-27
- **Great Journey through Europe**
June 21-July 1
- **Kenya Safari: the Big 5**
June 21-July 1
- **National Parks and Lodges of the Old West**
July 8-16
- **Cruise the Rhine and Mosel Rivers**
July 11-19
- **Cruising the Baltic**
July 24-August 8
- **Imperial Splendors of Russia**
August 3-12
- **Alpine Splendor: Switzerland and Austria**
August 5-18
- **Toronto to Vancouver by Rail**
September 7-13
- **Wonders of Peru**
September 16-27
- **Enchanting Ireland: A Tour of the Emerald Isle**
September 16-28
- **Singapore, Bali and Indonesian Islands**
September 23-August 8
- **Romance of the Douro River**
September 29-October 10
- **Prismatic Fall Colors of Canada and New England**
October 1-11
- **Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta**
October 1-4
- **Greece-Athens and the Island of Poros**
October 8-17
- **Danube to the Black Sea**
October 11-23
- **Patagonia Explorer**
October 16-29
- **Rambles and The Rivas**
October 25-November 2
- **Enigmatic India**
October 29-November 12
- **Artifacts and Antiquities**
November 1-12
- **Journey to South Africa**
November 2-17
- **Egypt and the Ancient Nile**
November 7-17
- **Cuba and its People**
November 17-24
- **Morocco-Land of Enchantment**
December 3-21
- **Holiday Markets Cruise-The Festive Rhine River**
December 12-20

For the latest dates and detailed trip descriptions, visit kualumni.org/travel or call **800-584-2957**.



of Southern California Keck School of Medicine. She lives in Santa Clarita, California.

Luke Morris, j'09, is a business data analyst at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, where he makes his home.

Andrew Wooten, e'09, is a radiochemist at SpectronRx in Indianapolis.

Born to:

Jade Martin Palisi, c'09, f'13, and her husband, Frank, son, Francis Xavier IV, July 20 in Wichita. Jade is associate general counsel at Joby Aviation in Santa Cruz, California.

2010 John Chalfant, b'10, g'11, lives in San Francisco, where he's corporate controller at Jyve Corporation.

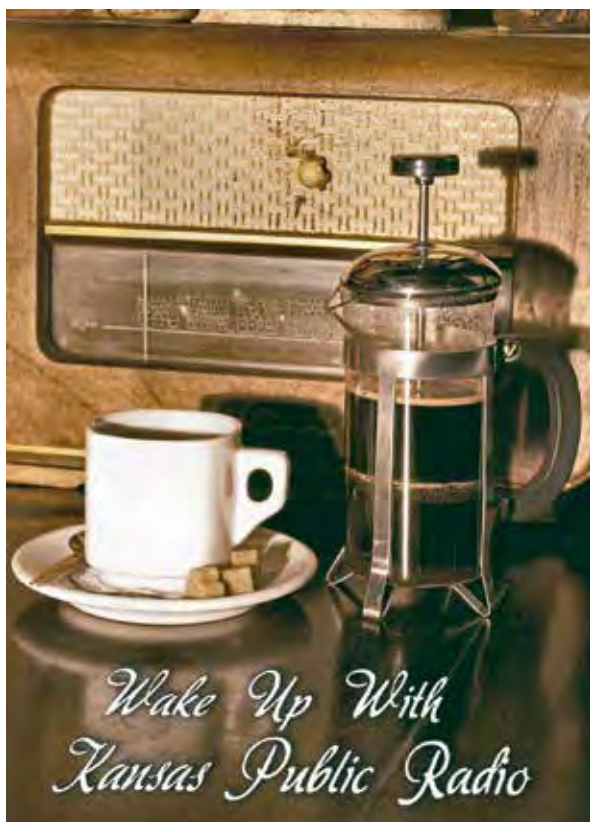
Christine Sandburg Hammen, c'10, is a teacher at Century School in Lawrence, where she lives with her husband, Jim, and their daughter, Maisie.

Joan Ast Lowdon, f'10, in September was appointed by Gov. Laura Kelly to serve as a judge in the 1st Judicial District, which comprises Leavenworth and Atchison counties. She's the former deputy county attorney for Leavenworth County.

Michael Rivera, g'10, is a U.S. Army colonel and commands the 404th Army Support Brigade at the Regional Logistics Readiness Center near Tacoma, Washington.

Michelle Stevens Smolen, c'10, g'12, in July received the Assistant Excellence in Leadership Award from the International City/County Management Association. She's assistant city manager of Paducah, Kentucky.

Andrew Stein, c'10, f'13, is a judge in the 16th Judicial District in Dodge City.



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Nickolas Templin, c'10, is an attorney at Schmitt Law Firm in Kansas City.

Brooke Vincent, c'10, lives in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where she's a partner at Setter Electric Company.

Married

Jason O'Bryon, b'10, to Clarissa Huffman, Aug. 29 in Kansas City. Jason is an associate at Mariner Capital Advisors in Overland Park.

Born to:

Jamie, c'10, and **Alyssa Aude Bernard**, c'10, g'17, son, Henry Christopher, June 30 in Franksville, Wisconsin, where he joins a brother, James, 4.

Chad Gerber, d'10, and his wife, Jessica, daughter, Claire Anne, May 12 in Baldwin City, where she joins a sister,

Grace, who just turned 2. Chad is assistant professor of sports administration at Baker University.

