

MONTEVALLO TODAY

University of Montevallo Alumni Magazine • Spring/Summer 2022

Back on the Bricks



PUBLISHERS

Scott Dillard MBA '17
Kira Thomas '12
kthomas18@montevallo.edu

EXECUTIVE EDITOR/ALUMNI EDITOR

Tiffany Roskamp-Bunt '00, MBA '13
buntr@montevallo.edu

MANAGING EDITOR

Jamon Smith
today@montevallo.edu

DESIGN EDITOR

Julie Haggard

PHOTO EDITOR

Alyssa Green '14

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Vasha Hunt
Bell Jackson '22
Natalie Jones '23
Lily McCormick '23
Josie Shaw '23

CONTRIBUTORS

Desi Gillespie
Laurel Hall Dobbins '15
Wesley Hallman
Kelli J. Holmes MBA '18
Marsha Littleton
Neal Wagner

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From Calkins Hall



Dear Montevallo family,

As times change and challenges are met, the core of who we are as a University and what we're committed to, does not change. I believe this issue of Montevallo Today, which follows the theme "developing leaders, creating pioneers in their fields," is a faithful reflection of our core values.

An important part of our mission is providing an affordable, high quality, diverse, equitable, inclusive, learning-centered, liberal arts college experience. As you know, we equip students to flourish intellectually and personally as they develop into informed, responsible citizens who secure meaningful employment upon graduation.

This issue showcases several of our many achievements. UM climbed to number 12 among "Top Public Regional Universities in the South" according to U.S. News & World Report's Best Colleges rankings. We were also recognized as a Military Friendly School and have been ranked one of the most beautiful college campuses in the South by Southern Living.

We also highlight in this issue some of our students, faculty and alumni who continue to reach beyond themselves to serve our local community and UM students in need.

All these accomplishments and experiences affirm who we are at Montevallo: a family of learners — committed to changing lives.

Dr. John W. Stewart III
UM President

Alumni Welcome New Assistant Director



New Assistant Director of Alumni Affairs Laurel Hall Dobbins '15 hasn't been in the position long, but the UM graduate's time at Montevallo and her past work experience have well prepared her for the job.

"I'm grateful to be in this position, and to work with Tiffany Bunt," Dobbins said. "We have a great team, and I'm just lucky."

"Montevallo has given me so much as a student. If I can just give a little bit of that back I know I am where I'm supposed to be."

Dobbins was raised in Mobile, Texas and Hoover. While in school at UM, she was a member of Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority and worked in the President's Office, Palmer staff and as a hotel manager at the former Ramsay Conference Center & Lodge.

"I would sometimes sit in the lobby with Alabama College ladies in their pajamas and just listen to them tell stories. It was great," she said.

Dobbins graduated from UM with a double major in psychology and political science. After college, she worked as a photographer, wedding stylist, event planner and most recently an office manager at an animal hospital.

On the Cover Harper Chassay belts out the song, "The Ballad of the Mississippi River," in her role as Calamity Jane, a villainous sidekick of Paul Bunyan and Babe the Blue, during the finale of Gold Side's College Night production, "The Ballad of the Mississippi River." PHOTO BY VASHA HUNT

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14 TRAILBLAZING

In the past 25 years, alumni have soared to new heights in diverse industries.



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Hannah Waki

UM Leads to Internship with Harvard Medical School

BY NEAL WAGNER

As a California native, senior Hannah Waki moved thousands of miles to find the University she will forever consider home.

“I truly cannot put into words the amount of gratitude I have for the University and the people who I have met in my time here,” Waki said. “The memories, opportunities and relationships I have created here are something that I will carry with me for the rest of my life.”

As a fifth-year senior double-majoring in biology and chemistry with a concentration in biochemistry, Waki placed academic achievement as her top priority at UM. However, it’s far from the only thing she has been involved with during her time as a falcon.

She has been a starter on the UM women’s soccer team for the past four seasons, during which she has accumulated a bevy of Gulf South Conference athletic and academic

honors. She also served as a tutor in the Learning Enrichment Center and a Montevallo Maven, which are campus tour guides for prospective students.

Last summer, Waki received a firsthand look at her future career when she was selected to serve as an intern at the National Center for Functional Glycomics at Harvard University Medical School. The internship was made possible through a partnership with one of UM’s distinguished alumni, Dr. Richard Cummings ’74.

During the internship, Waki primarily studied the purification of proteins found in serum, a technique that could one day be used to diagnose certain diseases.

“I am very grateful for the time I spent there,” Waki said. “I was able to further cultivate my research skills. This, in turn, deepened my appreciation for the field of science as a whole.”

“Dr. Cummings, as well as the members of his lab, gave me invaluable mentorship. In my short time there, I walked away with more knowledge and advice than I could have ever imagined.”

Waki plans to combine her passions by attending medical school and coaching soccer in whatever capacity she can.

She credits the extended family she found at UM with laying a foundation for all of her future success.

“I knew I belonged at Montevallo when I met the faculty and staff,” she said. “For me, finding a school where I felt comfortable and confident in my advisors was paramount to me. I knew I would be supported every step of the way in my academic journey here.”

“There is something special going on here; you can feel it when you walk on campus. I may originally be from California, but I’m proud to also call this place my home.”



Smith's Gratitude Brought Her Back to the Bricks

BY DESI GILLESPIE



Accountants often graduate college with a standard career path in mind. Many set their sights on working for a Big Four firm or working their way up to CFO or vice president at a company.

For UM accounting instructor DeAnna Smith, however, her path always seemed different.

Smith graduated at the top of the Stephens College of Business class of 1999. Though she went into the public accounting field after graduation, her gratitude for the professors she had at Montevallo stuck with her.

“The faculty at the University while I was here were absolutely critical in getting my career started,” Smith said. “They opened the doors for interviews, they were good references for me. They really helped change my life.”

This gratitude planted a desire to help students of her own one day.

Nearly 10 years after earning her undergraduate degree, Smith found her way back. The University called to offer her a position in 2008. Smith had remained active at UM, as a member of the Junior Board of Directors

and the National Alumni Association Board of Directors, where she served as treasurer.

Smith returned to UM as the director of budget and assistant treasurer and worked for just a year before being promoted to vice president of Business Affairs. She received many honors during her time in the position including Birmingham Business Journal's Top 40 Under 40 in 2012. Now, Smith serves on the boards of several Shelby County nonprofits including The Arc of Shelby County and the Boys & Girls Club of Montevallo.

One semester, the Michael E. Stephens College of Business was short-handed for instructors. They asked Smith to fill in, and she said, “yes.”

“It was one of those moments of serendipity,” Smith said. “I stepped in the classroom and found out that was what I wanted to do.”

Smith decided to go back to school for her doctorate, eventually stepping down from her vice president position to teach full-time. Though her job had been enabling the life-changing work of the University, Smith

wanted to see it face-to-face in the classroom and not the office.

Being a first-generation college student herself, Smith remembers the stress and feelings of instability that can come with the huge decisions her students are making. She tries to remember her classes are full of people, not just content-learners.

Her path to teaching was unconventional, but it was her own. Each step in the process aids her teaching ability, Smith said.

“I think students can see that I've been in their shoes,” Smith said. “I've gone into an accounting career, and I have something to bring into the classroom ... It's one of those things you can't see until you sit down and look back at all the hills and valleys and realize, ‘I know why that happened now.’”

“The faculty at the University while I was here were absolutely critical in getting my career started.”

— DeAnna Smith



University of Montevallo Continues Tuition Freeze

The Board of Trustees voted at its Feb. 18 meeting to once again keep UM’s tuition rate the same as it’s been for the past four years, undeniably helping UM maintain its designation as one of the highest quality affordable institutions in Alabama.

Montevallo’s tuition has remained static since the 2018-2019 school year.

“We are very pleased to freeze tuition for the fifth year in a row,” said President John W. Stewart III. “The Montevallo family is all about serving students, and this is one more meaningful way we can do that.”

“I am thankful for our faculty and staff on campus and our trustees who are so committed to the students we serve at UM.”

To further help incoming students, the University is currently waiving the ACT/SAT test score requirement for admission and is offering scholarships to students based on their high school GPA.



Family and Consumer Sciences Adds Hospitality and Tourism as New Concentration

The Family and Consumer Sciences Department will offer a new hospitality and tourism concentration beginning fall 2022.

Dr. Donna Bell, associate professor of family and consumer sciences, said the hospitality and tourism concentration will be an optional group of classes offered to students majoring in family and consumer sciences.

“We’re creating this because hospitality and tourism is a big industry in the state of Alabama,” Bell said. “From sporting events, conferences, conventions, outdoor parks and recreations and lodging around the state, it’s just a growing industry. Even pre-COVID-19.”

The concentration, which was approved in January, includes a total of seven new classes and three existing classes.



UM Again Designated a Military Friendly School

The University was designated as a Military Friendly School for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 cycles — a designation the University has received multiple times in the past.

“The Office of Veteran and Military Affairs is thrilled to be awarded this honor,” said Traci Crenshaw, director of the Office of Veteran and Military Affairs. “This really is a campus award. We could not serve our students with such exceptional service without the support of UM’s Student Aid Office, Office of Student Accounts and Registrar’s Office.”

More than 1,800 schools participated in the 2022-2023 survey with less than half receiving Military Friendly recognition, according to Military Friendly.



SACSCOC Accreditation Reaffirmed; UM Reaches Nearly a Century of Being Accredited

For the ninth consecutive time since 1925, the University was reaffirmed for its Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges accreditation.

“As president of our institution, it is extremely gratifying to know that our colleagues around the Southeast recognize our faculty and staff’s commitment to excellence,” said President Stewart. “Our reaffirmation represents the culmination of tremendous efforts on campus.”

“Dr. Kristen Gilbert ’90 and many others who led this effort are to be commended. Montevallo has always offered a quality education, and I think we are doing that better than ever today.”

Gilbert, UM’s assistant provost and SACSCOC accreditation liaison, said to be accredited by SACSCOC means that UM meets the rigorous standards of the peer review process that recognizes the importance of the fulfillment of an institution’s mission and ensures a challenging and fulfilling educational experience for students.



UM Online Graduate Education Programs Rank Amongst the Best in Nation and State

The University’s online master’s in education programs have once again earned the distinction of being amongst the nation’s best online graduate education programs, according to U.S. News & World Report’s 2022 Best Online Graduate Programs Rankings.

The online master’s degree programs in UM’s College of Education and Human Development ranked high nationally and fourth in the state.

“We are delighted to once again be counted as one of the nation’s best online graduate education programs,” said Dr. Jennifer Alexiou-Ray, director of graduate studies in the College of Education and Human Development. “UM has fostered a commitment to quality online education. We’ve always excelled in educator preparation, but in the last few years, we’ve focused on how to best translate that student experience to the online environment.”

Willie L. Phillips ’00, Federal Energy Regulatory Commissioner, Speaks at Fall ’21 Commencement



Willie L. Phillips ’00, a UM alum who is an experienced regulatory attorney combining nearly 20 years of legal expertise as a utility regulator, delivered the keynote address for Fall Commencement on Dec. 10, 2021, in the McChesney Student Activity Center.

Phillips, who is also in private practice and serves as in-house counsel, received unanimous confirmation to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by the United States Senate a week prior to the ceremony.

“I firmly believe that it is the self-selection by the students that attend the University of Montevallo that makes it so special,” Phillips said. “I fell in love with this place.”

