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longwood

A **MAGAZINE**
FOR ALUMNI
AND FRIENDS
OF LONGWOOD
UNIVERSITY

SUMMER 2018

Q&A with Admissions Dean Jason Faulk

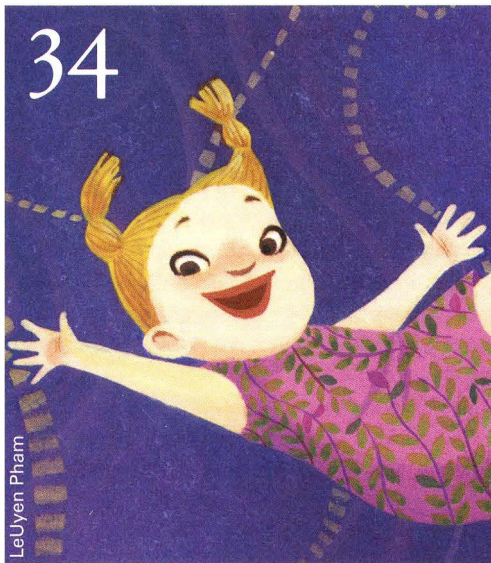
Art education is more than meets the eye

From tragedy comes life, friendship and a new scholarship



In the Catbird Seat

The revived, upscale Hotel Wyanoke—and its lively rooftop lounge—put an exclamation point on Farmville's college-town renaissance



ON THE COVER

Hotel Weyanoke's rooftop lounge, Catbird, is one of Farmville's most popular places to see and be seen. Story on Page 28. Photo by Alec Hosterman/Courtesy of Hotel Weyanoke

(opposite page) Mega Reunion 2018 drew hundreds to campus for a weekend of fun at Longwood and in Farmville.

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Hotel Weyanoke is reborn as a downtown Farmville destination

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Scholarships are life-changing for students who couldn't otherwise afford college

longwood

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SUMMER 2018

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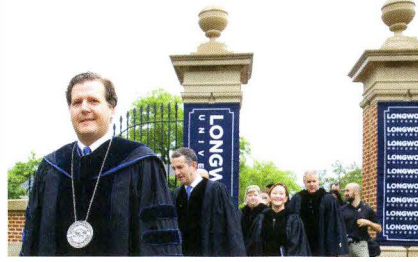
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Published July 2018



President Reveley leads the way to the undergraduate commencement ceremony.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

So much sets Longwood apart—our traditions, our beautiful campus and our sense of community, to name just a few. During these challenging times in our nation, something else distinctive that pervades here has increasingly caught my eye: civility.

With shouting and personal insults the coin of the realm on cable TV and social media, it is easy to despair about incivility. Here at Longwood, we certainly have a range of opinions and even disputes. Our student body mirrors the diversity of viewpoints in the Commonwealth and nation, and not infrequently their views and even core principles are challenged by those around them.

That's a big part of what college is about. And yet, with only the very rarest exceptions, civility prevails at Longwood in these encounters. Students ask tough questions and debate, but the starting point is almost always respect for the dignity and place in our community of all of their fellow students. In the class I teach each fall on the U.S. presidency, even when difficult political topics come up, respectful dialogue prevails. Like any college campus, we have controversies and issues about which students feel strongly—perhaps more than our share given how intensely we encourage our students to be citizen leaders. But even in cases of great passion, in my experience, Longwood students listen to one another, treat one another with respect, and work through the institutions of campus life such as student government or student publications to have their concerns heard and addressed.

One reason civility prevails at Longwood is that it must—we all live and work closely together. Residential college campuses like Longwood are the most diverse communities in which many of our students will ever live. Sadly, they're one of the few remaining places in American life where citizens regularly encounter people with views different from their own—face-to-face, not just through social media. That's one reason I believe residential colleges like Longwood must endure: They are an essential training ground for democracy. The graduates of such institutions will have to play a leading role to help bind up the wounds of our current era.

But I believe the civility that prevails at Longwood and which our students carry into the world goes further, and its sources run deeper. It emanates from a culture of civil student leadership, established through the generations and visible in numerous student organizations starting with the SGA. It follows from a tone set by faculty, coaches and our student affairs staff—something in our institutional DNA—that is by no means universal or even common at other institutions.

Going forward, civility will be front and center in bold, intentional and truly unique new ways in Longwood's classrooms. The new Brock Experiences will cultivate civility by introducing students in person to a broad range of stakeholders involved in difficult civic challenges ranging from the environment to immigration to the arts. Later this summer, the incoming Class of 2022 will be the first to experience Longwood's new Civitae core curriculum, which explicitly ties our citizen leadership mission to our academic enterprise for the first time. Civitae courses are currently being rolled out by every discipline at the university, but a key common ingredient—and something our students will think deeply about at virtually every step along their path to graduation—is nurturing civility.

I hope it makes you proud, as it does me, to see Longwood as a beacon and an example for others to follow.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Taylor'.

W. Taylor Reveley IV
President



(CLOCKWISE FROM LOWER LEFT) Brock Hall is located between Greenwood Library and Lankford Hall. The interior was designed with student collaboration and learning styles in mind. Joan Perry Brock '64, (second from left), the building's namesake, was joined by her daughters, Kathryn Brock Everett (left) and Christy Brock Miele, and President W. Taylor Reveley IV at the opening ceremonies. Etched glass surrounds several spaces downstairs, providing both light and privacy. (INSET) Visitors explore the building after the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

One-Stop Shop

Newly opened Brock Hall brings together essential academic support services



Beginning next semester, a Longwood student who needs help organizing a big paper, needs to meet with an academic coach and needs to add a class will no longer have to visit multiple buildings on opposite ends of campus.

Brock Hall, a new 25,000-square-foot building located between Greenwood Library and Lankford Hall, is the home of Longwood's new student success center. It is a hub for essential academic support services, including the Center for Academic Success, Writing Center, Office of the Registrar, Office of Financial Aid, Disability Resources, and First Year Experience and Family Programs, as well as the office of the associate vice



president for enrollment management and student success.

The building is named for Joan Perry Brock '64 and her late husband, Macon Brock, who have been among Longwood's most dedicated supporters. Brock attended the grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony for the building in May and was joined by her two daughters as well as

some of her longtime Longwood friends.

"This building, with all of its facilities for how to approach learning processes from many different ways, is going to be used and appreciated by so many students, helping them to attain their maximum potential," she said.



Dr. McRae Amoss has taken on the challenge of reintroducing Latin to the Longwood curriculum.

Latin is back after 40 years

After nearly 40 years, Latin is back at Longwood, with the first course scheduled to be offered this fall.