2011 Lauren Fournier Bogner, j'11, directs operations, marketing and recruiting at Keyhole Software in Overland Park.

William Doran, g'11, is a project architect and community planner at Duvall Decker Architects in Jackson, Mississippi. He recently won a travel grant through the Architectural League of New York to study spaces for adults with disabilities throughout the United States.

Sarah Kelly, j'11, lives in Washington, D.C., where she's a copy editor at Sports Illustrated.

Jason Renfrow, c'11, is senior manager at Broadridge

Financial Solutions. He makes his home in Lee's Summit, Missouri.

Jeremy Roehr, g'11, is studio director at GFF Architects in Dallas.

Bret Williamson, c'11, a dentist at Farmer and Williamson Dentistry, lives in Wichita with his wife, Michelle. They celebrated their one-year wedding anniversary in September.

Lauren Winchester, j'11, directs projects at PKD Foundation in Kansas City.

2012 Ranya Ahmed, g'12, PhD'17, wrote *How Ideology Influences Terror*, which was published this fall by Cambridge Scholars Publishing. She's a senior researcher at Legal Services Corporation in Washington, D.C.

Kaylin Carter Dillon, c'12, c'13, g'15, is a partner at

Bowersock Capital Planners in Lawrence.

Gina Emel, b'12, owns The Traveling Bowl, a food truck in Hutchinson. She recently secured a site to build a restaurant bearing the same name.

Jayme Gray, g'12, '16, is CEO at DexaFit KC, a wellness center in Olathe.

Jarrod Harrington, c'12, wrote *Digital Remains*, published by New Degree Press. He's a fifth-generation funeral director and embalmer at Alden-Harrington Funeral Home in Bonner Springs.

Jami Goodwin Medina, g'12, is CEO at Empirical Data Strategies in Birmingham, Alabama.

Laura Nightengale, j'12, lives in Peoria, Illinois, where she's a writing coordinator at OSF HealthCare.

Cesar Rodriguez, c'12, is managing director at Heartland Door & Window in Lawrence, where he lives with **Kara Schwerdt Rodriguez**, j'10, assistant director of digital media at the KU Alumni Association, and their two children, Adrian and Cesar.

Born to:

Clark, c'12, j'12, g'18, and **Alicia Anderson Goble**, d'12, g'16, daughter, Anderson Grace, May 20 in Prairie Village, where they make their home.

2013 Brandon Beck, b'13, g'14, lives in New York City, where he's an assurance manager at PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Bradley Brooks, a'13, is a personal trainer and owns Bradley J. Brooks Fitness in San Diego.

Kyle Burns, g'13, is emergency manager for the city of Overland Park.

Thea Glassman, c'13, lives in New York City, where she's a shopping writer at Finder.

Adam Hope, b'13, is a controller at GRI in Beaverton, Oregon.

Neil Oatsvall, PhD'13, a history instructor at the Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences and the Arts, was named the 2020 Arkansas History Teacher of the Year by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. He lives in Hot Springs.

Bret Richardson, d'13, is an asset manager at Hunt Midwest in Kansas City.

Solomon Woods, g'13, PhD'15, owns Woods Realty Team in Erwin, North Carolina.

Married

David Teefey, e'13, g'19, and **Julie Bangert**, AUD'17, Sept. 26 in Mission. David is a civil engineer at Kansas Gas Service, and Julie is an audiologist at Professional Hearing Center. They live in Lenexa.

2014 Joe Aniello, c'14, is a web developer at Wichita Tech Services. He and his wife, Natalie, live in Derby.

Michael Green, m'14, is a physician at Hutchinson Clinic in his hometown of Hutchinson. He oversees the practice's gastrointestinal medicine department.

Caleb Hays, g'14, is chief legal counsel for elections at the U.S. House Committee on House Administration Republicans. He lives in Alexandria, Virginia.

Scooter Mebarek, b'14, g'15, makes his home in



Dallas, where he's a mergers and acquisitions analyst at Improving.

Fadia Ticona Rollano, e'14, is a post-master's research associate at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in Seattle, where she lives with **Evan Deal**, e'14, g'17.

Born to:

Jeff, c'14, g'18, and **Christi Davis Delaroy**, j'12, g'16, daughter, Hailey, Aug. 16 in Overland Park. Christi is an associate director at KU Marketing Communications, and Jeff is a data scientist at Commerce Bank.

2015 Lindsey Bloom, d'15, is a registered nurse at Children's Mercy Hospital. She lives in Kansas City.

Jonathan Curth, g'15, was promoted to division manager

of development review for the city of Fayetteville, Arkansas. He previously served as the city's senior planner.

Eric Hunn, m'15, is a general surgeon at Labette Health in Parsons.

Maria Monroe, g'15, lives in Washington, D.C., where she's senior web producer at the Washington Center for Equitable Growth.

Jin-Ho Yun, g'15, makes his home in East Boothbay, Maine, where he works at Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences.

2016 Caleb Johnson, e'16, is an assistant project manager at Whiting-Turner Contracting Company in Kansas City, where he lives with **Morgan Barrett Johnson**, j'15.

Symmone Hunter Pinkney, b'16, is an accountant and

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— Jessica Guardiola, c'20, who landed a job as a paralegal in Washington, D.C.