Phillips encouraged the new UM graduates to remember three things in their professional endeavors: be kind, be intentional and dream big.

During the ceremony, President Stewart conferred 130 candidates for bachelor’s degrees and 45 candidates for graduate degrees.

Programs Partner to Help Shelby Emergency Assistance



Two student programs at the University recently joined together to serve Shelby Emergency Assistance (SEA), a local agency that assists those in crisis situations throughout Shelby County. Minorities Achieving Dreams of Excellence (M.A.D.E.) and the President's Outdoor Scholars Program partnered to host a food and toiletry drive benefitting SEA.

Jason Perry '18, M.Ed. '20, student diversity recruitment and retention coordinator at UM, said it warmed his heart to see students, staff, faculty and alumni come together to support the community for the holidays.

"We were proud to deliver several bins and boxes of items to SEA after the drive concluded," Perry said.

Amanda Fowler '10, director of SEA, said the University supports them throughout the year in many ways, but the campus-wide initiative to gather what the community really needs, from easy-to-open snacks to toiletries, really showed their heart for the community.



Allison and Michael Stephens Hall ribbon cutting ceremony.

UM Dedicates Stephens Hall, Center for the Arts, Rebecca J. Luker Stage

The University held a grand opening and dedication for Allison and Michael Stephens Hall Nov. 18, 2021.

The new facility houses the Michael E. Stephens College of Business, named for its most generous alumni benefactor.

A dedication ceremony was also held for the new Center for the Arts facility. The event included a ribbon cutting and remarks from members of the UM administration, faculty and alumni, as well as representatives from Shelby County and Alabama Power.

In his remarks, Dr. Steven Peters, dean of the College of Fine Arts, said that, upon his arrival at UM years ago, President Stewart informed him of his plan to build a new fine arts facility. Peters thanked President Stewart, the University's Board of Trustees, the Shelby County Commission and Alabama Power as well as other constituents for their investments of funding, time and energy in bringing the center to fruition.

Following the ribbon cutting, the Rebecca J. Luker Stage in the DiscoverShelby Theatre was dedicated to the memory of one of the University's most notable alumni. Rebecca Luker, who graduated in 1984, enjoyed a lengthy and distinguished career as a virtuoso actress, concert soloist and recording artist.



Danny Burstein, husband of the late Rebecca Luker '84, speaks at the dedication of the Rebecca J. Luker Stage.



Center for the Arts ribbon cutting ceremony.

New Clinical Research Lab in Speech and Language Center Serves Campus and Community

The Department of Communication Science and Disorders Speech and Language Center opened a new full-service clinical research lab in 2021 to provide free specialized services for people with voice and swallowing conditions.

The Swallowing and Voice Imaging (SAVI) Lab is a specialty clinic created to support ongoing research in dysphagia and voice disorders, and provides diagnostic imaging and therapeutic services for voice and swallowing related issues. Its services are offered to the public and UM students in need. It also serves as an educational lab for graduate student clinicians.

“Seeing the SAVI Lab provide a way to fill this gap and increase the educational opportunities of our students, provides a much-needed service to the community and begins to fulfill the lab’s mission, has been both exciting and rewarding,” said Dr. Mathew Vansant, director of the SAVI Lab and assistant professor of communication science and disorders.

“Our students get real-life, hands-on experience in a safe learning environment resulting in competent and skilled speech-language pathologists. Since fully opening following the pandemic-related shutdowns, the lab has provided a mechanism for master’s thesis research and served many patients from our campus and the larger community. The direct laryngeal imaging we provide is a valuable tool for UM’s performing arts students, and having access to these tools on



campus makes it easy.”

The lab has an examination room, equipment cleaning space and patient consultation space, which serves as a dedicated teletherapy space for remote voice patients.

Populations served by the lab are those with swallowing disorders, functional voice

disorders, head and neck cancer-related swallowing impairment, transgender voice, neurological-related swallowing disorders and neurogenic voice disorders.

Those interested in receiving services at the lab should call 205-665-6720.



Learn more about these top stories and stay informed on UM updates at montevallo.edu/news

Six Falcons Inducted into Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2022



Photos by Lily McCormick '23

The Athletic Department inducted six Falcons as a part of the Hall of Fame Class of 2022 on Jan. 28.

The class includes two former UM stand-outs and four meritorious service selections with distinguished athletics and professional careers.

The 2022 inductees were Daniel Tankersley '07 (baseball), Gary O'Neill '14 (men's soccer), Jim Dunaway '88 (broadcaster), Matt Orton (athletics photography), Dr. Lewis Brooks '88, M.Ed. '99, Ed.S. '03 (men's basketball) and Herman Watts '70, M.Ed. '72 (men's basketball).

Tankersley had an outstanding baseball career for the Falcons playing during the 2006 and 2007 seasons. The Dothan native has a long list of outstanding athletic achievements which included the 2010 GSC East Division All-Decade Baseball Team, 2007 Gulf South Conference East Division Player of the Year, 2006 First Team All-Gulf South Conference, 2007 First Team All-Gulf South Conference, 2007 NCAA Division II All-South Region and the 2007 Gulf South Conference All-Academic Team.

Tankersley's name is all over the baseball record books starting with the third most

doubles in a single season (20 in 2007), third most RBIs in a single season (70 in 2007), most sacrifice flies in a single season (13 in 2007), the third most putouts in a single game (17 vs. Valdosta State/Northwest Missouri State in 2006), most putouts in a single season (502 in 2007) and the third most putouts in a career with 984 during the 2006 and 2007 seasons. Tankersley was a member of the 2006 Falcons baseball team which advanced to the National Championship series.

Tankersley also excelled off the diamond, earning the Kinesiology Senior Elite in 2007, Dean's Trophy in 2007 and was named to the GSC All-Academic Team in 2007.

O'Neill was a defensive juggernaut on the pitch from 2010 to 2013, assisting the Falcons in winning 55 games with 36 shutouts. His senior year, he was named first team All-Peach Belt Conference, second team NSCAA Division II All-Southeast Region, second team Daktronics Division II All-Southeast Region and started in 18 matches.

O'Neill had four goals, one assist and two game-winning goals, including one in the semi-finals of the Peach Belt Conference Tournament against Flagler. He was named to the Peach Belt Conference All-Tourna-

ment team and served as the captain for the Falcons.

In 2012, O'Neill earned the program's Defensive Player of the Year award, was named first team All-Peach Belt Conference, first team Daktronics NCAA Division II All-Southeast Region and second team National Soccer Coaches Association of America NCAA Division II All-Southeast Region.

O'Neill started all 20 matches he played in and finished with three goals and one assist his junior season. He finished with seven points and three shots on goal and scored one goal each against UAH, Flagler and USC Aiken. As a sophomore in 2011, O'Neill appeared in and started all 21 games.

He was named second team All-PBC, Pre-season All-PBC and PBC Defensive Player of the Week. He helped the Falcons secure 11 shutouts throughout the season. O'Neill arrived in Montevallo in the fall of 2010, appearing in 21 games, starting in each.

Dunaway is the host of the popular podcast, "The Next Round" (TNR). Prior to TNR, Dunaway hosted the radio show "The Roundtable" on WJOX Radio in Birmingham for many years. Dunaway has earned two Southern Regional Emmy Awards as

a producer/reporter at WVTM NBC 13 Birmingham and Associated Press Awards for Alabama Sportscaster of the Year at WIAT CBS 42 in Birmingham. He also received several Alabama Broadcasters Association Awards for work at WIAT CBS 42 and WJOX Radio and multiple Alabama Sports-caster of the Year awards from National Sports Media Association.

Dunaway initially wanted to walk on the baseball team at Montevallo, but Baseball Coach Bob Riesener pointed out that he had a better chance of succeeding in broadcasting.

Orton served as director of photography at UM from 1991 to 2014. For more than two decades, he provided a photo library for the University. His portfolio of games and photos of all UM athletic teams was extensive. His office maintained an archive of not only athletic events, but University photography as well.

Orton collected several awards during his stint at UM.

Brooks, who is an alum of the Falcons men's basketball program, currently serves as the superintendent for Shelby County Schools. He has worked in public education for nearly three decades and was instrumental in the creation of the Rob Spivery Endowed Scholarship to assist fifth-year members of the men's basketball program with scholarships. Brooks earned a bachelor's degree, master's degree and education specialist degree all from UM.

He is second in the men's basketball record book with his 3-point field goal percentage of .434 during his career from 1986-1988.

Watts is a former men's basketball stand-out at UM from 1968-1970 who has given generously to the program since his playing career ended. Watts received a bachelor's degree in business administration and a master's degree in school administration from UM. He had an outstanding career as executive vice president of marketing at ALFA.



1 Athletics Hall of Fame Class of 2022, from left, Daniel Tankersley '07, Matt Orton, Gary O'Neill '14, Herman Watts '70, M.Ed. '72, Dr. Lewis Brooks '88, M.Ed. '99, Ed.S. '03 and Jim Dunaway '88;
2 UM Athletic Director Mark Richard (left) and inductee Herman Watts; **3** From left, inductee Jim Dunaway with former UM baseball head coach Bob Riesener and UM women's basketball head coach Gary Van Atta; **4** Inductee Daniel Tankersley with his family; **5** Hall of Fame member Gabi Raposo '04, inductee Matt Orton and Whitney Erb Elam '05; **6** Inductee Dr. Lewis Brooks (center) with Kelsi Taylor, Jordan Brooks, Dr. Resia Brooks '97, M.Ed. '01 and Justin Brooks.





Strong Supporters of UM: The Newmans Endow Scholarship

The University proudly announced in December 2021, the establishment of the James and Jennifer Newman Endowed Accounting Scholarship in the Michael E. Stephens College of Business, made possible by a generous donation from the Newman family.

The scholarship is for students pursuing a degree in accounting, with preference to a student who is the first in their family to attend college.

“The Newman family has supported the University for many years,” said Scott Dillard, vice president of advancement and external affairs. “We are very excited about this gift and what it means for our students.”

The James and Jennifer Newman Scholarship will be awarded annually to a student who is an accounting major with junior or senior status or a fifth-year student and in

good academic standing at the University. Preference will be given to a first-generation college student with a demonstrated financial need for scholarship support.

If a qualified accounting major is not identified, the funds will be provided to a qualified student in the Stephens College of Business. If funds are available, additional scholarships may be awarded. The recipient may receive the scholarship for up to three years, including as a fifth-year MBA student.

Applicants may reapply to have the scholarship renewed.

James Newman graduated from UM in 1974 with a degree in accounting. After prestigious careers in accounting, James retired as a partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers and has served on the Stephens College of Business Advisory Board since 1985. Jennifer

Newman was formerly an accountant and CPA, as well as managing director at Morgan Keegan and Company, Inc.

Today, James and Jennifer Newman reside in Jacksonville, Florida, with their poodle, Beau.

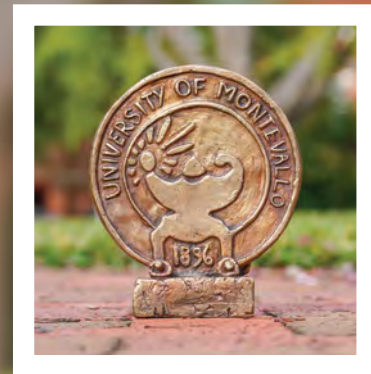
In appreciation for the Newman’s generosity, the University renamed the accounting program The James and Jennifer Newman Accounting Program.