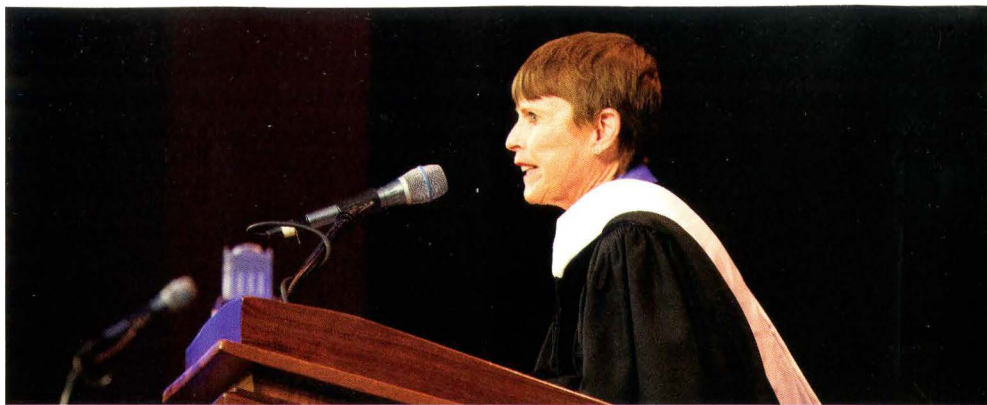
A staple of liberal arts curricula across the world, Latin provides not only a deeper understanding of the English language but also is a rigorous addition to the course catalog that holds appeal for students.

“There are still a good many students in Virginia, maybe more than in other states, who study Latin in high school,” said Dr. McRae Amoss, a professor of French and 19th-century French culture who has taken on the challenge of reintroducing Latin.

“The purpose of this initiative is to permit students who have had Latin in high school to continue with the language and complete requirements for graduation here at Longwood. Once we get this off the ground, we’ll offer two courses per academic year.”

Even though some may not see the relevance of studying Latin in the 21st century, Amoss has no doubts.

“At least half of the English vocabulary, after all, comes from Latin either directly or indirectly,” said the 27-year veteran of the Longwood faculty. “So having a working knowledge of the language and the roots and meanings of words can make someone a much more effective and eloquent communicator, no matter their profession.”



Joan Perry Brock '64, shown here giving the address at graduate commencement, challenged her fellow alumni to give \$5 million for scholarships in six months. They exceeded her challenge by \$1 million.

It's a Match

As alumni and friends step up, Longwood meets a challenge and raises \$11 million for students



“I’m ready to take the field,” the anonymous donor told Courtney Hodges, Longwood’s vice president for institutional advancement, one morning last December. “But I need teammates.”

That was how the challenge was laid out: a fundraising blitz with a game-changing prize at its conclusion—a \$5 million pledge for student scholarships. But there was a big catch. The gift was in the form of a challenge match. To receive it, Longwood would have to raise another \$5 million for scholarships on its own—and do it by July 1.

Sure enough, Longwood alumni and friends stepped up, investing nearly \$6 million to meet the challenge.

With the challenge match—announced shortly before this magazine went to press—nearly \$11 million has been added to scholarship coffers. That’s an amount of student scholarships raised in six months that at previous rates of giving would have taken more than a decade.

“Our alumni and friends showed once again what makes Longwood such a special place,” Hodges said. “Everyone played a big part. In fact, alumni from every decade since the 1930s contributed—a symbolic achievement.”

The decade with the most donors was the 1960s, whose alumnae gave a total of \$1.9 million to scholarships over the past six months.

Longwood has reached new heights in the last five years: Applications are at an all-time high, and the incoming freshman class will be among the most accomplished in university history. The next step is becoming more competitive with scholarship availability.

“We put together the most competitive scholarship packages we can, and the ability to be flexible and offer more money will only

help as we build our next freshman class,” said Dean of Admissions Jason Faulk.

Even apart from the matching gift, 35 new scholarships were endowed during the challenge, including ones supporting the Cormier Honors College, study abroad, student-athletes, academic excellence and financial aid; and nearly that many were added to—increasing the annual award amount.

In June, when Hodges called the donor to let her know Longwood had met the challenge, the donor offered congratulations—and permission

‘In fact, alumni from every decade since the 1930s contributed—a symbolic achievement.’

— COURTNEY HODGES, VICE PRESIDENT FOR INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT

to reveal her identity: philanthropist and longtime Longwood benefactor Joan Perry Brock '64.

It was just a few days after Brock had delivered a riveting address at Longwood’s graduate commencement ceremony.

“What you will find is that you will soon be unable to imagine life without being involved, without pitching in,” Brock told the graduates. “It will become part of your cellular makeup. And when you get to my age, you’ll come to realize that success is measured not by the size of your bank account or the ZIP code you live in or the car you drive. The real yardstick is what you give of yourself, the help you provide, the love you spread.” — *Matthew McWilliams*

Former SGA President Kevin Napier recounts the effect scholarships had on his Longwood career on Page 48.

Birds of a Feather

Coaching groups to pair faculty and staff with students who share a common interest



The first days and weeks of college can be among the most stressful for freshmen.

Hundreds of questions remain to be answered: Will I make friends? Will I get the support I need from my professors to excel in the classroom? How will I find the right organizations to join?

Often students are essentially on their own when trying to find these answers. At Longwood, the Office of Student Success is implementing an innovative approach that addresses many of these concerns and provides the kind of mentoring from faculty and staff that has become one of Longwood's trademarks.

The approach: creating coaching groups that will pair groups of students with a faculty or staff member who shares a similar interest. The groups will meet regularly to talk about academic work, plan activities around their common interest and ease the transition to college life. The interests will be as varied as the members of the incoming class, with groups built around topics including running, gaming, politics and even Legos.

"We took a look at the most successful first-year programs in the country and com-

pared them to ours," said Dr. Emily Heady, senior director of student success and retention. "Our current approach was hitting on some of the elements that we were seeking but fell short on some other measurements. So we devised this program that combines the traditional mentorship that was a hallmark of the old model with putting students in groups based on common interests."

Universities that have adopted similar approaches have found enormous success leading to increased retention and reports of increased student happiness and satisfaction.

"We know from years of experience that students who have positive experiences their freshman years, especially when those important social experiences are paired with the kind of access to faculty that Longwood has been known for, are more successful academically and graduate on time more than their peers," said Heady. "That's really what we are trying to accomplish: getting students the support and peer groups they need to be successful while at Longwood."

More than 60 coaching groups will be led by Longwood faculty and staff this fall.