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—Senior Emma Greenwood, on KU Mentoring and her mentor, Crystal Fong, c'15, j'15



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makes her home in Fort Riley with her husband, James, and their daughter, Nina-Symmone Heiress, who recently turned 1.

2017 Nathan Bachynski, j'17, lives in Arlington, Virginia, where he's a client services evaluation lead at PreciseTarget.

Mackenzie Daniels, c'17, g'19, g'20, is a product engineer at Honeywell Federal Manufacturing & Technologies in Kansas City.

Emily Derrick, c'17, j'17, directs development at the Anti-Violence Partnership of Philadelphia.

Erin Keethler, d'17, graduated in May with her doctorate in physical therapy from Missouri State University. She's a physical therapist at North Kansas City Rehabilitation Hospital.

Mike Lavin, c'17, is the on-

site supervisor at the Greater Wichita YMCA. He makes his home in Derby with **Erin Hutto-Lavin**, d'17, and their daughter, Maeve Ellis, who's 1.

Megan Tiger, j'17, is project manager at InTouch Solutions in New York City.

Julie Lawson Williams, g'17, lives in Lenexa, where she's director of market partners at WellSky, a health care software solutions company.

Christopher Wolcott, f'17, is an associate attorney at Taft Stettinius & Hollister in Dayton, Ohio.

2018 Casandra Enriquez, d'18, is a fan experience representative for the Kansas City Chiefs. She lives in Overland Park.

Nadia Khechfe, j'18, is a client intake specialist at

Nieves Law Firm in Oakland, California.

Hannah Leiker, c'18, lives in Kansas City, where she's an engineer at Honeywell.

Preston Sycks, PharmD'18, is a clinical pharmacist at Cook Children's Medical Center. He lives in Fort Worth, Texas.

2019 Jace Erwin, g'19, m'20, is a resident physician at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center in Cincinnati.

Tiffany Lammon, c'19, directs catering sales at Latour Management in Wichita.

John League, c'19, was admitted this fall to the master's program in physiology and biophysics at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.

Alex Rindels, f'19, g'20, lives in Wichita, where he's a judicial law clerk at the U.S.

District Court for the District of Kansas.

Kylee Pywell Shae, PharmD'19, owns Paradise Roots Pharmacy in Hill City.

2020 Nicholas Aaronson, b'20, is a consultant at Protiviti, a management consulting company in Overland Park.

Bethany Amundson, DMA'20, directs bands at Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell, South Dakota.

Margaret Lee Anderson, g'20, lives in Topeka, where she's an occupational therapist at the VA Medical Center.

Ellen Brewer, c'20, is an assignment dispatcher for claims at Farmers Insurance Group in Olathe.

Kyle Davis, g'20, is an aviation officer in the U.S. Army. He lives in El Paso, Texas.



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Coleton Dudley, g'20, is a lead teacher at KIPP Connect Primary School in Houston.

Abraham Fangman, g'20, lives in Kansas City, where he's an assistant civil engineer at Burns & McDonnell.

Garrett Fowler, s'20, is a community support specialist at Comprehensive Mental Health Services. He makes his home in Kansas City.

Ashley Doyle Gilfillan, c'20, manages events at Spectra in Topeka, where she lives with her husband, Adam, and their children, Corbin and Lauryn.

Zachary Hall, e'20, is an ISS flight controller at KBR, a NASA contractor. He and **Kylie Personette**, e'20, live in League City, Texas.

Linda Herzberg, PhD'20, is an associate professor of social work at Oglala Lakota College in Kyle, South Dakota.

Steven Hickman, g'20, is a psychological operations specialist in the U.S. Army. He makes his home in Richmond Hill, Georgia, with his wife, Meredith.

Erica Durlauf Hohl, g'20, teaches at Southridge High School in Huntingburg, Indiana, where she lives with her husband, Alexander, and their three children, Ambrose, Alana and Allen.

Hannah Keller, c'20, is a financial service representative at Credit Union of America in Hutchinson.

Kara Kellogg, b'20, lives in Austin, Texas, where she's an aspire finance rotation member at Baker Hughes.

Cloey Kennemur, b'20, makes her home in Salina, where she's a manager trainee at Menards.

Madisen Lamp, c'20, is a

behavior analyst and teacher for children with autism at the New England Center for Children in Southborough, Massachusetts.

Maya Minocha, j'20, is an account coordinator at the Brandman Agency. She makes her home in Manhattan.

Brandan Murray, b'20, lives in Olathe, where he's a business consultant at Protiviti.

Robert Nickel, e'20, is a software developer at Epic Systems in Verona, Wisconsin.

Andrei Pinter, b'20, lives in Leawood, where he manages inventory at Heartland Customer Solutions.

Henry Redmond, b'20, is an investment banking analyst at Deloitte Corporate Finance in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Stacy Schuckman Scheetz, s'20, is a social worker at Hoxie Medical Clinic. She and her husband, Jared, live in New Almelo and

have three children, Hailee, Braydon and Sydnie.

Matthew Schmitz, g'20, directs community and economic development for the city of Lansing. He and his wife, Jamee, live in Lansing and have three children, Ryan, Tyler and Kaylee.

Matthew Shirhall, d'20, works for Shawnee County Parks & Recreation, where he leads recreation at the Crestview Community Center in Topeka.

Truman Solverud, g'20, teaches special education in the Albany County School District in Laramie, Wyoming, where he lives with his wife, Donna.