Make your gift TODAY!
montevallo.edu/give

Own a Piece of UM History

To commemorate UM's 125th anniversary, Montevallo alum **Nelson Grice '94, M.Ed. '96** is creating a limited number of cast bronze works of art incorporating the University's seal, bricks, ginkgo leaf, falcon and Palmer gates. Each handmade piece is about 7" tall and 6" wide, and production is limited to just 125 sculptures.



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125th Commemorative Art

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Falcons on Fire: Trailblazing Alumni Who Are Making a Big Impact

For a small university tucked away in a tiny town, Montevallo produces many purple and gold-clad giants.

In this issue of Montevallo Today, we pay tribute to Falcons from the past quarter century who have been trailblazers in their respective fields.



Nichole M. Harris '13

Hueytown, Alabama, native Nichole M. Harris graduated from UM in 2013 with a bachelor's degree in political science.

The Atlanta resident is the chief program officer at St. Vincent de Paul Georgia. In February 2021, Harris created a community pharmacy that provides free maintenance medication to the under-insured, uninsured and undocumented who are experiencing the symptoms of poverty. In its first year, the clinic saved its clients \$563,819 on prescriptions.

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, Harris led a team of caseworkers that partnered with the United Way of Greater Atlanta and the City of Atlanta to distribute nearly \$500,000 to Atlanta's citizens in rent and mortgage assistance.

"My time at Montevallo prepared me to walk into every room with confidence and poise," Harris said. "From Communication 101 teaching me how to speak and command an audience to art history giving me the confidence to comment on an art piece at a benefactor's home, the education I received has helped me become a well-rounded professional."



1 Melanie Bouyer '97 Melanie Bouyer is a Lipscomb, Alabama, native who graduated from UM in 1993 with a bachelor's degree in speech language pathology. She also holds a law degree from Miles Law School, is executive director of the Bessemer Redevelopment Corporation and is the former mayor of the City of Lipscomb.



2 Joi Brown '10 Chicago to Birmingham transplant Joi Brown graduated from UM in 2010 with a bachelor's degree in art and a minor in sociology. She serves as the executive director of the Jefferson County Memorial Project. In 2021, she was awarded a nearly half-million dollar grant from the U.S. Department of Justice's Emmett Till Cold Case Investigations Program in partnership with the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office to support civil rights cold case investigations and community dialogue.



3 Saralyn Campbell '18, MBA '19 Saralyn Campbell is a native of Olympia, Washington, who currently resides in Louisville, Kentucky. She graduated from UM in 2018 with a bachelor's degree in business administration and marketing and business management. She also earned an MBA from UM in 2019. She is the marketing manager for the National Fastpitch Coaches Association.

4 Rick Casey '00 A 2000 graduate of UM who earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics, Casey is now director of software development at FIS Global and co-founder of Control Actual LLC, a software development company in Birmingham.

5 Colby Conklin '07 Ten years after graduating from UM in 2007 with a bachelor's degree in business administration, Birmingham native and resident Colby Conklin opened his first restaurant, EastWest, in the city, and is opening a second restaurant, Mr. West's Asian Kitchen, this summer in Trussville, Alabama.

6 David Daniels Jr. '03 David Daniels Jr. is a native of Birmingham who currently resides in Seattle. He graduated from UM with a bachelor's degree in elementary education in 2003. He is the human resource manager at Snap, Inc., which is the creator of SnapChat.



7 Clent Davis '09 Professional Angler Clent Davis is from Montevallo, lives in Montevallo and is a 2009 alum of Montevallo where he earned his degree in kinesiology. In 2018, Davis won the Forrest Wood Cup, which is a professional bass tournament hosted by the world's largest tournament-fishing organization, Fishing League Worldwide.

8 Gabrielle Dudley '08 Gabrielle Dudley is an Atlanta resident who hails from Bessemer, Alabama. She graduated from UM with a bachelor's degree in history in 2008. She is the head of research services for the Stuart A. Rose Manuscript and Archives at the Rare Book Library at Emory University and at the appointment of President Joe Biden, is a member of the Civil Rights Cold Cases Records Review Board, which is reviews and releases federal records relating to unsolved murders of Black Americans committed during the civil rights era.



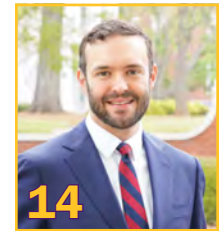
9 Hon. Matt Fridy '98 Alabama Court of Civil Appeals Judge Matt Fridy is a Birmingham native who graduated from UM in 1998 with a bachelor's degree in history and a minor a political science. He was elected to the Alabama Court of Civil Appeals in 2020 and served in the Alabama House of Representatives from 2014 to 2020.

10 Dr. Jen Fry '02 Dr. Jennifer Fry, 2002 UM psychology graduate and Yuma, Arizona, native, was a coach of the 2011 Division 1 national women's volleyball championship team and is now owner and CEO of JenFryTalks, a company that works with college athletic programs to end racism. She lives in Baltimore.



11 Hannah Godwin '17 Hannah Godwin is a native of Birmingham who after graduating from UM in 2017 with a bachelor's degree in business marketing, moved to San Diego where she works as a model, social media influencer, angel investor and founder of Setty, a photo and video filter app.

12 Amy Griffin '08 and Jamie Griffin '07 Amy Griffin is a born and bred Montevallo native who graduated from UM in 2008 with a bachelor's degree in mass communication with a concentration in journalism. She lives in Helena, Alabama, with her husband, Jamie Griffin, who is a 2007 UM business graduate. Together, they run a events/party venue called Helena Hollow.



13 Mary Light '19 An Enterprise, Alabama, native and 2019 UM graduate, Mary Light lives in New York working as a FEMA Congressional affairs specialist in the One World Trade Center. Light graduated with bachelor's degrees in communication studies and political science.

14 Daniel McBrayer '08 Daniel McBrayer is a 2008 UM graduate who earned bachelor's degrees in management and political science. The Pelham, Alabama, is an assistant U.S. attorney for the U.S. Attorney's Offices in Birmingham. He previously worked as chief trial assistant district attorney for Shelby County where he tried what's believed to be the first human trafficking charge jury trial in Alabama.



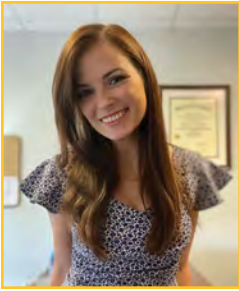
Jordan Hutchison '10

Jordan Hutchison hails from the small town of Hazel Green, Alabama, and now lives in the metropolis of Atlanta.

He is a 2010 graduate of UM and earned his bachelor's degree in psychology with a minor in general business. He currently serves as the director of partnerships for the XY Planning Network, an organization of more than 1,600 financial advisors across the nation.

He's received various industry recognitions for providing insight on the human side of financial planning, is a national speaker on the topics of life transitions, identity and flow states and will soon publish his doctoral research on the "Flow Theory in the Financial Planning Profession," which will be the first published work on the subject.

"Montevallo allowed me to pursue various interests throughout my time," Hutchison said. "This provided me the opportunity to genuinely find where my true passions lived."



Julia Maloney '13

A Jacksonville, Alabama, native, Julia Maloney graduated from UM in 2013 with a bachelor's in political science and a minor in pre-law.

She currently resides in Arlington, Virginia, where she works as a trial attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice's anti-trust division.

She is a recipient of the 2021 Attorney General Award, bestowed upon her for prosecuting a pharmaceutical manufacturing case that recovered more than \$450 million.

"Without the University of Montevallo, I wouldn't have had the courage to leave Alabama, study for the LSAT and become more than just the small-town girl I thought I would be," Maloney said. "The Washington internship program at UM provided opportunities that otherwise I wouldn't have had."

"I interviewed for that internship three times and finally earned a spot as a rising senior. The program exposed me to other highly motivated students from across the country and helped me to be comfortable leaving and living on my own outside of Alabama."



15 Fred Miller '04 and Dr. Terra '06 Miller Fred and Dr. Terra Miller are Birmingham natives who graduated from UM in 2004 and 2006, respectively. Fred Miller has a bachelor's degree in political science and history is the principal of Ruth Holdings, Inc., the parent company of he and his wife's Terra Miller's LLCs, which are mainly real estate holdings. Terra Miller has a bachelor's degree in mass communication and is a commercial real estate appraiser for Calhoun Sands Valuation & Advisory, Inc.

16 Jeff Purvis '02, MBA '16 Jeff Purvis is a UM double graduate having earned bachelor's degrees in psychology and social work in 2002, and an MBA in 2016. He's from Hoover, Alabama, and is president of A.C. Legg, Inc., a nearly century-old seasonings company in Birmingham.



17 Kristin Thompson Scroggin '00 Kristin Thompson Scroggin is a 2000 Montevallo graduate from Tuscaloosa. She earned her bachelor's degree in communication studies and owns genWHY Communication Strategies, a consulting company that helps businesses attract and retain millennial and Generation Z employees. She's also a lecturer at The University of Alabama in Huntsville.



Eric SanInocencio '03

Eric SanInocencio is a 2003 graduate of Montevallo who received his bachelor's degree in mass communication. He's from Daleville, Alabama, and resides in Seattle where he is head of content and brand for Amazon.

SanInocencio won the first Shorty for Social Good Award for the groundbreaking #TexansCare campaign created by the Houston Texans Digital team he led. He was also named Best in Birmingham Minority Business in 2013, awarded UMNAA's Nathalie Molton Gibbons Young Achievers Award in 2016 and selected for the UMNAA Board in 2022.

"Every important relationship I have in my life is because of Montevallo," he said. "I met my best friend, DeWayne Peevy, my biggest advisor, Coach Bob Riesener, and the love of my life, Heather Huot '02 (now SanInocencio) during my time there."

"Montevallo has not only shaped who I am, but directly led to every opportunity I've had both personally and professionally. I am forever thankful to my alma mater."



Learn more about these UM trailblazers at montevallo.edu/news

Alumni Business Directory

Over the last year, alumni entrepreneurs have been encouraged to submit their business information to develop an alumni business directory.