ONE DAY, 600+ RESEARCH PROJECTS

During the 2017-18 academic year, more than 600 Longwood students were hard at work studying everything from the morphology of bacterial magnetic crystals to Andrew Jackson and the nullification crisis. Their research was showcased in the second annual Spring Symposium for Research and Creative Inquiry. Longwood didn't hold classes that day so students, faculty, staff and interested community members could learn about all the research being done on campus. "We take undergraduate research very seriously at Longwood—there aren't many universities out there where students have the kind of access to faculty that our students enjoy from day one," said Dr. Amorette Barber, biology professor and coordinator of the symposium.

"Small Talk"

overheard on the Longwood campus

"Is it harder to make it as a woman writer? Yes. Is it harder to make it as a person of color? Yes. There will be opportunities opened to you because of those things, but do they counteract the everyday weight of all of these other things? No."

Saladin Ahmed novelist and comics writer, bicentenary celebration of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, February 2018

"Novels are not just about something, they have to have other layers of voicing, of coloration, of metaphor that make the novel real and alive and special."

Chang-rae Lee author and Stanford University professor, Dos Passos Prize for Literature award ceremony, March 2018

"[These men] ... did not give up. ... They retained great faith in American institutions, even when those institutions seemed to fail them."

Margaret Edds author of *We Face the Dawn: Oliver Hill, Spottswood Robinson, and the Legal Team that Dismantled Jim Crow*, Moton Museum lecture and book signing, March 2018

"Longwood taught me how to think critically, synthesize ideas, and write good sentences—which are life skills, not college skills."

Dr. Robert Northington '03 research assistant professor at the University of Maine Climate Change Institute, Spring Symposium for Research and Creative Inquiry, April 2018



(LEFT, TOP AND BOTTOM) The new admissions building will be located directly across High Street from Ruffner Hall. (RIGHT) A new classically styled, four-story building will provide space for undergraduate research efforts, as well as cutting-edge classrooms and faculty offices.

Under Construction

Longwood breaks ground for admissions, academic buildings



In 2015, Longwood unveiled a new comprehensive campus Master Plan for the coming decade. Here's an update on the progress of two noteworthy projects included in the plan.

Admissions building

First impressions are said to last forever—and that's especially true for college visits by prospective students and their families. At Longwood, the admissions office—most often the first stop for prospective students—has been in less-than-adequate spaces for the past five years, from a cramped house off campus to a tucked-away hallway in Lancaster Hall. But in 18 months, that problem will be solved when admissions staff move into a stunning new building directly across High Street from Ruffner Hall, with views of Longwood's most recognized building and new iconic gateway.

The project, which was designed with the goal of preserving as much green space as possible, also includes a monument to Farmville's consequential role in the development of

American democracy and its civil rights history, which will stand at the corner of High and Randolph streets.

"This will really be the front door of campus," said Dean of Admissions Jason Faulk. "We often say that Longwood sells itself, and this building will double down on that idea. We'll have a big, new building that looks like a seamless part of the historic part of campus, but will also feature a modern interior that will set Longwood apart from other universities."

Ground broke on the new admissions building in May and is expected to be completed by summer 2019.

Academic building

The last new academic building on campus, the Center for Communication Studies and Theater, opened nearly a decade ago. In the intervening years, Longwood's undergraduate enrollment has grown by 10 percent, and several new areas of study have been added, resulting in squeezed classroom and research space.

In response, Longwood is constructing a new classically styled, four-story academic building that will be located directly behind French Hall, where many alumni remember tennis courts. The building will be home to undergraduate research efforts, including a large research space for growing programs in health, athletic training and recreation, and neuroscience studies. Cutting-edge classrooms and other learning spaces, as well as a sizeable number of faculty offices, will also be located in the building.

"As Civitae—the new core curriculum—is integrated into campus, we are excited that the integrative learning aspect that forms its foundation will have a true home in this new building," said Dr. Larissa Ferguson, interim provost and vice president for academic affairs. "Faculty and staff have needed more space to continue both their important work and provide more opportunities for collaboration with students. We're excited to see work start on the building and look forward to the work we will do within its walls."

Ground will break on the new academic building this month. It's expected to open in 2020.



OCT. 26 IS THE BIG DAY

Longwood's long-anticipated Upchurch University Center is nearing completion, with the grand opening set for Oct. 26. It is Longwood's largest nonresidential building and is located at the heart of the historic campus. A variety of activities is being planned for the new building's big day. Keep an eye on longwood.edu for details in coming months. "The Upchurch University Center will impact the lives of the students by giving them places to meet, eat and socialize like they have not had before on this campus," said Susan Sullivan, director of the university center and student activities. "This building is going to be simply amazing. It will give us the flexibility to dream big." The Norman H. and Elsie Stossel Upchurch University Center is named for Elsie Stossel Upchurch '43, who in 2012 committed \$4 million to the project.

Third Joan of Arc statue coming to campus



Assembly and finishing of the new sculpture is under way after casting in the studio of Scottish sculptor Alexander Stoddart.

Around the turn of the 20th century, popular Longwood English professor J.M. Grainger suggested that Joan of Arc, the 15th-century French heroine, would be a good choice as an inspirational figure for students. The idea

stuck, and, with the gift of "Joanie on the Stony" by the Class of 1914 and a subsequent purchase in 1927 of Anna Hyatt Huntington's statue quickly nicknamed "Joanie on the Pony," Joan of Arc became an irreplaceable part of campus.

Just more than a century after the first statue arrived on campus, the Master Plan envisioned Longwood installing a new likeness of Joan of Arc in tribute to her enduring legacy on campus, and now that vision is close to becoming a reality.

The new cast bronze sculpture, which will anchor the southern end of Brock Commons, is by renowned Scottish neoclassical sculptor Alexander Stoddart.

The figure of Joan of Arc is holding a flag—which she is said to have preferred to a sword—and dressed in traditional military armor of the period. She will be surrounded by a limestone exedra that includes a bench and trees that frame her stately figure.

Construction on the exedra is ongoing, and the Joan of Arc statue is expected to be installed by mid-August.

"Small Talk"

overheard on the Longwood campus

"The Moton spirit exists in each of us. It teaches us to right a wrong, to fill a gap, to support progress in society, to generate forward momentum. Most of all it's a spirit that creates a ripple effect that creates a tsunami of change."

Nadine Marsh-Carter CEO of the Children's Home Society of Virginia, Moton Community Banquet, March 2018

"When I was growing up, they told us sunlight is the best disinfectant. Our job as reporters is to lift up the rock and to show you what's underneath. It's not our job to throw the rock at you."