Darin Spence, g'20, owns in:trench Consulting Group in Wellington, Colorado.

Beau Stuart, g'20, is a mobility officer in the U.S. Army. He lives in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

Cindy Pipes Swatek, g'20, g'20, is a mental performance consultant at Sterling Sport Mindset. She and **Matthew**, b'99, senior vice president of wealth management at Prime Capital, live in Raymore, Missouri.

Paige Whited, c'20, lives in Lawrence, where she's a property manager at JT Management.

Married

Hailey Dixon, j'20, to Aaron Phillips, Aug. 9 in El Dorado. They make their home in Manhattan, where Hailey is the local government reporter at The Manhattan Mercury.

ASSOCIATES

Nathan Millhouse, assoc., owns Unparalleled Performance, a business consulting company. He and his wife, **Yeny**, assoc., make their home in Overland Park.



KU MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS

1940s William Hall, c'48, 94, June 9 in Urbana, Illinois, where he was professor emeritus of civil engineering at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Surviving are his wife, Elaine Thalman Hall, c'47; a son, James, e'79; two daughters; four grandchildren; and two great-granddaughters.

Mary Lou Redmond Pickler, c'49, 92, July 30 in Garden City. She lived in Ulysses, where she was a homemaker and volunteered in her community. She is survived by two daughters, a son, seven grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Eugene Schwartz, c'47, m'50, 95, June 10 in Topeka. He was an ophthalmologist for 28 years in Dodge City. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include his wife, Margaret "Peg" Allen Schwartz, g'85; five sons, John, b'73, Mark, c'75, Steve, b'78, g'80, Jim, p'84, and Paul, g'84; two daughters; 13 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

1950s Mary Jane Dean Battaglia, g'50, 98, May 11, 2019, in Placerville, California, where she was active in her community. Surviving are her husband, Angelo, c'50; three daughters; and a granddaughter.

Charles "Chuck" Brown, e'56, 85, April 12 in Parsons, where he owned Brown Oil and Tire Company. He is survived by his wife, Mary Catherine Owens Brown, n'61; a son, Cotter, c'91; two daughters; two brothers, one of whom is Eldon, e'54; six grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

William Bruner, b'51, 92, June 4 in Kansas City, where he worked at Owens-Corning Fiberglass for nearly 40 years and retired as environmental

manager. In 1979 he received the Air Conservationist of the Year Award from the Kansas Wildlife Federation. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are a daughter, Cindy Bruner McClannahan, c'78, l'81, and three grandchildren.

John Emerson, b'50, l'57, 91, May 31 in Lawrence, where he retired after nearly 60 years as an attorney and partner at Barber Emerson law firm. He is survived by his wife, Mary Lind Emerson, '50; a son, John Jr., c'76; a daughter, Mary Ann Emerson Boyd, c'77; and three grandchildren.

Donald Fine, e'55, 87, July 11 in Austin, Texas, where he was a retired chemical engineer. He is survived by his wife, Patricia McClaskey Fine, '58; three daughters, one of whom is Jennifer Fine Powers, j'84; a sister, Dorothy Fine, n'59; four grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

Stephany Quigley Harper, d'56, 86, July 10 in Mission Viejo, California. She was an administrative assistant. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. A daughter, two sons, two granddaughters and four great-grandchildren.

Ellis Hawley, g'51, 91, Sept. 15 in Longmont, Colorado. He was a longtime resident of Iowa City, Iowa, where he was professor emeritus of history at the University of Iowa. Surviving are a daughter; a brother, Raymond, m'65; a sister; six grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.

Janet Padgett Joseph, d'54, 88, Aug. 16 in Kailua, Hawaii, where she was a homemaker and active in Junior League. Survivors include a son; a daughter; a brother, Gary Padgett, b'55; and

three grandchildren.

Ralph King, b'52, l'54, 89, Aug. 2 in Lawrence. He was an attorney and district court judge in Douglas County. He is survived by his wife, Mary Anne Forman King, d'53, f'83; two daughters, Kathryn, d'84, '00, and Ruth Anne King Sneegas, h'85; a son; four grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Robert Love, e'57, 84, Jan. 28 in Overland Park. He spent most of his career working at ExxonMobil Research and Engineering in New Jersey. Surviving are his wife, Birgit, g'99; two sons, R. Christopher, '91, and Paul, b'98; a brother; and two grandsons.

Eleanor Hawkinson Lowe, c'57, 85, July 17 in Mission, where she was a longtime member of the League for Women Voters and other civic organizations. She is survived by two sons, John, c'91, and Michael, l'90; a daughter; a sister, Marilyn Hawkinson Swearer, c'54; two stepsisters; and five grandchildren.

Janette "Jan" Baldwin McCullough, f'58, 85, Aug. 23 in Lawrence, where she was an interior designer and owned Jan's Interiors. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are a son, Neil, '88; a sister, Joan Baldwin Murphy, d'61; and two grandchildren.

Janet Hanneman McNulty, n'58, 83, June 9, 2019, in Laguna Woods, California. She had a long career as a psychiatric nurse and traveled to Pakistan in the 1960s to volunteer with the Peace Corps. She is survived by her husband, James, assoc., and a sister, Donna Hanneman Kerr, c'65.