Art/Arts & Crafts

Madison Griggs '17

Art By Griggs..... Birmingham, AL

Suzanne Hurst '73, Phil Hurst and Phoebe Hurst '14

Blue Phrog Gallery..... Montevallo, AL

Suzanne Hurst '73 and Phil Hurst

Falcon Art Supply..... Montevallo, AL

Kristie LaRochelle '00

KP Studios (photography)..... Birmingham, AL

Kathleen Mackey King '74

Children's Prep Music Studio..... Natchez, MS

Kerry Komai '05

Komai's Oh My..... Madison, AL

Jeffrey Rease '83

Jeffrey Rease Photography, LLC..... Birmingham, AL

Lynsey Weatherspoon '06

Lynsey Weatherspoon Photography..... Atlanta, GA

Cathy Jo Wheeler '75

Artists Incorporated Gallery..... Leeds, AL

Jennifer Woodbery '10

j.woodbery photography..... Helena, AL

Construction/Engineering

Brad Davis '98

Wayne Davis Construction..... Montevallo, AL

Scott Henderson '84

Henderson and Coker..... Alexander City, AL

Ben Watson '06

Alabama Gutter Company..... Birmingham, AL

Education

Eddie Baker '04

Baker's Learning Kitchen..... Huntsville, AL

Kristin Scroggin '00

genWHY Communication Strategies..... Huntsville, AL

Entertainment

Lannette Brasher '86, MED '94

Rose Colored Glasses..... Hoover, AL

Emily Fancher '16

Elevated Entertainment..... Calera, AL

Amy Griffin '08 and Jamie Griffin '07

Helena Hollow..... Helena, AL

Finance/Accounting

Stacy Burke '15

Padgett Business Services of Montevallo..... Montevallo, AL

Deidra Gadberry '14

Deidra Gadberry State Farm..... Clanton, AL

Kathy McCarley Healy '86

Healy Wealth Management, LLC..... Atlanta, GA

Erica Anne Trickey Miller '98

Erica A Miller & Company, CPA..... Cullman, AL

Joe Prokop '11

Edward Jones..... Hoover, AL

Darlene L. Wilson '11

Relay Accounting Management..... Birmingham, AL

Food/Farming/Restaurant

Dana L. Cockrell '94

Dana's Cake Creations..... Birmingham, AL

Andrew Wages '13

Adventurer's Coffee Co. LLC..... Calera, AL

Health/Medical

Lisa Butler '95, M.Ed. '05

Awakenings Counseling Services..... Snead, AL

Katherine Gaut-Owens '81, MS '83

SpeechCare, Inc..... Decatur, AL

Caitlin Jones '11

Caitlin S. Jones. DMD LLC..... Anniston, AL

Undrae Lilly '07

DREFIT Studio..... Montevallo, AL

Esteban Suarez de Lima '05

Quiropraxis Vital..... Ramos Mejía, Buenos Aires

Pauline K. Long '99, PharmD, DCES

MedsPLUS Consulting..... Helena, AL

Stephanie Perez '07

Empowered Wellness Physical Therapy..... Meridianville, AL

Jon Pesek '66

Pesek Counseling Services..... Helena, AL

Melissa Roth '72

Melissa Roth Hypnotherapy Center..... Charleston, SC

Amber Thomas '03

Medela Therapies, LLC..... Attalla, AL

David Thomas '97

Total fitness consultants..... Mountain Brook, AL

Katie Vines '03, M.Ed.'07

Vines Counseling LLC..... Homewood, AL

Law

Kristin Fecteau Mosher '91

The Law Office of Kristin Fecteau..... Nashville, TN

Manufacturing

Jerry W. Fulmer '69

Dixie Decorations, Inc..... Montevallo, AL

Nonprofit

Ellen Burnette '84

Cultivate Abundance..... North Fort Myers, FL

Realty

Jameka Brooks '90

eXp Realty..... Hoover, AL

Greg Lee '99

Novus Realty..... Montevallo, AL

Isaac McDow '10

McDow Real Estate Group, Keller Williams..... Birmingham, AL

Brandelyn Nelson '08

Team Lehman, Keller Williams Realty..... Montevallo, AL

Retail

Lisa Montgomery Dye '89

810 Antiques..... Decatur, AL

Joel Harris '04, M.Ed. '08

Ruffner Relics LLC..... Birmingham, AL

Kristen Lively '20

Clu Market..... Hendersonville, AL

Donna Peters McCollough '91

Dove Christian Supply..... Dothan, AL

James Happy Smith '92

The Flower Shop..... Montevallo, AL

Services

Wes Anania '06

Wes Anania Soccer Camps..... Brookhaven, GA

Jeff Berger '90

Conference Planning Resources, LTD..... Naperville, IL

Julia Davis '20

Little Business Library..... Tuscaloosa, AL

Joel Harris '04

Ruffner Relics Antiques and Estate Sales..... Birmingham, AL

Russell Hooks

Happenin's in the Ham LLC..... Birmingham, AL

Rebecca Macks '05

Montevallo Doghouse + Cats, LLC..... Montevallo, AL

Leif Milliron '13

Move Gurus, Junk Gurus..... Calera, AL

Amy Stedeford Percy '97

AJ Gardens..... Pegram, TN

Lynda Turner '70

American Sweeping, Inc..... Montgomery, AL

Alex Wilson '22

Ajwstylz Beauty and Salon..... Montevallo, AL

Technology

David Bunt MBA '13

Visibil.IT..... Montevallo, AL

Ricky Casey '00

Control Actual LLC..... Birmingham, AL

View more information about these businesses or add your information to this list at montevallo.edu/business-directory



Q&A

with Willie Phillips '00

Your home: Washington, D.C.

Your hometown: Fairhope, Alabama

Tell us about your family. I've been married to my wife, Gabrielle, for 14 years. We have two small children — Peyton and Tripp.

What is your profession? Commissioner at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). I am also an attorney.

What made you choose this profession? After graduating law school, I went to work at a private law firm where my practice was primarily energy regulatory law.

In your profession, how have you been a pioneer or trailblazer? I served as the youngest chairman of the D.C. Public Service Commission, and I'm only the fourth African American to serve on the FERC in its entire history.

How did Montevallo affect your career path? I discovered my passion for public service at UM. I was SGA president, a Montevallo Master and president of my fraternity (Kappa Alpha Psi, Polemarch). Being a student leader gave me confidence and experiences that I still draw on today.

Please tell us about your educational foundation (degrees, and other education achievements): bachelor's degree

in social sciences from Montevallo; J.D. degree from Howard University School of Law; member of the Alabama State Bar and D.C. Bar Associations.

How did you know you belonged at Montevallo? I attended Boys State, which was hosted at Montevallo, and I fell in love with the campus and the people.

What would you tell a prospective student who was considering UM? Montevallo is a complete college experience and an excellent education. The small class sizes, quality professors and active student life rivals any school in the region.

What awards/honors have you received? Is there a most significant honor? If so, please tell us about it. I'm especially proud to have served as the immediate past chair of Living Classrooms of the National Capital Region.

What is your secret for success? I treat people the way I want to be treated.

What is the best advice you have received? Happiness is not having everything that you want, but wanting everything that you have.

Do you have a favorite motto? If so, what is it? Servant leadership.

What are your hobbies? I'm boring. I love reading, hiking and spending time with my wife and kids.

What is your favorite Montevallo memory as a student? I often think about my last day in the Anna Irvin Dining Hall before graduation. Me and my fraternity brothers were savoring the moment and pretending like we weren't a little sad. One by one folks started to leave until it was just me and my line brothers left. Once we realized it was just us, we dapped each other and walk away. We didn't know it would be almost 20 years before we all would be together again. It reminds me to never make the mistake of thinking you have time.

What is your favorite Montevallo memory as an alum? Speaking at the 2021 fall commencement.

What would you like alumni to know about reconnecting with the University and alumni association? Do it. And go back to campus whenever you can. While the campus has grown and changed — when you drive onto the red bricks, you still get that feeling like when you were a student. It's so very good for the soul.



Photos by Vasha Hunt

College Night 2022 Returns with Renewed Vigor



After a virtual and relatively subdued College Night 2021 due to the pandemic, College Night 2022 returned with unbridled energy, passion, sharp execution of performances and fierce competition.

Concluding the festivities of “Homecoming 2022: Back on the Bricks: Where We Belong!,” the Saturday performance of College Night stretched for nearly five hours in a packed Palmer Auditorium.

After an explanation of the event’s more than 100-year history, the night kicked off with students and alumni on the Purple Side

and Gold Side exchanging banter, stepping, cheering, singing and holding hands in a circle encapsulating the auditorium. The hype changed the effervescence of the event’s atmosphere prior to the performances of the original musical productions.

Gold ultimately claimed College Night’s coveted victory, but it was certainly hard won.

This year’s leaders for the Purple Side were Elicia “Licee” Freeman and Kathryn “Katy” Barnes.

The Gold Side leaders were Joy Hill and Kensley Sandlin.



Purple Side

The Purple Side's performance was a musical titled, "Bad at Being Bad" or "The League of Incredibly Evil Wrongdoers Who Sometimes Do Good."

A gang of villains, The League of Incredibly Evil Wrongdoers, appeared at First National Bank of Montevapolis, and a dancing-singing battle between the villainous gang and superheroes ensued as it was broadcast in a live newscast.

Numerous fights occurred between the heroes and villains with the heroes having the upper hand since they lost their champion, Dagger. The villains' leader, Dr. Weevil, pressured her lackeys to recruit a new member.

The new intern infiltrated a ball where she and the hero Sparrow discovered that FalconMan, the heroes' leader who humorously cried out with random falcon caws, murdered Dagger and numerous superheroes to keep their rivalry going and position his company to be hired to repair damage from superhero/supervillain battles.

The heroes and villains ultimately agree to work together to defeat FalconMan, and after a hard-fought battle, they defeat him and expose him publicly.

Gold Side

The Gold Side's musical titled "Ballad of the Mississippi River," was a tale about a conflict between American folk legends such as Paul Bunyan, Johnny Appleseed and John Henry.

As "The Ballad of the Mississippi River" was being sung, Henry got into a days-long fight with Bunyan. Bunyan won their first bout.

After hearing of a mafia-like Bunyan, Appleseed believes he can win him over with a bottle of his famous cider. He's warned against this multiple times and is even told that speaking Bunyan's name will cause him to appear.

Not believing this, he speaks his name at a saloon, and Babe The Blue, who isn't the traditional blue ox from the folklore but a cunning woman in a blue dress, strides in searching for him.

He escapes to Tennessee to seek help from Henry. Henry agrees, and they confront Bunyan.

Their final battle takes place, axe clashing against hammer, and splits the earth to its core. The catastrophe, which creates the Grand Canyon, ends their fight.

Wrap Up

The night ended with the Purple Side and Gold Side cheering and chanting with Gold Victory and Purple Victory hand signals as they awaited the results.

Gold Side erupted in celebration before the final speech announcing them as the 2022 College Night winner was completed. The leaders of both sides hugged, and the night concluded.



- 1 The Gold Side presents "Ballad of the Mississippi River;"
- 2 Gold Side reacts to the 2022 College Night winner announcement;
- 3 The Purple Side presents "Bad at Being Bad" or "The League of Incredibly Evil Wrongdoers Who Sometimes Do Good;"
- 4 College Night leaders, from left: Katy Barnes (PV), Joy Hill (GV) and Licee Freeman (PV) embrace.



Outstanding Alumni Honored and New Board Members Installed



The UM National Alumni Association (UMNAA) held its homecoming recognition luncheon and annual business meeting at Anna Irvin Dining Hall on Feb. 19 to honor three outstanding alumni.

“These individuals’ careers are consistently a great credit to Montevallo,” said Eddie Baker III ’04, UMNAA president-elect.

Distinguished Alumni Award

Major league baseball hall of famer and UM 1995 alum Rusty Greer was selected as the 2022 recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award, the National Alumni Association’s highest annual honor.

Greer, a native of Fort Rucker and Albertville, Alabama, who now resides in Colleyville, Texas, is the owner and operator of the Rusty Greer Baseball School.

Some of Greer’s honors and achievements include being inducted into the UM Athletic Hall of Fame in 1996, into the Texas Baseball Hall of Fame in 2002, into the Texas Rangers Hall of Fame in 2007 and into the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame in 2022.

“I’m truly honored to receive the Distinguished Alumni Award,” Greer said. “Going to Montevallo, it did a lot of things for me.

It gave me the opportunity to get a great education, but more importantly for me, it put me on a career path that I never could have imagined.”

Nathalie Molton Gibbons Alumni Achievement Award

If a picture is worth a thousand words, then the profound work of freelance photographer Lynsey Weatherspoon could fill a library.