Susan Glasser *New Yorker* columnist and former *Politico* chief international affairs columnist, President's Lecture Series, April 2018

Exercise is one of the fountains of youth. The research has shown that 15 minutes [of exercise] a day can increase your lifespan by four to five years."

Dr. Diane Langemo clinician researcher and medical consultant, Simkins Lecture, April 2018

"Think for yourself, but act for the common good."

Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam
Undergraduate Commencement, May 2018

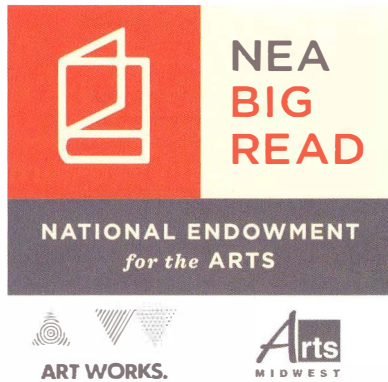
"Find a career that fulfills you, and work like you mean it—never coast."

Joan Brock '64 philanthropist,
Graduate Commencement, May 2018

Book set in Appalachia to be focus of events for 2019 NEA Big Read

Longwood has received a \$15,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to host an NEA Big Read in Farmville and Prince Edward County next year.

Beginning April 6, the four-week Heart of Virginia Reads, as it will be known locally, will focus Southside Virginia's attention on author Ron Rash's celebrated work *Burning Bright*, a series of unforgettable stories set in Appalachia. Planned HOV Reads events include book discussions, film screenings, music performances, an author keynote at Longwood, and workshops and other activities at Hampden-Sydney College.

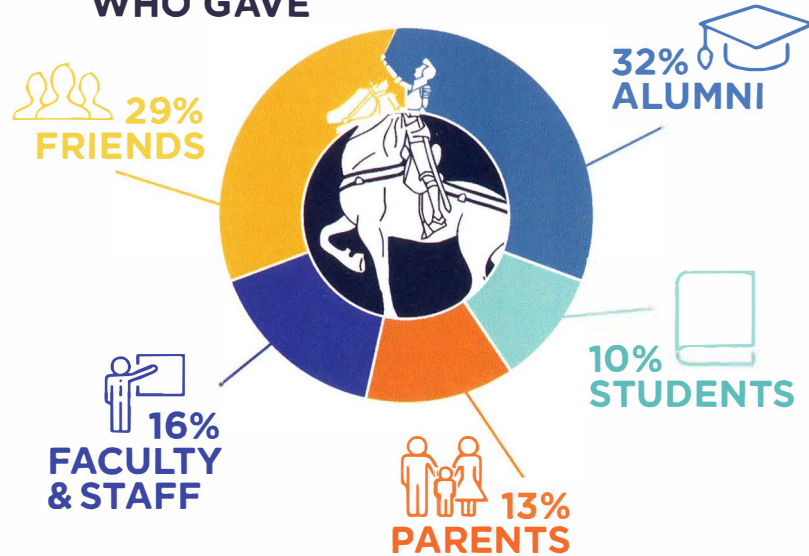


All events will be free and open to the public; a full schedule will be released later in the year.

A national initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest, the NEA Big Read seeks to broaden our understanding of our world, our communities and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book. Longwood, the lead organization in the community grant—other partners include Prince Edward County Public Schools, the Central Virginia Regional Library system and Hampden-Sydney—is one of 79 nonprofit organizations to receive an NEA Big Read grant to host a community reading program in the next year.

"We are so excited to engage with the larger community on this project," said Brent Roberts, dean of Longwood's Greenwood Library. "The stories in *Burning Bright* are gripping, but they are also a springboard into discussions of Appalachian culture, history, food and music. There's something in there for everyone—and the grant allows us to lead those discussions on our common cultural interests."

WHO GAVE



DAY OF GIVING EXCEEDS GOAL

Longwood's 2018 Day of Giving exceeded its goal of 1,790 gifts by more than 65 percent, with a total tally of 2,976 gifts from alumni, students, parents, faculty, staff and other friends of the university. A total of \$268,000 was raised to benefit student financial aid, academic departments, the performing arts and other causes. Longwood's next annual Day of Giving is set for March 27, 2019.



Del. Kirk Cox spoke to members of the Longwood Student Government Association in May.

Virginia House speaker tells SGA that public service is still a noble calling

Find an issue you are passionate about, volunteer on a campaign or for a candidate you believe in, become an active leader in the local community and read a lot of books.

Those were the four pieces of advice Virginia House of Delegates Speaker Kirk Cox imparted to members of the Longwood Student Government Association as he encouraged them to pursue public service.

In his remarks at the SGA's end-of-the-year banquet in May, Cox focused on returning civility to political discourse and the importance of younger generations becoming involved in the legislative and political process. The Republican speaker, a longtime educator as well as legislative leader, asked