William Paul McWilliams, e'57, 86, Aug. 23 in Houston,

where he was president and founder of MATE Trailers. Survivors include his wife, Lou, assoc.; three daughters, one of whom is Rachel McWilliams Minor, j'93; a son; two sisters; a brother; and six grandchildren.

Courtney "Corky" Nason, c'56, 85, July 9 in Lake Quivira, where he was CEO of aviation insurance brokerage Nason Associates. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Phyllis Adams Nason, d'56; a daughter, Corey Nason Reese, j'82; a son, Todd, e'85; and five grandchildren.

Laird Noller, '59, 83, Aug. 22 in La Jolla, California. He lived for many years in Topeka, where he owned several car dealerships and was honored as one of the leading Ford dealers in North America. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are his wife, Karleen, assoc.; three sons, two of whom are Barry, '82, and Steve, '83; a sister; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Richard "Dick" Pickler, c'51, l'56, 92, Aug. 24 in Lakin, less than a month after his wife, Mary Lou. He practiced law in Ulysses for nearly 60 years. Two daughters, a son, seven grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren survive.

Richard Randall, c'51, l'53, 94, July 30 in Wichita, where he was chief counsel at Petroleum Inc. for 35 years. Surviving are his wife, Jane Hackmaster Randall, d'52; two daughters; five grandsons; and four great-grandchildren.

Bette Jo Jones Roberts, c'50, 92, June 4 in Cunningham. A Garden City native, she was an administrative assistant for Gov. Robert Bennett and led U.S. Sen. Nancy Kasse-

baum's regional office in her hometown. She served on the Alumni Association's national Board of Directors from 1990 to '95, and received the Association's Mildred Clodfelter Award in 2005. She is survived by a son, Kurt, b'80; a daughter, Andrea Roberts Johnsrud, b'81; a brother, Richard Jones, b'52, d'60; five grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Darlene Schindler Schaake, '52, 89, July 29 in Bothell, Washington. For more than 30 years she taught physical education and coached gymnastics and track and field at schools in Kansas and Colorado. Survivors include two sons; two daughters; a brother, Karl Kreitzer, b'68; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Virginia Mackey Snyder, j'53, 88, May 17 in Newport Beach, California. She worked in radio and TV in Kansas City before moving to Laguna Beach, California, where she volunteered in her community. Surviving are two daughters; a son; a sister, Marjorie Mackey Peterman, '56; and five grandchildren.

Barbara Beers Spainhour, f'56, 87, Sept. 21 in Winfield, where she was an artist and director of volunteer services at William Newton Memorial Hospital. She later became president of the Kansas Association of Directors of Volunteer Services. Survivors include her husband, Con, p'55; two sons, one of whom is John, '89; six daughters; a sister; 16 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Royce Walz, c'50, 92, June 10 in Topeka, where he retired after nearly 25 years as a psychiatrist at the VA Hospital. Surviving are his wife, Patsy Hastings Walz, s'80; two daughters,

one of whom is Elizabeth, c'88; a son; five grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

John Wesley, c'51, l'56, 90, June 4 in Cave Creek, Arizona. He practiced law for 37 years at Gust Rosenfeld law firm in Phoenix. He is survived by his wife, Millie Hunt Wesley, d'53; a son; and two daughters.

John Wilkinson, b'53, l'58, 89, Aug. 8 in Lawrence. He was an attorney and partner at Waggener, Wilkinson and Wigglesworth law firm in Topeka. Surviving are his wife, Marianne Anderson Wilkinson, c'57, g'64; and three sons, one of whom is Tom, '86.

1960s Robert Alderson, c'61, 80, June 5 in Topeka, where he was a partner at Alderson Law Firm. Survivors include his wife, Ruth Hoagland Alderson, assoc.; two daughters; three brothers, two of whom are Alan, b'69, and Rusty, c'84; his stepmother; and two granddaughters.

Peter Barham, c'64, g'66, 79, Aug. 22 in Fairway, where he owned several businesses. He is survived by his wife, Vicki Allen Barham, d'64; two daughters, Suzanne Barham Burt, j'89, and Marcy Barham Ostrander, c'01; a son, Ben, c'95; and four grandchildren.

David Davis, b'69, 73, July 5 in Overland Park, where he was CEO and president of Stanley Wood Products. His wife, Pamela, assoc.; a son; a daughter; and a brother survive.

George William "Bill" Frick, c'66, l'69, 76, July 5 in Palm Desert, California. He was general counsel for the Environmental Protection Agency and later joined Van Ness Feldman law firm. A

memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Helen Bush Frick, c'66, g'74; a son; a daughter; a brother, Phillip, c'62; a sister, Christie Frick Reynolds, d'64; and three grandchildren.

John Green, b'67, 75, Aug. 24 in Topeka, where he retired as chief operating officer at Coldwell Banker real estate company. Survivors include his wife, Diane Childers Green, d'68; a daughter, Kristie Green Jones, j'92; a son, Scott, '95; a sister; a brother; and three grandchildren.

Gary Grose, b'60, 84, July 10 in Estes Park, Colorado. His career as a buyer and manager at JCPenney spanned more than 35 years. He is survived by his wife, Jill Runnells Grose, d'65, f'65; two sons, Steve, '93, and Dave, d'96; a daughter; a sister; and two grandchildren.