Weatherspoon, a 2006 graduate and McNair Scholar, was selected as the recipient of the 2022 Nathalie Molton Gibbons Alumni Achievement Award, which recognizes an alum age 35 or older whose contributions through career or community service, reflect positively on society at the local, state or national level.

The Birmingham native’s documentary portrait photography has allowed her to make portraits of the last surviving members of the Negro Baseball League; the unique culture of the Gullah Geechee people who reside on the sea islands; and many other moments in the lives of Americans, particularly those in Birmingham and Atlanta where she’s based.



Weatherspoon's work has been exhibited at The African American Museum in Philadelphia, Photoville NYC, and featured in prominent publications such as The New York Times, National Geographic, TIME, ESPN and The Washington Post.

"There was nothing that I didn't believe that I could do because Montevallo made me believe that everything and anything was possible," Weatherspoon said.

Some of her honors include being a 2021 American Photography 37 award winner, receiving the 2021 National Geographic Society Grant, being named a 2020 Canon Explorers of Light, taking part in the 2019 New York Times Portfolio Review and being named to the UM Junior Board's inaugural class of 15 Within 15.

Nathalie Molton Gibbons Young Achiever's Award

The 2022 Nathalie Molton Gibbons Young Achiever's Award was awarded to 2009 UM graduate Marvin J. Price.

The award is given annually to an alum age 35 or younger whose career and community contributions have reflected positively at the local, state or national level.

Price, a Birmingham native, is the executive vice president of economic development at the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce.

Previously, Price served as vice president of economic recruitment for the Charlotte Regional Business Alliance, managed business development for Spire and was project manager for the Birmingham Business Alliance.

He was also president of the Urban League of Central Carolinas from 2018 to 2021.

"The University of Montevallo believes in diversity, equity and inclusion, and I truly believe that if we're going to change things in society, Montevallo is one of the key institutions that will do so," Price said.

Price is the recipient of many professional awards, including the 2018 and 2020 Consultant Connect Top 50 Economic Developers Award, 2019 and 2021 DCI 40 Under 40 in Economic Development and UM Junior Board's inaugural class of 15 Within 15.

Annual UMNAA Business Meeting

After the award ceremony concluded, President Cynthia Todd '88 installed Stephanie Shaw '93 as the board's new president.

"It's been some work, and there have been some challenges because of the pandemic, but it's been a whole lot of fun, and I've certainly enjoyed my tenure as president," Todd said. "I have realized, time and time again, what a special place Montevallo is. I think we've heard that from all our honorees today."

Shaw told the association that serving as board president was a dream come true. The previous board officers were thanked for their service, and Shaw installed the board's new members and other newly elected officers.

The current officers include: Baker, president-elect; Greg Lee '99, vice president for alumni services; Pat Scales '66, vice president for awards and recognition; Zachary Banks '09, vice president for clubs; Raymond Rainey Jr. '88, vice president for student services; Diane Ray '68, vice president of board development/secretary; Jean Kline '77, vice president of finance/treasurer; Greg Lee '99, vice president for alumni services; Megan E. Randolph '06, vice president for special events; Todd, parliamentarian.



1 Cynthia Todd '88 presents Lyndsey Weatherspoon '06 with the Nathalie Molton Gibbons Alumni Achievement Award; 2 Junior Board President Clark Maxwell '13 presents Marvin Price '09 with the Nathalie Molton Gibbons Young Achiever's Award; 3 Director of Alumni Affairs Tiffany Bunt '00 welcomes alumni to the Homecoming recognition luncheon and annual business meeting; 4 Price poses with his family; 5 Weatherspoon celebrates with her family; 6 The UMNAA Board's new president, Stephanie Shaw '93, presents the past president, Cynthia Todd '88, with a plaque to thank her for her service.

Back on the Bricks: WHERE WE BELONG!

HOMECOMING 2022

1 Alumni share memories at the Exercise and Nutrition Science Reception; 2 Diane Ray '68, Jeanette Crew (emerita), Mary Norton Bentley '76 and Linda Cicero '64 gather to remember Miriam Collins, professor emerita of physical education, in the classroom now named in her memory; 3 FCS student Anna Mitchell Clark, Candyce Hughston '10, FCS student Autumn Canty, Stephanie Ford Foster '03; Amanda Grauel, Dr. Laura Bloom and FCS student Emily McCay; 4 Kelley D. Hart '91, Donna Allen '78 and Melinda Gargiulo '86 reunite; 5 Recent grad Josh Love '20 hugs Dr. Laura Bloom; 6 Karen Nix Czeskleba '75 is greeted by Dr. Amiee Mellon, interim dean, at the Stephens College of Business reception; 7 Jean Kline '77 and Raymond Rainey Jr. '88; 8 Class of 1972 celebrate their 50-year reunion. Stephanie Harley, Deborah Czerski, Sally Penhallegon, Kathleen Wintter Quosig and Deborah Still Tuck; 9 Thomas Sieg, Rosemary Harika Sieg and Jo Ann Beverly Brown at the 50-year reunion; 10 Former UMNAA president Kit Waters '78 hugs outgoing UMNAA president Cynthia Todd '88; 11 Vintage Purples Zachary Banks '08, Lynsey Weatherspoon '06 and Lindsey Sherrill '07; 12 Kay Butts-Pruett '04 chats with Dr. Tiffany Wang; 13 Dr. Danielle Deavours poses with mass communication alumni Brett Batchelor '20 and Carlee Loyd '21; 14 Prior to the College Night basketball game, alumni gather to tailgate behind Myrick Gym. This year, alumni were surprised to find food trucks at the event; 15 Kristin Law '01 views artwork at the Alumni Art Auction in Poole Art Gallery; 16 Surrounded by alumni supporters, Scott Stephens is recognized for his years of service at the annual Alumni Art Auction. During the Poole Party portion of the auction, recently retired professors Stephens and Karen Graffeo were honored; 17 Honorees at the College of Education and Human Development awards reception.





CLASS NOTES

1943 Naomi Meyer Hodgman of Evanston, Illinois, celebrated her 100th birthday in August.

1965 Carl Paepcke of Fortson, Georgia, is a retired FBI special agent with more than 32 years of service. Since his retirement more than 20 years ago, he has been writing stories about his life experiences, military heroes and notable characters and events. He has recently published his first book, "Those Thrilling Yarns of Yesteryear: Thoughts and Memories." All his royalties will be donated to the Semper Fi and America's Fund, which was specifically set up for combat wounded, ill and injured.

1967 John Davis has retired as a distinguished professor of English, emeritus, at Chowan University in Murfreesboro, North Carolina. A Mark Twain scholar, he has written copiously on that author. During his time at Chowan, John added a number of honor fraternities to that university and also served as a faculty marshal for 17 years. Upon his retirement, he was the recipient of several awards including the McDowell Columns Scholars Award and the Faculty Community Award.

Dr. Jack Hawkins M.Ed. '71, chancellor of Troy University, received the Chief Justice Tom Parker Lifetime Achievement

Award, given by the United States Trust for a More Perfect Union. In presenting the award, Founder Toby Warren said, "Few in America are changing our nation in a radical way. Dr. Hawkins has the gift of reaching the stars and building an international model of goodness with grace. Thank God for his servant leadership and for the dignity of humanity."

1970 Herman Watts M.Ed. '72 was recently inducted into the University of Montevallo Athletics Hall of Fame. He was a men's basketball standout from 1968-1970. (See more coverage on page 11)

1972 Dr. Don Chance and Jan Shewmake Chance currently reside in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where Don is a finance professor at Louisiana State University. After working in the business field for several years, Jan became a stay-at-home mom and volunteer for her church and the Girl Scouts of America. The Chances established the Girl Scout Gold Award Scholarship at UM a number of years ago and plan to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in August.

1973 Sarah Kathryn Farnell has written a comedic memoir about growing up during the hippie era in the deep South including her time at UM. Titled "Tie Dyed: Avoiding Aquarius," the memoir was released in March.

Alabama College Society

From left: (front row) Joyce Greathouse '56, Joyce Trigg '62, Libby Queen '59; (back row) Mary Louise Dabbs '56, M.Ed. '62, Rod Hildreth '62, Eleanor Shotts '62, Lela Poythress '56



1974 Grover Dunn M.Ed. has retired as tax collector for Jefferson County, Alabama. Grover spent 27 years in public education as a teacher, coach and principal of Charles F. Hard Elementary School and Jess Lanier High School. He has been active in his community including serving as deputy probate judge for Jefferson County from 1993 to 2001. He is active in politics in the area and said that he is not retiring from that. Grover is married to Sen. Priscilla Dunn M.Ed. '72.

1975 David O. Bailey M.Ed. '80 has retired as executive director of trade relations for TherapeuticsMD. For 38 years he was active in the pharmaceutical industry, garnering a number of

awards. David and his wife, **Cindy Loper Bailey '76, M.S. '80**, reside in Boca Raton, Florida.

Tom Walker, president and founder of the American Village in Montevallo, has retired as president and will transition to president emeritus. He will keep an office at the Village and focus on a few priorities including completion of Independence Hall. The American Village has served more than 750,000 students and thousands of public visitors.

1976 John Douglas Dortch Jr.

has retired as senior minister of Mountain Brook Baptist Church. He served several churches in Alabama, Florida and Kentucky.

Hubert van Tuyll and his wife, **Debra Reddin van Tuyll '78**, have retired from the faculty at Augusta University in Augusta, Georgia. Hubert served as chair of the history, anthropology and philosophy department while Debra was an assistant professor.

James E. Vann, of Birmingham, has been named president of Dentons Sirote, the world's largest law firm. Jim has been with the firm since 2001 and previously served as chair of Dentons Sirote's Real Estate practice group. He has received many recognitions and awards during his career. He has also served on the UMNAA board of directors.

1978 Stephen E. Condrey

has been appointed by President Joe Biden to chair the Federal Salary Council, an advisory body of the

executive branch that provides recommendations on pay differentials for federal employees. Stephen is currently president of Condrey and Associates, Inc., a human resources consulting firm. He served as the Federal Salary Council Chair under the Obama administration from 2010 to 2017. He served as president of the American Society for Public Administration (2013-2014) and is a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration. Stephen is married to UM professor of English Dr. Samantha Webb.

1979 William D. Hucks

recently retired as a professional baseball umpire. He is now the personal motor coach driver for the Chattanooga Lookouts professional baseball club and the University of Tennessee Chattanooga basketball team.

1983 Dr. J. Mark Baker

, a choral conductor, singer, church musician and music educator, received a doctorate from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He has produced "Vocal Aerobics," a book of progressively challenging vocal exercises to be accomplished every day for 40 weeks. As a music editor, he has prepared several collections of operas and choral music of classical composers. The Milwaukee Chamber Choir, a professional-level ensemble founded by him in 2013, gave a concert in November.

Bari Daily Walton recently became the assistant director of the Homewood Day School.

1987 Sean Doyle

, a general partner with FitzMartin Inc., was named a finalist for the Birmingham Business Journal's 2021 CEO Award.

Tim Rich has been named deputy regional director for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, where he is responsible for all applications, enforcement and risk management bank examination activity in the seven-state region. Tim and his wife, **Brenda Athenas Rich '87**, who is a marketing executive with Chickfil-A, live in Kennesaw, Georgia, and Cropwell, Alabama.