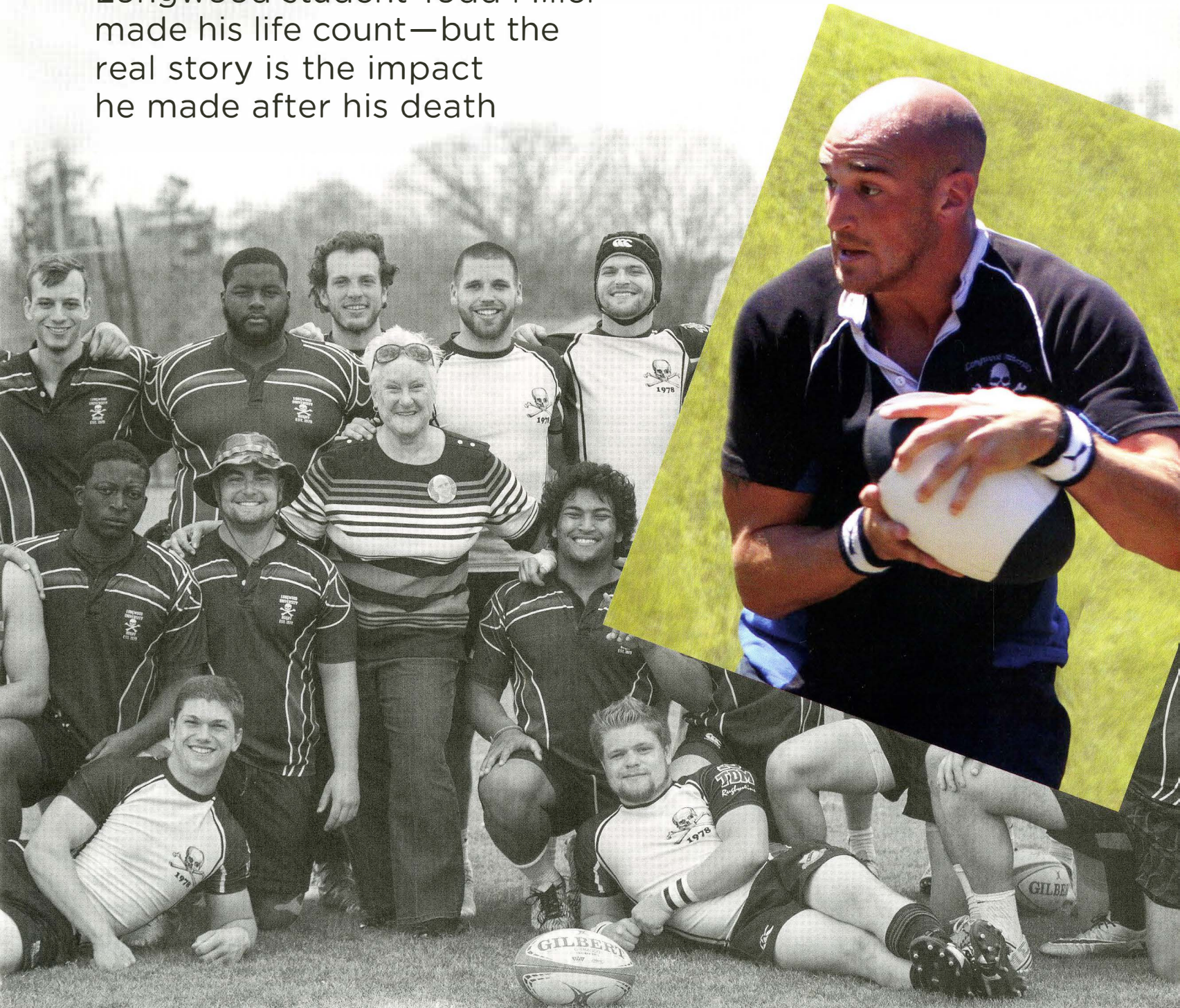
students to consider a career in public service, which he said is still a noble and courageous calling, especially in Virginia's citizen legislature.

"I really would challenge you ... to get involved in the process," Cox said. "You've gotten tremendous training and experience as citizen leaders, and we really need you. If your generation doesn't step up to take up a leadership role, we're not going to have the leaders that we need. I hope you will be one of those leaders."

Cox, whose oldest son graduated from Longwood in 2014, was introduced by SGA President Kevin Napier '18, who said he has known Cox since he was in elementary school. Napier is a kinesiology major.

LARGER THAN LIFE

Longwood student Todd Miller made his life count—but the real story is the impact he made after his death



BY MATTHEW McWILLIAMS

Ellie Miller stands with the 2018 Longwood men's rugby team at the annual Todd Miller Memorial Rugby Tournament. Miller presented two players—a male and female rucker—with the newly endowed Todd Miller scholarship. (inset) Todd Miller was a standout rugby player who tragically lost his life in 2008 after being tackled during a match. Photo courtesy of Ellie Miller

IN VIRGINIA BEACH there is an 8-year-old boy who doesn't know why his middle name is Todd.

He knows that his dad has a scar on his stomach. He knows his dad was sick once—really sick—but then he got better. But he doesn't know how that story connects to his own middle name. Not yet, because sometimes it's difficult to explain things like liver failure and organ transplants to children.

But soon, he'll know. And he'll understand then why he's being raised the way he is. School comes first, because his middle name is Todd. Give generously, because his middle name is Todd. Cherish deeply time with family, because his middle name is Todd.

He'll also learn about the Todd Davis Miller Rugby Memorial Scholarship and the Longwood students who are chosen to receive it every year because they put school first, and give generously of their time, and mentor younger students.

And that's because of a popular and generous rugby player, a rare on-field collision, an unfathomably difficult decision by a heartbroken mother, and the friendship that blossomed between her and the man whose life Todd saved.

A routine tackle

In 2008, Longwood's rugby team practiced and played at First Avenue Field, a spot tucked away in a residential neighborhood called The Avenues just west of campus.

The game on March 1, 2008, was against a familiar in-state foe: VMI. The Keydets were no match for the Lancers, who jumped out to a lead and didn't look back. Todd started and played well—typical for the senior who had become something of an older brother to many of the younger players he called “rookies.”

At 25, Todd was seven years older than many of his teammates. He'd started at Longwood as a voice major at 18, then dropped out, only to return several years later to finish his degree—this time in business administration. Those years gave him perspective, and his teammates talk about how he would make sure freshman players got to class on time, keep them safe (and on good behavior) at parties and always have his door open to listen or help with a problem. He was their mentor, their north star.

Toward the end of the match that cool spring day, Todd went in for a routine tackle and after the play, head down, walked off

First Avenue Field.

As Todd walked to the sideline, Ellie Miller didn't think twice. Her son was a grown man—6-foot-3 and 215 pounds—who had taken and doled out many, many hits just like this one. He was just coming off to let his “rookies” get some playing time before the end of the game.

Then Todd collapsed.

When his eyes closed on the sideline, they never opened again. A week later, Todd Miller died in a room on the 11th floor of the Medical College of Virginia Hospital in Richmond. But his last act—the one his mother knew he would have wanted—saved a life and left a legacy that will stretch for many lifetimes.

‘It’s a real honor to receive this scholarship. The name Todd Miller is still legendary for Longwood rugby players—we all know his story...’ —BRIDGETT DUNN ’19

Touched by an angel

Sixty miles away and three days later, merchant mariner Joe Leake, 36, came down with what seemed like the flu.

“The next morning I couldn't get out of bed,” he said. “My wife was in Iraq, so my mother had to come over to put my son on the school bus. I remember her telling me to go to the hospital, but I was so stubborn I wouldn't go. I thought it was just the stomach flu.”

But by the next morning, Leake knew it was more than a virus. He managed to open the front door and call 911 before he passed out.

A week later, he woke up in a hospital bed with 54 staples across his abdomen and Todd Miller's liver inside him.

Ensuring Todd's legacy

As rugby hits go, the one that Todd Miller was injured from wasn't abnormally hard. Before concussion protocols and broad awareness of chronic traumatic encephalopathy, coaches called hits like these “stingers.” Enough to rattle your cage, but not enough to cause deep concern. There's a culture of toughness among rugby players and coaches, who only recently have started responding to possible head trauma in a more systematic way.

Almost as soon as Todd Miller died, people

wanted to do something.

Dr. John Graham, a computer science professor and the longtime coach and champion of the rugby team, proposed an annual tournament to raise money to one day endow a scholarship. They needed \$25,000—a tall fundraising goal when you're relying on profits from T-shirts and concessions—but it was a start. And it came together quickly: The first tournament was held a year later.