Stuart Grossman, PhD'61, 92, Aug. 10 in Houston, where he was a micropaleontologist and had a 33-year career at ExxonMobil. His wife, Harriet, assoc., survives.

Robert Jacoby, c'68, m'75, 74, June 4 in Topeka, where he practiced family medicine for more than 35 years. In 2011 he was named Kansas Family Physician of the Year. Surviving are his wife, Anita, n'85; four sons, one of whom is Daniel, c'06; his mother; a brother, David, c'75; a sister; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Warren Keller, b'63, 79, July 8 in Malibu, California. He was an attorney and later became a partner in a real estate development group. He is survived by his wife, Becky Johnson Keller, d'63; four daughters; a sister, Carol

Keller Flannagan, '60; and 11 grandchildren.

Gyula Kovach, g'69, g'72, 88, Aug. 10 in Silver Spring, Maryland. He had a long career in engineering and water quality and retired as chief of the environmental protection branch in the safety division at the National Institutes of Health. Surviving are his wife, Ildiko Lugos Kovach, g'73, PhD'74; a son, Adam, c'88; a daughter, Adrienne, c'90; two brothers; a sister; and a granddaughter.

Michael Mount, c'64, 78, Aug. 23 in Chandler, Arizona. He had a long career in human resources and management. A son and two grandchildren survive.

Dale Remsberg, d'60, 83, Sept. 30 in Cassoday. He taught physical education and coached football and track during his decades-long career at Butler County Community College in El Dorado. Surviving are his wife, Judy; two sons; a daughter; two brothers, George, b'56, and James, e'57; and five grandchildren.

Robert Shahan, b'61, 80, Aug. 14 in Lenexa, where he retired after serving as bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Arizona in Phoenix. He is survived by his wife, Mary Carol Stephenson Shahan, d'61; two daughters, Sarah Shahan Lauck, j'87, and Susannah Shahan Hart, n'89; a brother; and five grandchildren.

Keith Shelton, e'63, 80, June 9 in Newport Coast, California. He began his career in aerospace engineering and later founded Custom Silicon Solutions. Survivors include his wife, Mary Kay, assoc.; two daughters; a sister, Judy Shelton Howell, d'57; and six grandsons.

Gary Shofner, e'61, 82, June 30 in Topeka, where he was a partner, senior vice president and director of marketing at Cook, Flatt & Strobel Engineers. He is survived by two daughters, Stacy Shofner Vobach, c'87, and Terri Shofner Mallioux, j'89; a brother, Gene, c'64, g'66; a sister; and four grandchildren.

Sandy Hopkins Shofner, d'61, 80, July 1 in Topeka, within hours of her husband, Gary. She taught vocal music and also was a substitute teacher. Their daughters and grandchildren survive.

Jayne Simon Simonds, d'68, 74, Aug. 24 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She was a homemaker. Survivors include her husband, Steve, e'68; two sons, one of whom is Matthew, '04; a daughter; a sister; and four grandchildren.

Miriam Kangas Sion, c'67, g'68, 74, April 5 in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. She was a psychiatric social worker and child therapist for 42 years. She is survived by her husband, Edward, c'68, g'69; a son; a daughter; a brother, Edward Kangas, b'66, g'67; and four grandchildren.

Sidney William "Bill" Spry, '66, 75, May 17 in Aurora, Colorado. He was a safety inspector for the Federal Railroad Administration. Surviving are his wife, Pamela Allen Spry, n'66; and a brother, Ronald, d'71.

Dale Starchman, g'65, PhD'68, 79, June 2 in Canton, Ohio, where he was a professor of medical radiation biophysics at Northeast Ohio Medical University. Survivors include his wife, Erlinda "Jane" Socrates Starchman, '69; a son; three daughters; a brother; and eight grandchildren.

Dale Willey, '64, 79, Aug. 14 in Lawrence, where he owned Dale Willey Automotive and was president of the Kansas Automobile Dealers Association. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Jan Snyder Willey, '95; two daughters, Suzanne, j'87, and Carol Willey Ryan, h'92; three stepdaughters, Kim Hiebert Purvis, p'85, Laura Hiebert Carbrey, '87, and Megan Hiebert, c'91; six grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

Paul Zaman, e'62, 80, July 18 in Overland Park, where for more than 40 years he was an engineer at Black & Veatch. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are his wife, Frankie; four sons, three of whom are Michael, b'87, Phillip, b'94, c'05, and James, b'02; two stepchildren; a brother; nine grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Charles Zarter, l'67, 78, Aug. 31 in Kansas City, where he worked in real estate and retired as an attorney. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn Eymann Zarter, c'66; two sons, Ryan, c'00, and Darren, '08; and a sister, Marilyn Zarter Wallace, d'62.

1970s Galen Bland, j'71, 70, Feb. 19 in Portland, Oregon, where he was a retired newspaper editor and attorney and coached baseball at Central Catholic High School. He was editor of the University Daily Kansan during his senior year at KU. Surviving are his wife, Patty; a son; a daughter; a sister, Marcia Bland Bickel, assoc.; and five grandchildren.

Dolores Shanabrook Brooking, g'71, 87, Sept. 11 in La Cañada Flintridge, California, where she directed the arts management program at California State University-Dominquez Hills. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include a son, Kevin, '76; a brother; and two grandchildren.