1988 Dr. Tracey Morant Adams

, senior executive vice president of Renasant Bank in Birmingham, was the recipient of the 2022 Vanessa Rogers Long Humanitarian Award, bestowed upon a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., who exhibits the highest standards of community leadership and exemplifies extraordinary efforts toward bettering society.

Dr. Lewis Brooks M.Ed. '99, Ed.S. '03, superintendent of Shelby County Schools, was inducted into the University of Montevallo Athletics Hall of Fame in January. During his time at UM, he was a star basketball player, setting records between 1984 and 1988 including his three-point field goal percentage of .434. (See more coverage on page 11)

Jim Dunaway, an award-winning sports broadcaster in the Birmingham market, was recently inducted into the UM

Athletics Hall of Fame. He is a partner in Double Down Media and a host of The Next Round. (See more coverage on page 10)

Laura Harbison Doss, director of Cullman Women Sing, recently led the choir in its concert, Take Me to Heaven. It was the choir's first concert in two years.

1990 Mark Eiland

, of Mobile, has been appointed president of the Trust Division of the Alabama Bankers Association.

Stacy Moon has been promoted to partner in the Birmingham office of Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, LLP. Stacy is a member of the Commercial Litigation practice group, as well as employment law, construction law, government regulatory and administrative law, professional liability and cannabis, hemp and CBD practice groups. She was also recently selected to speak at the 2022 DRI Business Litigation and Intellectual Property Litigation Super Conference held in March in Houston.

The Rev. Elizabeth "Beth" Chalker Thomason has been named senior pastor at First Christian Church in Hoover. She served churches in north Alabama for 20 years before coming to the Birmingham area during the pandemic. FCC held its first in-person service on Easter Sunday 2021.

1991 Charlene Hallman

was recently promoted to software quality assurance manager at Motion Industries in Birmingham. She



70s Decade Reunion

From left: (front row) Donna Thompson Allen '78, Claudia Harrell '73, M.Ed. '76, Barbara Sloan '72, Delores Adkins '77; (back row) Jean Martin Kline '77, Kathy McCrary '72, Roger Conville '74

and her husband, **Christopher Hallman '93**, who works as a business analyst for Palmetto GBA, reside in Cleveland, Alabama.

1992 Dr. Karen Musgrove M.Ed. '96; Dr. Michael V. Wilson Ed.S. '97; and James W. Gibbs '96 opened the Magic City Acceptance Academy in the fall of 2021 with an enrollment of more than 200 students. According to the charter school's statement of purpose, MCAA "facilitates a community in which all learners are empowered to embrace education, achieve individual success and take ownership of their future in a brave LGBTQ-affirming learning environment." Organizationally, Karen is CEO, Mike is the founding principal and Jim is director of operations. Karen has served as CEO of Birmingham AIDS Outreach since 2003, expanding its operations to include a number of services to the LGBTQ community.

1994 Raymond Bell has been elected president of the Mobile Bar Association after serving as vice president and president-elect.

Amoi Geter, of Hoover, was recently named director of communication strategy and PR for Southern Company Gas. She will be responsible for developing and implementing strategic communications plans and providing oversight on all media and public relations efforts. Amoi has more than 20 years of experience in the Southern Company system.

1996 Tami Genry was recently named Secondary District Teacher of the Year by Mountain Brook City Schools. She is in her fifth year as librarian at Mountain Brook Junior High.

Scott Romanowski was named a finalist for the Birmingham Business Journal's CFO awards. He is CFO for Porter Capital Corp.

1997 Melanie Bouyer recently accepted

the role of executive director of the Bessemer Redevelopment Corporation, where she will be leading the transformation of Bessemer's neighborhoods through community first development.

Capt. Scott Thurmond has been named acting Birmingham chief of police. He is a 23-year veteran of the Birmingham Police Department, having served in a variety of positions, most recently as executive assistant to the deputy chief of the Investigative Bureau.

1998 Lori Patterson M.Ed., CEO of the YMCA of Chilton County, was recently named Citizen of the Year by The Clanton Advertiser. Lori is active in her community, serving not only the YMCA, but also First United Methodist Church, the Board of Education and several local non-profits. At the YMCA, she has initiated several programs to improve children's services as well as the health and wellness of members.

Lori and her husband, Jimbo, have twins attending college and have fostered nine children.

Keith Shoemaker was recently promoted to strategic sourcing manager for Delta Air Lines.

Robert A. "Tony" Sturgis is a firefighter paramedic with Tuscaloosa Fire and Rescue and a studio artist at Kentuck Art Center in Northport. He had 20 of his paintings exhibited in "Sustaining Dialogues: Two Painters" at the Alabama Center for the Arts in Decatur in October.

1999 Eric V. Fry M.Ed. '01 has been named dean of enrollment management at Western Wyoming Community College in Rock Springs, Wyoming.

2000 Kristie LaRochelle is celebrating 20 years as a commercial photographer. Her business, KP Studios, is in the Birmingham area.

Willie L. Phillips Jr. has been selected commissioner of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. He had served as chair of the District of Columbia Public Service Commission and assistant general counsel to the North American Electric Reliability Corporation from 2010 to 2014. (See Alumni Profile on page 18)

Daniel White, gallery director of the Paul R. Jones Museum and gallery director of The University of Alabama Gallery in Tuscaloosa, had 20 of his paintings exhibited in "Sustaining Dialogues: Two Painters" at the Alabama Center for the Arts in Decatur in October.

2001 Heather Andrews Hughes of Hagerstown, Maryland, was

the project lead for Protech Associates' 2020 Virtual Fusion Customer Conference which won the Bronze Stevie® Award in the Corporate & Community — Customer Engagement Event category at the 19th Annual American Business Awards® in 2021. She was also recently promoted to event marketing manager at Protech Associates.

Sam Kile accepted a new role as ecommerce sales manager at First Horizon Bank in Birmingham.

2002 Jen Fry was recognized in the Sports Illustrated and Empower Onyx series: "Elle-ivate: 100 Influential Black Women in Sports." The series aims to foster an environment where Black women can share their inspirational stories and impact on the communities they serve as a way to encourage and enlighten the next generation of leaders in sports and beyond. Jen is owner and CEO of her educational support and consulting firm JenFryTalks.

Vicki Jackson M.Ed. '05 was recently named Shelby County Schools High School Teacher of the Year in Birmingham. She teaches mathematics and sponsors several student groups.

Jeff Purvis MBA '16 was recently promoted to president at A.C. Legg in Calera.

Amos Snead is now president at ADFERO, a communications agency in Washington, D.C.

Lana Tew M.Ed. was recently named director of special education for Cullman County Schools. Her career has been devoted to working with students with disabilities as well as those who are gifted and talented. She comes to Cullman from Morgan County, Alabama, where she was director of special education for 13 years.

2003 Reagen Denson began a new job as account manager for Ambipar Response/One Stop Environmental at One Stop Environmental.

Hilary Dutton has a new role

as institutional research analyst at UM.

Eric SanInocencio has been named head of brand and content strategy for Amazon. Eric and his family will relocate from Greensboro, North Carolina, to Seattle in the summer.

2005 Candace O'Neil joined the Agency Team at Daxko in Birmingham as the account strategy and services manager.

Margaret E. Simpson, an associate with the Atlanta law firm of Boyd Collar Nolen Tuggle & Roddenbery, has been recognized for the seventh consecutive year as a Rising Star by Super Lawyers. Super Lawyers is a rating service of lawyers from more than 70 practice areas who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement. Only 5% of lawyers in Georgia are selected as Super Lawyers.

2006 Justin Averette has been promoted to internal and executive

communications manager for Southern Company. In this role, he will lead the team responsible for communicating to the company's 28,000 employees. He is also serving this year as president of PRIDE Power, Southern Company's and Georgia Power's LGBTQ+ employee resource group.

Sheena Griffin was named a finalist for the Birmingham Business Journal's CFO awards. Sheena is Accounting Director at Strong Automotive Merchandising.

Dana Wright Marshall M.Ed. '07, '15 is now the associate director of advanced programs for GEAR UP Jefferson County.

Melanie Wilson has started a new job as area facilitator for GEAR UP Jefferson County.

2007 Daniel Tankersley, award-winning pitcher for the UM Falcons in 2006-2007, was inducted into the UM Athletics Hall of Fame in January. Daniel is currently discipleship pastor at Calvary

✓ Class of 1972 50-Year Reunion

From left: (front row) Rozlyn Spiker, Betty Gottler, Jo Ann Beverly Brown, Deborah Still Tuck, Rosemary Harika Sieg, Eric Olson, Stephanie Harley, Deborah Czierski, Mike Payne; **(back row)** Tom Martin, Barbara Sloan, Kathleen Wintter Quosig, Sally Penhallegon, Cornelia Watts, Susan Riddle, Carl Watts





^ 80s Decade Reunion

From left: (front row) Adele Dabbs Bryant '86, Renee Miller Emanuel '82, Michele Frankenberg Huber '82, Becky Holcombe Adams '82, M.S. '84; **(back row)** Melinda Thompson Gargiulo '86, M.Ed. '93, Karen Willette Smith '87, Richard Emanuel '82, Warwick Mann Woodall '82, Amy Hicks Nenadovich '82, Earl Goodwin '83

Baptist Church in Dothan. (See more coverage on page 10)

Bethany Thigpen now works as a social worker at the Cullman Regional Medical Center.

2010 **Joi Brown** was selected for and participated in the Women's Policy Institute. Nearly 200 women from across the state of Alabama applied for the WPI Fellowship, a 40-hour experiential learning curriculum designed to train community leaders in public policy advocacy. Joi is currently the executive director for the Jefferson County Memorial Project in Birmingham.

Rakia Hassell has started a new job as manager of communications and public relations for GEAR UP Jefferson County.

Candyce Hughston has been promoted to service supervisor with the Alabama Department of Human Resources in Tuscaloosa County.

2011 **Courtney Bennett** recently earned her Professional Community and Economic Developer certification from the Community Development Institute. CDI is part of a nationwide network empowering people with the knowledge and skills necessary to improve the physical and human resources of their communities, thereby increasing the quality of life for all citizens.

Katie Inabinet M.Ed. '13 has been promoted to director of policy, government affairs at Shipt in Birmingham.

Dr. Elizabeth Sellers Myrick has joined Helena Veterinary Clinic.

Matthew Nelson, who is vice president of facilities at Birmingham Airport Authority, was recently named to the Birmingham Business Journal's Next Gen BHM Workforce & Education and General list.

Cameron Strauss, of Springville, Alabama, instructed

a class in herbalism and foraging at the Alabama Folk School at Camp McDowell's From Scratch weekend. Owner and founder of Deep Roots School of Foraging and Herbal Medicine, Cameron is an herbalist, medicine maker, wildcrafter and teacher.

Patrick Talley has started a new role as vice president corporate marketing — direct marketing strategist for Regions Bank in Birmingham.

2012 **Lindsey Bristol**, a performer in regional theatres and national tours, is residing in Los Angeles where she has been working on the mini-series, "This is B.S." Released to YouTube recently, the mockumentary follows a group of New York City actors through the complete process of staging a play at a venue called Bristle Shores (B.S.) Playhouse. The project was fully funded through crowd-sourcing.

2013 **Cameron Hall** was named the inaugural executive director of annual giving and lead generation for the University of South Carolina. Prior to this role, he worked as the senior director of annual giving for the Texas Tech University System.