The tournament eventually faltered because of weather and scheduling issues with other club teams, but the fund steadily grew and scholarships were awarded for a few years from the operating money, but the goal continued

to be an endowed scholarship—one that would last in perpetuity.

Joe Leake and his family understood how important it was—not only to Ellie Miller (Miss Ellie, always Miss Ellie, to Joe) but also to them—to ensure that Todd's legacy was to help people in perpetuity. Very quietly they began contributing to the fund, and for nearly a decade it grew until it hit that important \$25,000 threshold in early 2018.

Magically, at the same time, the tournament found new life. A former Longwood rucker now in the U.S. Marine Corps, Maj. Jason Dempsey '06, spearheaded its phoenixlike rise from the ashes this April, and Ellie Miller again made the trip to see it. The team still plays matches at First Avenue Field—but the Todd Miller tournament was held at Lancer Park—and she was there, all smiles, watching over the Lancer team the way her son did a decade ago.

The newly endowed scholarship honoring her son was given for the first time that day—as it will be every year—to two rugby players who gave it all on the pitch, the way Todd did.

Jean Carlo “JC” Siles '20 and Bridgett Dunn '19 each received a scholarship from Ellie Miller. Siles, a psychology major, is a member of Psi Chi, the psychology honor society, while Dunn, the women's rugby captain and former match secretary of the

team, is a liberal studies major.

"It's a real honor to receive this scholarship," said Dunn. "The name Todd Miller is still legendary for Longwood rugby players—we all know his story—and to meet his mother and hear about him as a person was really special. I feel very humbled to receive a scholarship named after Todd."

From heartbreaking loss, friendship

In 2008, still recovering in Virginia Beach, Joe Leake couldn't stop himself. It only took a few Internet searches to piece together who saved his life: a 6-3, 215-pound man who fell into a coma during a rugby game and was flown by helicopter to the same hospital Leake woke up in. And though it's recommended that transplant recipients and family members wait a year to make contact, he couldn't wait that long.

"I had to talk to Todd's mother and say thank you," he said. "I felt so moved to do that, and it couldn't wait."

Six months after the transplant, Joe came to a Longwood rugby game at First Avenue Field, carrying a dozen red roses.

The first thing Ellie remembers is how similar the two men looked. Both tall, both with shaved heads, both with wide, infectious smiles, both college athletes.

Doctors had told Joe's mother two things on Sunday, March 9, 2008: Her son had about 12 hours to live, and there was a 1-in-1,000 chance that a liver would come available. The implication was unavoidable: Joe needed a miracle.

And he got one when Ellie Miller made the difficult decision to take her son off life support. But that choice had consequences neither one could predict. Joe found a best friend in that same woman. Ellie, for her part, found a renewed sense of hope as she and Joe became closer and the family of the man who was walking around with her son's liver began quietly adding to the meager scholarship fund in her son's name.

"Once we got started, we couldn't stop talking," Leake said. "I'm normally a pretty quiet person, but there was something about Miss Ellie that was so familiar. She started talking about Todd and I started talking about my family, and we found out that we really ... liked each other."

As Joe came to know more about Todd, the more he was impressed.

"I needed someone like Todd in my life," said the shooting guard who bounced between Old Dominion, Hampton and Florida



(ABOVE) Margaret Leake (left), Longwood President W. Taylor Reveley IV, Joe Leake Jr. and Joe Leake Sr. look on as Ellie Miller makes the Todd Davis Miller Memorial Scholarship official.

(RIGHT) Joe Leake, whose life was saved by a liver transplant, and Ellie Miller, the mother of the Longwood student who donated the organ, have developed a special friendship.



International playing NCAA basketball in college. "I wasn't a bad kid, but I enjoyed the social aspect of college maybe a little more than I should have. If I'd had a guy like Todd around, he'd have kept me straight. Those students he touched at Longwood should be forever grateful they had him in their lives."

Life after death

That liver did more than save Joe's life, to hear Joe tell it.

His father, Joe Leake Sr., also a merchant marine, was working in Russia when he heard his son was deathly ill. It took him days to get home—leapfrogging from Korea to Japan to Los Angeles to Chicago to Richmond. He thought he was returning to his son's funeral.

"If Joe hadn't received that liver, his mother wouldn't have survived it," said Leake Sr. "And I wouldn't have my grandchild. Or my son. I have all of that because Todd Miller and his mother gave so generously to my family."

Joe's older son was in second grade when his father woke up in MCV with a new liver.

"He has Asperger's [syndrome] and was in a self-contained class, that's how bad he was doing in school," said Leake. "This June, 10 years after my transplant, he has graduated high school fully mainstreamed, with a 3.0 grade-point average, and is being recruited to wrestle in college. That's because of Todd. Once I started learning about Todd, I said I want my son to be like that man. He can be an athlete, but he's going to be a student-athlete. He's going to be generous to a fault. He's going to know how important family is."

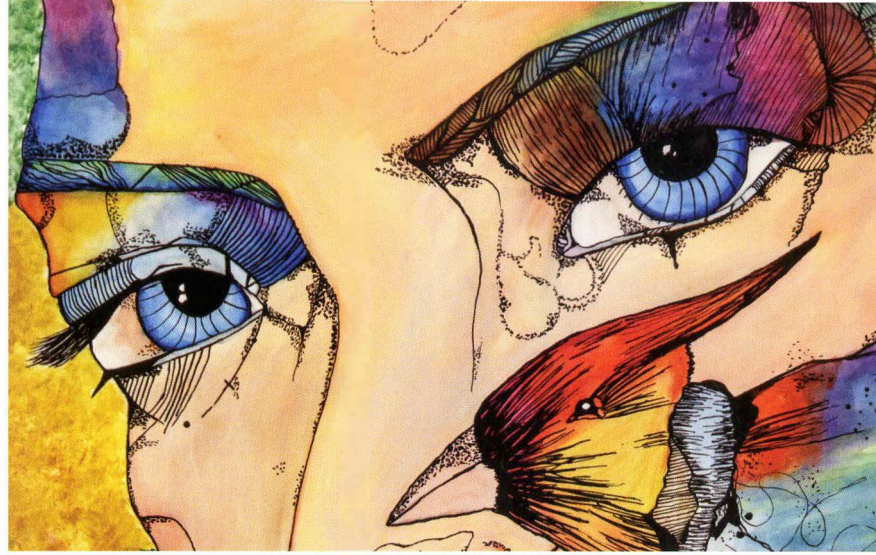
And, of course, those lessons are being taught to Joe's younger son, Christopher Todd Davis Leake, an athlete like his dad and Todd, born a year after his father's operation. One day he'll know why. 🌐

More than Meets



the Eye

(OPPOSITE PAGE) Children from Longwood's Andy Taylor Center contemplate artwork in the Annual Area Youth Art Exhibition at the LCVA. (RIGHT) From the youth art exhibition: Detail of *Beauty and the Bird* by Kayla Dixon, a 12th-grade student of Deborah Wilkinson Ford '76, M.A. '90, at Amelia County High School.