Frank Day, c'73, 86, May 31 in Lawrence, where he was a member of the Jaycees and a 40-year volunteer at Audio-Reader. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Edna, a daughter and four grandchildren.

Gale Sayers, d'75, g'77, 77, Sept. 23 in Wakarusa, Indiana. A running back affectionately known as "The Kansas Comet," he was a two-time All-American at KU and went on to play professionally for the Chicago Bears. He was inducted in the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1977 at age 34, the youngest person ever to receive that honor. His wife, Ardythe, a daughter, two sons, three stepsons, two brothers and seven grandchildren survive.

1980s Michael Kraft, '86, 55, Feb. 22 in Atlanta. His career at CNN spanned more than 25 years and included an Emmy Award in 2016. He is survived by his wife, Laura; a son; a daughter; his father, David, assoc., and stepmother, Rebecca Smith Kraft, g'85; his mother; and two sisters, one of whom is Susan Kraft McCray, n'87, g'13.

1990s Jeffrey Borbely, PhD'98, 81, March 26 in Stillwater, Oklahoma. He was director of research and development for 26 years for

Leavenworth School District. He is survived by his wife, Sandra Chambers Borbely, '80; two sons, Michael, '85, and Benjamin, '89; and a daughter, Jennifer Borbely White, c'91, '98.

Allison Rose Bowen, j'96, g'10, 47, Aug. 23 in Lafayette, Louisiana. She worked in public relations and marketing. Her husband, Brady, a son, three stepchildren, her parents and a brother survive.

Nathan Penny, b'97, 46, Aug. 10 in Lawrence, where he worked at his family's business, Penny's Concrete. A football player at KU, he also helped coach at Lawrence High School, among other schools. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his parents, William, e'72, and Marlene Vandundy Penny, c'71; two sisters, Laura Penny Hedges, c'94, l'97, and Sarah Penny Smith, j'00; two brothers, one of whom is Scott, m'14; his grandmother, Mary Lou Nelson Penny, '45; and his grandfather.

2000s Wendy Mooningham Herd, g'07, PhD'11, 47, Aug. 11 in Starkville, Mississippi. She was an associate professor of linguistics at Mississippi State University, and in 2017 she was honored as Mississippi Public Humanities Teacher of the Year. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are her husband, Zac, a daughter, a son, her parents, a brother and sister.

Kristin Hoppa-Barrios, c'08, j'09, 34, Sept. 24 in Kokomo, Indiana. She lived in Waco, Texas, where she was a public safety reporter at the Waco Tribune-Herald. A memorial has been established with KU

Endowment. She is survived by her husband, Kirk; her parents; a brother, Patrick Hoppa, b'04, g'05; and her grandmother.

Trevor Loney, c'01, g'05, '10, 41, Sept. 27 in Sunrise Beach, Missouri. He was an academic adviser and instructor at KU and Indiana University. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are his parents, John, m'74, and Teri Loney; and a sister, Brandi Loney Klepper, c'97.

2010s Ben Brownlee, b'16, 26, Oct. 3 in Lake City, Colorado. He ran cross-country and track during his years at KU and earned academic all-conference honors. Surviving are his parents and his grandparents, Jerry, c'53, g'56, and Marjorie Woodson Brownlee, '57.

2020s Jason Goff, c'20, in Cambellford, Ontario, where he was chief operating officer at Natural Chemistry. He is survived by his wife, Andrea Bucher Goff, d'99; a daughter; his parents; and a sister, Heather Goff Smith, '00.

UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Alice Clayton Amyx, '42, 99, May 27 in Lawrence. She was a secretary for the Alumni Association and volunteered in her community. She is survived by a son, Ross Michael, l'67, g'68; a daughter, Marguerite Amyx Gaston, d'78; a sister, Ruth Clayton Mrkonic, j'49; three grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

George Boberg, 86, July 4 in Ridgecrest, California. He was a professor and founded the percussion department. Survivors include two sons, one of whom is John, c'87; a daughter; a stepson, Jeff Cryder, g'93; a brother; and 10 grandchildren.

Gene Budig, '89, 81, Sept. 8 in Daniel Island, South Carolina. He became the University's 14th chancellor in 1981 and oversaw the construction of the Dole Human Development Center, the Lied Center, the Adams Alumni Center and the KU Vietnam War Memorial. He also led the effort to rebuild Hoch Auditorium after the fire in 1991. After retiring from KU, he became the president of Major League Baseball's American League. Surviving are his wife, Gretchen Bloom Budig, assoc.; a son, Christopher, c'88; two daughters; a brother; a sister; and five grandchildren.

Thomas Eversole, '75, 75, May 25 in Lawrence. He owned Eversole Piano Service and was a piano technician for 10 years at KU. Survivors include a daughter, Elizabeth, b'01, and a brother.

Steven Fowler, 75, June 15 in Lawrence. He was professor of human development and later professor of pharmacology and toxicology. He also was a senior scientist at the Life Span Institute. He is survived by his wife, Doreen; a daughter, Carina, '16; and a sister.