Jennifer Matthews M.Ed. '14, of Albertville, Alabama, was recently hired as a sales analyst and RFP writer for TSYS Global Payments after working seven years in Phenix City and Albertville City Schools.

2014 **Gary O'Neill**, an award-winning soccer player at UM from 2010 to 2013, was recently inducted into the UM Athletics Hall of Fame. He resides in Ireland where he is an officer in the Irish Army. (See more coverage on page 10)

2015 **Lydia Clements** is now working as tutoring coordinator for UM's Falcon Success Center.

Laurel Hall Dobbins joined the UM Alumni Affairs staff as assistant director in October.

Jacob Guyton MBA '18 has started a new job as marketing technology coordinator at the law firm of Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP in Birmingham.

Ian Stewart is now a database analyst for University Advancement at UM.

2016 **Crystal Roskam Stillwell M.Ed. '20** recently joined Strive Counseling Services in Birmingham as a therapist serving young clients age 4-18 years.

2017 **Paul Mahaffey II** has been promoted to application admin-

istrator at Southern Veterinary Partners in Birmingham.

Paris Nelson has been named the inaugural director of the Washington State University Vancouver TRIO Talent Search program. She will develop and lead a project to support 1,000 middle and high school students at partnering Vancouver schools. As the first in her family to graduate high school and receive advanced degrees and as a three-time TRIO program alum at UM, she said she is excited to see her career come full circle and lead a TRIO program of her own.

2018 William Felch is working as an outside plant engineer (OSP) for Byers Engineering in Birmingham.

Jaelyn Rivers Ed.S. recently received an Ed.D. in educational leadership from Samford University. She currently serves as district technology instruc-

tional coach for Sylacauga City Schools.

Joyia Williams is now working as a career coordinator in the Career Development Center at UM.

2019 Lizet Chavez Martinez now serves as a student financial accountant at UM.

Peyton McIlwain accepted the role of a program coordinator for the UAB School of Medicine.

Andriana Smith started a new position as television news producer at WBRC FOX 6 News in Birmingham.

2020 Julia Davis recently began working as a communication specialist for the Department of Nutrition at UAB.

Allison Thomas started a new job as administrative and graduate program assistant in Communication Science Disorders at UM.

2021 Hannah Irvin recently accepted the role of associate editor at Cahaba Media Group in Birmingham.

WEDDINGS

2015 Laurel Hall and Jason Dobbins were married on Jan. 15, at Hoyt Hallow in Empire, Alabama. Members of the bridal wedding party included UM alums **Rachael Farlow '11** and **Dillon Owens '14**. Groomsmen were Jason's childhood friends and alums, **Brantley Hall '13** and **Thomas Allen '16**. The Dobbinses reside in Calera. Laurel is the assistant director for Alumni Affairs at UM and Jason is a head chef at Bistro V in Vestavia.

2016 Crystal Roskam M.Ed. '20 and Tristan Stillwell were married March 26 at the historic Alabama Theatre in downtown Birmingham. The wedding

party included UM alums **Kaley Martin '16**, **Ashlee Odum '15** and **Melissa Stano '11, M.Ed. '20**. Crystal recently began working as a therapist at Strive Counseling Services. The couple lives in Mountain Brook, Alabama.

2018 Lindsey Rae Ward and James Graham were married March 26, at the 6th Street Warehouse in Clanton. The two met through Baptist Campus Ministry freshman year. The wedding party included alums **Emma Lovett '18**, **Katie Compton '18**, **Beth Graham Lea '11** and **Jordan Lightsey '19**. Lindsey works as a kindergarten teacher at Montevallo Elementary School, while James is a locksmith. The couple resides in Clanton.

2019 Rebekah Hill and **Connor Ryan '19** were married March 12 in Fairhope, Alabama. Rebekah works as a marketing assistant at Everest, and Connor

90s Decade Reunion

From left: (front row) Betsy Weese Hoffman '94, Lisa Waddell Williams '93, Tracy McCracken '92, Dawn Allen '92, Paige Larkin '97, Stephanie Shaw '93, Spring Garden Logan '93, Christy Jackson Bartee '94; (back row) John Stough '99, Joel Tumlin '93, Ted Williams '92, Chris Pittson '92, Alan Shaw '93



is a membership sales specialist with Landing in Birmingham.

BIRTHS

2012 Cortez Bennett and his wife, Andrea, are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Savanna, on Oct. 10, 2021. Savanna was welcomed to the Bennett home in Leeds by big sister Addie. Cortez is a commercial credit portfolio manager at Regions Bank in Birmingham.

2013 Lindsay Moore Shippey and her husband, **Ian Shippey '15**, welcomed their first child, Margaret Montgomery Shippey, Feb. 8. Lindsay is a corporate banking business analyst at Regions Bank, and Ian is an attorney at Ely & Isenberg, LLC in Birmingham.

2014 Katie Hilyer and Perry Hilyer '15, of Calera, welcomed their daughter, Evelyn Paige in September. Evelyn joins big sister Amelia, age 2.

2015 Amie Ballenger Gordon and Jacob Gordon '16 announced the birth of their second child, James Palmer Gordon, in March. Big brother Henry welcomed James to the family home in Dora, Alabama. Jacob is director of individual giving at United Way of Central Alabama.

DEATHS

1943 Dorothy Watson Harper, 99, of Helena, Montana, died Nov. 27, 2021. She wrote scripts for national radio programs and was a professor at Carroll College, teaching drama and communication for 30 years. The college named the costume department after her and awards

the Dorothy Harper Scholarship to an outstanding student each year. She took classes in Spanish at Carroll into her 80s and recorded books for the visually impaired at the state library into her nineties.

1946 Ruth H. Brigham, 96, of Huntsville, died Aug. 6, 2021. Her career included working as a hospital dietician and teaching at Whitesburg Middle School in the Huntsville City School District.

1947 Katherine May Ransone, 96, of Tuscaloosa, died Feb. 25.

1948 Sara D. Johnson, 95, of Centre, died March 13. She was a dietitian at Baptist Hospital Gadsden and Cherokee County Hospital until her children were born. After being a stay-at-home mom until she was 58, she returned to the workforce as an insurance agent.

1954 Betty Dickie Abel, 90, of Gadsden, died Sept. 21, 2021. She was a certified medical technologist at Gadsden Regional Hospital and Boaz Hospital. She also taught medical technology at Gadsden Business College.

1955 Harriet Hubbard Sepulveda, 88, of Anniston, died Feb. 5. She taught home economics in a number of schools in the Anniston area.

1956 Annie Louise Odom Beck, 87, of Mobile, died May 20, 2021. She retired from the Mobile County Public School System in 1980. After retirement, she spent her days playing golf, gardening and enjoying the beach in Destin, Florida, as much as possible.

1957 Juanita Gail Harris, 85, of Arley, Alabama, died Nov. 25, 2021. After her marriage to Joe Harris in 1959, they moved to Michigan where she worked as a seamstress. She returned to Alabama in 2019.

1959 Barbara Ann Barnett, 84, of Locust Fork, Alabama, died Nov. 16, 2021. She was a certified data processor at Liberty National Insurance Co. for 30 years before her retirement. Barbara was the first female inducted into the Central Alabama Softball Hall of Fame in 1985.

1960 Roy Gene Hilton, 86, of Coffee County, Alabama, died Feb. 18. He served in the Marine Corps for 24 years, retiring at the rank of major. He served both during the Korean Conflict and the Vietnam War, earning a bronze star for valor. Roy is survived by his wife of 56 years, **Elsie Snellgrove Hilton '59, M.Ed. '69**.

1966 Jeanette Pate Deupree, 77, of Camden, Alabama, died May 7, 2021. She was a teacher for more than 30 years. She taught from first grade to high school. During the last few years of her career, she was a childcare occupational director at Lithia Springs High School in Georgia.

1972 Erveta Arnold Haas M.Ed. '76, 74, of Mobile, died Jan. 24. She was a retired teacher.

David W. Wheeler, 72, of Vestavia, died March 9. He was the retired director of finance, accounting and regulatory services at Alabama Power Co. He was running unopposed in his bid for a second term represent-

ing Alabama House District 47. Wheeler joined the UM Board of Trustees in 2008, serving as vice chair of the board and chair of the personnel and trustee committees. David and his wife, Diane, endowed two scholarships at Montevallo.

1973 Joanne Thompson Duncan M.Ed. '75, 69, of Alpine, Alabama, died Nov. 13, 2021. She taught in the Talladega City School System for more than 33 years.

Dr. Charles Milton Freeman, 70, of Huntsville, died Oct. 12, 2021. He had served as pastor of Hillwood Baptist Church since 1987.

Sue Ellen Germany McJenkins, 70, of Northport, died Jan. 8. She was a music teacher in the Tuscaloosa County School System.

William "Bill" Henry Sewell, 69, of Huntsville, died Sept. 28, 2021. He was a prominent local business owner. He is survived by his wife, **Wynelle Sanders Sewell '75, M.Ed. '77**, a retired school counselor, who serves on the UM Board of Trustees.

Nancy Lillian Worley, 70, of Montgomery, died Dec. 29, 2021. A teacher by profession, she had served as president of the Alabama Education Association (two terms), Alabama Secretary of State and chair of the Alabama Democratic Party.

1981 Dr. Mike S. Hight, 62, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, died Feb. 24. He was employed in the insurance business for a number of years before he began teaching risk management at several universities as an adjunct professor. He taught at the University of Georgia for approximately eight

years as a full professor, helping develop risk management courses in the College of Business.

1984 **Mark Garlington**, 60, of Hoover, died Sept. 5, 2021. He served Spartan Chemical Co. as regional sales manager for 30 years.

1985 **Howard LeRoy Schwass**, 61, of Alabaster, died Nov. 7, 2021. He worked as an estimator in building and restoration for more than 20 years.

1989 **Stephen Ray Fancher**, of Calera, died March 6. Stephen worked at UM for approximately 28 years, with progressing roles. He started at UM in 1980 as an accident investigator. When he retired, he had been serving as director of Institutional Research Planning and Assessment (IRPA). A celebration of life was held by family and friends on the UM campus on March 13. Survivors include his son, **Andrew Fancher '14**, facility manager for UM's Center for the Arts and special events coordinator in the Office of the Dean of Fine Arts; daughter Molly Fancher; daughter-in-law **Emily Fancher '16**; and brother **David Fancher '79**.

CONDOLENCES

1970 To **Susan Lane Patridge Clark**, of Centreville, on the death of her husband, Charles Madison "Mack" Clark, who died Dec. 17, 2021. Mack retired in 2006 as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Mobile.

1988 To **Sharon Slay**, of Birmingham, on the death of her husband,

Matt Slay who died Oct. 11, 2021.

To the family of **Charles Sanford Colley**, 82, of Alpine, Alabama, who died Feb. 19. He was a professor of counseling and educational psychology at UM for more than 20 years. He also served as chair and administrator of the counseling program in the College of Education along with acting provost and vice president of Academic Affairs.

To the family of **Dr. Robert Lee Fox**, 80, of Prattville, retired professor and director of audiology at UM, who died Nov. 2, 2021.

To the family of **Kenithia Goggins**, 37, of Jefferson County, Alabama, who died Aug. 27. She was a teacher at Grantswood Community School and was pursuing a master's degree at UM.