Art education provides not only an avenue to creativity but also a refuge from anxiety, a portal to new ways of learning and a source of self-esteem

BY LAUREN WHITTINGTON

Carli Hanback remembers the moment she realized the impact she could make as an art teacher.

She was student teaching this spring, and her first-graders were dragging plastic forks through paint to create texture on their paintings of a panda bear.

"This one little girl's face lit up with excitement when I told them to make their panda into something special," said Hanback '18.

When they were finished, the student's smile radiated as she asked if she could take it home to show her family. Her panda was wearing a bow tie and had very bright blue eyes. It wasn't until later in the day that Hanback learned from another teacher that the girl's 5-year-old brother had tragically died last year. He had blue eyes, and, in his last school picture, he was wearing a bow tie.

"That project really made a difference to her and, in some way, created a special connection between her and her little brother," said Hanback, who graduated in May and will begin teaching art this fall at Landstown High School in Virginia Beach. "That's when I knew I could make a difference."

Hanback begins her career at a time when the need for K-12 art education is as critical

as it has ever been. With students facing higher levels of stress and anxiety, more prevalent social and emotional disorders, and home-life disruptions, the art classroom is increasingly a refuge—providing a space where mistakes are OK, creativity is encouraged and there are no right or wrong answers.

At the same time, the art curriculum is being squeezed out of the classroom as tight budgets force schools to trim or even eliminate it.

The cuts disproportionately hit rural and low-income areas, where school administrators must focus their limited resources on improving Standards of Learning (SOL) test scores and other factors that affect accreditation. For example, at Prince Edward County Elementary School, art classes were recently cut from 45 minutes to 40 minutes to make room for more SOL test prep.

Up to the challenge

Longwood is taking the lead in responding to this contemporary challenge through a two-pronged approach. The university is adapting with the times to prepare well-rounded art teachers who can support the increasingly complex academic and emotional needs of students. And it's providing essential art resources to Southside area citizens through its free, nationally accredited art museum.

The need is so urgent that Longwood's art

education program recently began requiring art education students to take two special education classes to better prepare them to meet the needs of all their students. The classes also make it easier for aspiring teachers to get a master's in special education. Teachers who are dual-licensed in art education and special education are especially attractive to employers.

Meanwhile, the Longwood Center for the Visual Arts (LCVA) has made it its mission to bridge the school resource gap and provide creative enrichment to a large swath of Southside residents who do not have easy access to nearby cities or cultural institutions. In Buckingham County, when the preschool lost all resource classes, the LCVA stepped in to provide monthly art programming—free of charge.

Longwood has long understood the critical role art plays in child development and the ways it can be used to teach SOL subjects.

In her more than four decades teaching art, Deborah Wilkinson Ford '76, M.A. '90, said the biggest change has been that students now seem to be more interested in and in need of expressing their creativity. Some students spend multiple periods a day in her art classroom at Amelia County High School.

"This art room really is like a refuge for some of them," she said. "I have students that live, breathe, eat and drink art."



(LEFT) The Annual Area Youth Art Exhibition included the work of more than 2,000 students from 44 public, private and home schools in 12 counties. The students of 19 alumni art teachers were selected to exhibit their art in the show. (RIGHT) Brooke Eamigh '16 works on a project with kindergarteners Jamarrious Eames (left) and Ceriah Williams at Prince Edward County Elementary School.

Beyond painting, drawing and papier-mache

For decades, Longwood has been on the front lines of supporting art education, by putting teachers in the field, celebrating and showcasing student achievement, and providing innovative outreach through the LCVA, which annually hosts the largest student art show in Virginia.

Ask any art teacher, and they will explain that the value of art education is felt far beyond the art room. Making art teaches students to work together, to solve problems and to employ creative thinking in their learning, and it often leads to a boost in self-esteem and confidence. For younger children, it provides opportunities to learn colors, shapes, numbers and letters, and helps in the development of motor skills.

When the pre-kindergarten students from Longwood's Andy Taylor Center for Early Childhood Development visited the LCVA to tour the Annual Area Youth Art Exhibition this spring, it was clear they weren't just there to view artwork.

Mindy Pierson '03, the LCVA's school programs educator, used the ancient Egypt-themed front window display to teach a variety of words and lessons—from recycling, to the shapes of pyramids, to hieroglyphics as an early form of alphabet. She explained that artists can use lots of different materials, pointing out that repurposed egg cartons were used to make a crocodile and pieces of paper had been stained with coffee. The students were mesmerized.

"I'm curious to see what they do when they get back to the art room," said one of the teachers.

This is the 20th year the LCVA has hosted the youth art exhibit, which featured the work of more than 2,000 students from 44 public, private and home schools in 12 counties. Students whose artwork is featured are invited to attend a public opening reception with their parents and many school groups come to tour the exhibit during its run.

Egyptian scene was created by students at Prince Edward County Elementary School, and it represented a role reversal of sorts for first-year art teacher Brooke Eamigh '16.

Eamigh, who helped to hang and organize the youth artwork when she worked at the LCVA as a Longwood student, said she started planning the window in December. Among the things the students constructed using cardboard and recycled materials were crocodiles,

'This art room really is a refuge. ... I have some students that live, breathe, eat and drink art.'

— Deborah Wilkinson Ford '76, M.A. '90, Amelia County High School art teacher

"It's so neat to stand back and watch the parents show their kids how proud they are of them when they come to the art show," said Emily Overstreet '06.

Overstreet, who has taught art at Cumberland County Elementary School for the past decade, is one of 19 Longwood alumni art teachers whose students' artwork was selected for this year's show.

Each year the LCVA's front window display during the youth show is designed by the teachers and students from one school. This year's

beetles, pyramids, an obelisk and a boat on the Nile River—all subjects that relate to lessons or SOLs they eventually will study.

"I tell my students we are very fortunate to live in a community that is encouraging us to do art and wants us to do this window every year," she said. "That is a huge opportunity to show off your art and to get to see people admire your work."