George Frederickson, assoc., 86, July 24 in Lawrence, where he was the Edwin O. Steen Distinguished Professor of Public Administration. Surviving are his wife, Mary, assoc.; three sons; a daughter; four brothers; a sister; a step-sister; 15 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Donald Kearns, 83, Sept. 8 in St. Augustine, Florida. He was a state trooper with the Kansas Highway Patrol for 40 years before becoming director of parking at KU. He is survived by his wife, Diane; two sons, Joe, '95, and Ryan,

c'12; four daughters, two of whom are Dorinda Kearns von Tersch, a'96, and Kristen Kearns Atkinson, c'09; 11 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Bruce Mensie, '74, 69, June 30 in Lawrence, where he was a broadcast engineer for KPR and Audio-Reader. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are his wife, Mary Jo Shortridge Mensie, c'74, p'80, and a brother.

Reggie Robinson, c'80, l'87, 63, Sept. 19 in Lawrence. He had a long career in higher education, serving as a faculty member at Washburn and KU schools of law, president and CEO of the Kansas Board of Regents, and director of the School of Public Affairs and Administration and vice chancellor for public affairs at KU. Most recently, he was CEO of the Kansas Health Foundation. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Jane McGarey Robinson, g'10, DNP'17; two daughters; his mother; and four brothers, including Ron, d'82, and Michael, '85.

Richard "Dick" Schiefelbusch, g'47, 102, Sept. 23 in Lawrence, where he was Distinguished Professor Emeritus of speech, language and hearing sciences and longtime director of the Kansas Bureau of Child Research, now the Life Span Institute. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by a son, Lary, c'65, g'65; two daughters, Carol Schiefelbusch McMillin, '79, and Jean, d'80, g'90; six grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Barbara Gimla Shortridge, g'68, PhD'77, 77,

June 6 in Leawood. She was a professor of geography. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are her husband, James, g'68, PhD'72; two daughters; and two grandchildren.

Stanley Shumway, 88, July 28 in Lawrence, where he was professor emeritus of music. Survivors include his wife, Jan Fullerton Shumway, '80; three daughters, Sally Shumway Satalof, f'80, Susan Shumway, f'80, and Mary Shumway Berry, b'81; a son, David, f'83; a sister; 11 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Joseph Spradlin, c'51, 90, May 27 in Lawrence. He worked at the Kansas Bureau of Child Research, now the Life Span Institute, for more than 35 years. Survivors include his wife, Rita Franks Spradlin, c'75; and two sons, one of whom is Michael, m'89.

ASSOCIATES

Anna Bricker, assoc., 101, June 10 in Lawrence. She was an elder and deacon at First Presbyterian Church and an active volunteer in her community. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include a son, David, c'76, g'80; a daughter; a grandson; and two great-grandchildren.

Jack Lowry, assoc., 88, Aug. 13 in Prairie Village, where he had a decades-long career in life insurance sales. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are his wife, Cathy; a daughter, Ann Lowry Sundeen, c'84, j'84; a sister; and two grandchildren.

PHOTO FINISH

HOMECOMING'S USUAL POMP and pageantry were lost this year, but not all was quiet on the Hill: The Marching Jayhawks assembled Oct. 2 at the Campanile for a social-distanced, non-marching performance of favorite KU tunes. Careful spacing of musicians across the verdant slope was not the only COVID precaution: Wind instruments were outfitted with "bell covers," rendering them fully compliant with campus mask regulations.

PHOTOGRAPH BY STEVE PUPPE





STEVE PUPPE (3)



HISTORY

Larger than life

Sayers, Hadl statues unveiled

WITH LITTLE TO CHEER this season except admirable perseverance during a pandemic that rattled the flow of fall football Saturdays on the Hill, the University chose halftime of the Oct. 3 Homecoming game against Oklahoma State to unveil a pair of long-rumored statues to remind fans, alumni and recruits of two legendary figures in the history of KU football: quarterback John Hadl, d'68, hailed by Chancellor Doug Girod as a “hometown

hero,” and NFL Hall of Famer Gale Sayers, d'75, g'77, a running back who dazzled the football world during his brief career with a graceful gait that belied his strength and speed.

The small ceremony, limited in scope amid COVID-19 restrictions, revealed twin 8-foot-tall, 1,000-pound works of sinewy bronze, flanking the front entrance to the Anderson Family Football Complex.

Although the statues are the first such commemorations for any of KU's football greats, the ceremony was bittersweet: Sayers, the “Kansas Comet,” had died 10 days earlier after a long illness.

“Gale was a trailblazer on and off the field, and throughout his life,” said Athlet-



ics Director Jeff Long, “and that continues today, as he becomes the first African American to be recognized with a statue on the campus of the University of Kansas.”

—CHRIS LAZZARINO

PRESERVING KU'S RICH HISTORY



An anti-Vietnam War march down Massachusetts Street, October 25, 1970. KU University Archives.

1970: The Year that Rocked KU is a new, digital exhibition from the University of Kansas Libraries that offers a unique look at our storied university during a year of campus uprisings and student protests that addressed a variety of injustices. Featuring historic materials from the University Archives, the online exhibit can be explored and shared at rockcha.lk/KULib1970.

KU Libraries and the University Archives play a key role in preserving the distinctive traditions of our celebrated university. We aim to reconnect friends and alumni with campus by showcasing our materials through compelling exhibitions. You can support the University Archives by becoming a friend of KU Libraries. As a friend of the libraries, you will help to preserve and build upon our critical resources and diverse collections for current and future generations of Jayhawks.



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²Rewards points can be redeemed as a cash deposit to a checking or savings account within seven business days or as a statement credit to your credit card account within one to three billing cycles.