To the family of **Frank Lightfoot**, 92, of Montevallo, who died Dec. 21, 2021. In 1957, Frank accepted the challenge to

start the men's baseball program at Alabama College and moved his family to Montevallo. During his 34 year tenure at UM, he taught, coached and mentored thousands of students, many of which became lifelong friends. He was proud of his many accomplishments and awards, but his favorites were the student-selected College Night Dedication in 1988 and being inducted in the UM Sports Hall of Fame in 2009. He was preceded in death by his wife of 68 years, **Bobbie Kirkland Lightfoot '52**. Survivors include sons **Kirk Lightfoot '76, M.S. '77, Frank Lightfoot Jr. '84** and Scott Lightfoot; and daughters-in-law, **Carol Lightfoot '76** and **Kaye Lightfoot '84**.

To the family of **Dr. Jermaine Mitchell**, 41, assistant professor of exercise and nutrition science at UM, who died in February. Jermaine worked with the Falcon Flight program, served as an advisory council member with the Montevallo Boys and Girls

Club and was a key advocate in the community related to health and wellness issues. Survivors include his wife, Dr. Qshequilla Mitchell, director of UM's McNair Scholars Program.

To the family of **Brenda Lovelady Pate**, 73, of Montevallo, who died Nov. 2, 2021. Brenda had worked in UM's business office for a number of years.

To the family of **Ernest Leroy Reddick Jr.**, 93, of Cullman, who died Sept. 29, 2021. He had served as plant manager of the King Edward Cigar Plant and was active in his community. He served on UM's Board of Trustees from 1981-1982.



We want to hear from you!

Send your updates to:
today@montevallo.edu

00s Decade Reunion

From left: Joshua Smith '07, David Clemons '03, Kristen Dechert '03, Tiffany Roskamp-Bunt '00, MBA '13







^ Class of 1956 Reunion

Members of the Class of 1956 gathered on campus to celebrate their 65th reunion toward the end of 2021 since Homecoming 2021 was completely virtual.

From left: (front row) Miriam Oglesby Finch, Anne Kuers Martin, Shirley Shepard Chalkley, Lela Poythress, Joyce Greathouse; **(back row)** Sue Faulkner, Mary Louise Rice Dabbs, Mary Kathryn Bryant '24 (recipient of the Class of 1956 scholarship) Adele Dabbs Bryant '86, Nell Ruth Freeman Marshall



Falcons vs. DePaul, Chicago

1 Eric SanInocencio '03, Scott Dillard MBA '17, vice president for advancement and external affairs; trustee LeRoy Nix '03, Mike Rogers, Mark Richard, athletic director; and DeWayne Peevy '96 attend the alumni gathering for the Falcons vs. DePaul basketball game in Chicago on Nov. 4. Peevy, who was recently named vice president and athletic director at DePaul, hosted the alumni gathering at Wintrust Arena.

2 Eric SanInocencio '03, Christy Lulinski '02 and Heather Huot-SanInocencio '02 at the alumni event in Chicago; **3** Connie Scott '88 and Gordon Scott cheer for the Falcons in Chicago.

FAM Events

4 Future Alumni of Montevallo (FAM) students Erik Bazan, Summer Levins '22, Kaytlen DeSimone '22 and Solomon Glenn along with co-advisor Laurel Hall Dobbins '15 pose in front of the storefront window they decorated as part of Montevallo Main Street's Window Decorating Contest. FAM won third place; **5** Katie Ozley wins the The Great Montevallo Cookie Bake Off presented by FAM on April 5. From the bake-off event, students raised \$287 for the Campus Food Pantry.

Senior Day

6-7 Graduating seniors enjoy Senior Day prior to Fall Commencement on Dec. 10.

Alumni spotted at events held from October through March





8

Photo by Josie Shaw '23



9

Photo provided by Chi Omega alumni



10

Photo provided by Chi Omega alumni



11

Photo by Josie Shaw '23



12

Photo by Elevated Entertainment



13

Photo by Elevated Entertainment



14

Photo by Elevated Entertainment



15

Photo by Elevated Entertainment

GREEK ALUMNI REUNIONS

Alpha Kappa Lamda

8 Alpha Kappa Lambda alumni celebrated Gamma Delta chapter's 25th anniversary Nov. 13 in Anna Irvin.

Chi Omega

9 The Tau Kappa chapter of Chi Omega celebrated their 50th anniversary at The Club in Birmingham; 10 Tau Kappa's Advisory Board at the 50th celebration in December.

Phi Mu

11 Approximately 180 Phi Mu alumni gathered to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Kappa Chi chapter; 12 Betty Walker '75, Theresa Pritchett M.Ed. '83 and Anita Brueck '77 led the planning of the Phi Mu 50th celebration; 13 Phi Mu alums enjoy the 50th celebration on March 5.

Alpha Delta Pi

14-15 The Zeta Delta Chapter of Alpha Delta Pi held its 50th Anniversary celebration March 19 in Anna Irvin.

UMNAA PRESIDENT'S CORNER



UMNAA president Stephanie Shaw '93 and immediate past president Cynthia Todd '88, back on the bricks at Homecoming.

Greetings alumni!

Montevallo has a great history of amazing alumni leaders — people who have given so much to continue the Montevallo experience. Montevallo alumni are known for our passion, for our tradition, heritage, campus and history. We serve as leaders by carrying the tradition of our past into the future. We carry the tradition of our experiences through volunteerism, servitude and giving.

The University of Montevallo National Alumni Association Board, under the leadership of the amazing Cynthia Todd, has worked hard for the past two years to continue the Montevallo experience through some tough years. Cynthia's leadership and guidance helped to keep alumni traditions alive. She deserves to be acknowledged for helping the UMNAA overcome many obstacles during the pandemic. I am grateful for her leadership, friendship and mentorship.

Your UMNAA Board members, along with the Junior Board, Board of Trustees and Foundation Board are all made up of alumni and community leaders who dedicate themselves to helping to support the University, its students, faculty, staff and alumni. Each of these leaders gives their time willingly to make sure your Montevallo experience continues into the future. They do so out of the love they have for the University, its students and you.

I hope you know that you can also serve as a Montevallo leader wherever you are in whatever place you are in your life. We can all help continue the Montevallo experience. You can attend or lead a local club meeting. You can Zoom a virtual book club. You can come back to campus for events such as Homecoming, Founders' Day, seminars, athletic events, theatre productions, etc. You can reach out to other alumni friends and go to lunch and talk about your shared experiences. You can Zoom with your UM friends or affinity club. You can volunteer at the University in numerous ways. You can extend the Montevallo experience through a donation to the annual fund or another fund of your choice. All of us can be alumni leaders in very vital ways to help continue the Montevallo experience.

As it is said in our alma mater, it is our responsibility as sons and daughters to sing the praises of our university. It is our responsibility to shed the light of knowledge afar. It is our responsibility to make sure that the years are rich and fruitful for years to come. Sons and daughters, I hope you, as an alumni leader, will help me to continue the Montevallo experience in any way that you can.

Stephanie Shaw '93
UMNAA president



(From left) Cynthia Todd '88, Carolyn Jones '11, Dr. Terra Miller '06, Dr. Lindsey Sherrill '07, MBA '15 (the 2021 recipient)

Jones Honored with Volunteer Recognition

During the annual **UMNAA Homecoming Recognition Luncheon** on Feb. 19, Carolyn Jones '11 received a surprise honor from the association. She received the 2022 Alumni Volunteer Recognition for her work with the Alumni Affairs Office.

Jones served as the assistant director of alumni affairs from June 2016 until August 2021, where she gave well beyond the eight-hour workday. Her work for UM alumni is immeasurable. And her service did not stop there.

After accepting her new role as special assistant for executive and administrative affairs in the President's Office, Jones continued to assist the Alumni Office a few hours each week until a new assistant director could be hired in October. She then spent time with Laurel Hall Dobbins '15, the new assistant director, to help her learn the role. For all of this, the alumni association thanked her for her service with this recognition.

To commemorate this honor, the UMNAA Board installed a recognition brick with her name engraved on it outside Reynolds Hall.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS



The UMNAA Junior Board welcomed the following new members in January:

- Torian Blackburn '20
- Amanda Currie '16
- Stacy Daniels '16
- Amanda Fowler '10
- Terry Hughston '10
- Breana Mahaffey '18



The UMNAA Board welcomed the following new members in March:

- Jason Booi '04
- Amoi Geter '94
- Kristin Law '01
- James Mike Mitchell '86
- Matthew Mitchell '06
- Emmett Russell '75
- Eric SanInocencio '03
- Dr. Lindsey Sherrill '07, MBA '15

ABOUT THE JUNIOR BOARD from President Clark Maxwell



The UMNAA Junior Board serves to encourage connections with alumni who have graduated within the past 15 years. If you haven't had the opportunity to join us in the past, we welcome you to join us at an event soon. From happy hours and social events to career networking opportunities, we offer programming throughout the year. The Junior Board also honors young alumni achievement with the Young Achiever's Award and the 15 Within 15 recognition selected annually. After the past two years we've had, we are excited to get together again and enjoy fellowship with our Montevallo alumni. We look forward to seeing your smiling faces soon!

Clark Maxwell '13 recognizes Kacie Kilpatrick '09 for her work as outgoing president of the Junior Board at the Young Alumni Reunion during Homecoming



University of Montevallo
 Alumni Affairs
 Reynolds Hall, Station 6215
 Montevallo, AL 35115

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Mark Your Calendar

Visit montevallo.edu/alumni-events for registration and event information as it becomes available. (All times listed are Central.)

July

7/15 Junior Board presents Young Alumni Summer Soirée and Silent Auction, 6 to 9 p.m., location TBD

August

8/8 Alumni Book Club, 7 p.m., via Zoom. Learn more at montevallo.edu/book-club.

8/19 Freshman Move-In Day, to serve as an alumni volunteer, contact alumni@montevallo.edu.

8/20 Black Belt Alumni Club Social, 5:30 to 8 p.m., Black Belt Treasures Cultural Arts Center, Camden, Alabama. Join Black Belt Alumni Club to socialize and/or make a piece of art at their inaugural event.*

September

9/10 Greek Alumni Reunion, 1-4 p.m., University Lake, UM campus. All Greek organizations welcome.*

October

10/3 Alumni Book Club, 7 p.m., via Zoom. Learn more at montevallo.edu/book-club.

10/13 Founders' Day, convocation at 11 a.m., Palmer Hall. UMNAA Awards Reception, 5:30 p.m.*

10/14 Once Upon a College Night, College Night Revue, 7 p.m., Palmer Hall*

10/15 Alpha Gamma Delta, 50-Year Reunion*

**More information to come.*

Look for more upcoming events in Atlanta, Huntsville and others!

Host a flock party!

Want an alumni event in your area but only have a few people?

Plan a UM alumni gathering with our new event kit, Flock Box, and throw your own flock party!

To learn more and request a Flock Box, visit montevallo.edu/alumni-clubs.

Priority will be given to current alumni clubs and those interested in starting an alumni club.

SAVE THE DATE

Feb. 10 & 11, 2023
HOMECOMING

AWARD DEADLINES

Please consider nominating deserving individuals to receive one of the Alumni Association's awards at montevallo.edu/alumni-awards.

July 1

Mary Lou Elder Williams Alumni Loyalty Award

Outstanding Commitment to Teaching Award

Outstanding Staff Service Award

Nov. 1

Distinguished Alumni Award

Nathalie Molton Gibbons Alumni Achievement Award

Nathalie Molton Gibbons Young Achiever's Award