Jasia Miles, a junior last year at Amelia County High School whose artwork was picked to be among the most outstanding at this year's



(LEFT) Kristen Mosley '17 just finished her first year as the art teacher at Cumberland County Middle School. She's working here with fifth-grader Sandy Atwell, whose artwork *Cherry Blossoms* (DETAIL BELOW) was selected for the youth art exhibition. Sandy said when she's painting or drawing, 'everything else around me goes away and I just focus on the art.' (RIGHT) From the youth art exhibition: *Polar Bear* by RobertTrent, a fifth-grader and Mosley's student.

Amelia County High School whose work was featured in this year's show. "I messed up on my piece that got selected for the art show when I was doing the design. But I just put some ink there and made it look like something."

Artists who also teach

Longwood has a rich history of training the best teachers, and the small but robust art education program has cultivated creative, imaginative and resourceful art teachers, many of whom are teaching in the communities near Farmville. All three of the art teachers in the Cumberland County school system are Longwood alumnae, and most of the counties that border Prince Edward have one or more art teachers trained at Longwood.

Kelly Nelson, who heads the art education program and also teaches printmaking, is on the front lines of preparing art teachers for the modern classroom. She said one of the strengths of Longwood's art education program is that it is designed so that art teachers are also artists.

Aspiring art teachers graduate with a Bachelor of Fine Arts and a concentration in art education, which requires 14 extra credit hours, generally in art. The program is very interdisciplinary.

"Our students have more art experiences, which can be very important when you are teaching art," Nelson said. "We are trained kind of like a jack of all trades, so you have to be able to do a little bit of everything."

That translates into great art teachers who can help students of different ages develop their creativity and pursue the media they find most rewarding.

"You can cross photography and sculpture, fabric and surface design, and all sorts of interesting materials together," she said. "Our faculty here really embraces that intermixing of materials and art disciplines."

Art education students are prepared for the classroom and learn innovative teaching methods by taking fundamentals classes in the College of Education and Human Services. They also learn different ways to link art with other academic disciplines, such as literature, history, math and science—and to encourage critical thinking.

Through their practicums and student teaching, art education students put that broad range of practical experience to use. Hanback said she appreciates how well-prepared she is to teach students at all grade levels and from diverse backgrounds.

"It's really important that Longwood allows us to get in the classroom so early," she said.

One of the important lessons Nelson stresses in her classes is to take the time to talk with students and really get to know them.

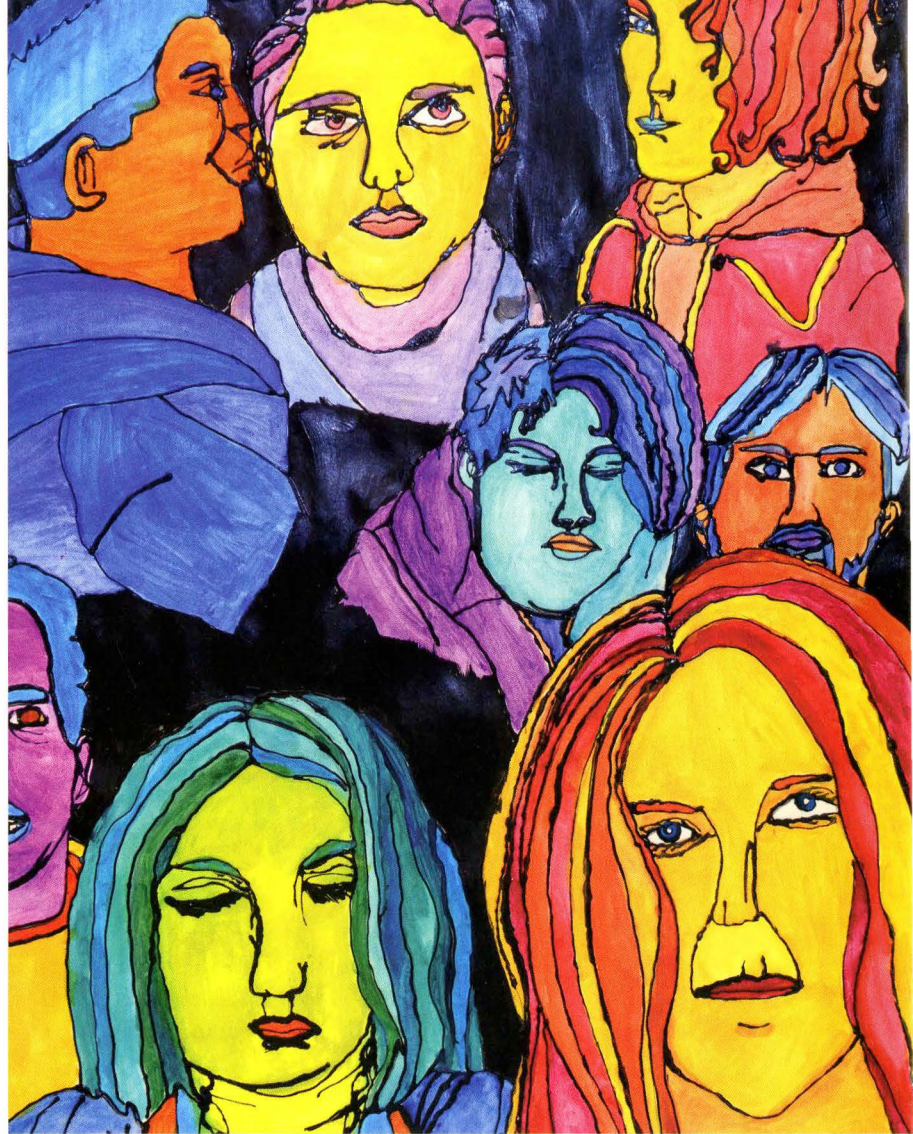
Eamigh took that lesson to heart. "Art class really allows you to build personal relationships," she said. "Just taking the time to sit down and listen to what a student has to say is important. A lot of these kids don't get that at home."

show, confirmed that having her work on display has helped her confidence—something that has translated to other aspects of her life. The softball shortstop was selected to the first-team all-conference as a sophomore.

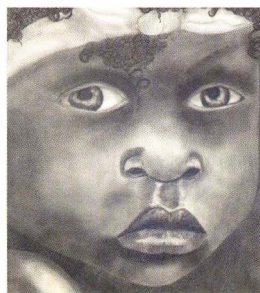
"I'm really hard on myself. For people to tell me I'm really good, it's amazing," she said.

Originally shown in Bedford Hall and sponsored by Central Virginia Arts, the youth art exhibition began as a way of showcasing artwork from Prince Edward County students. The show was the idea of Central Virginia Arts member Shirley Blackwell, who remembers organizing the first exhibition in 1988. It later expanded in 1998 to include students in the neighboring counties and then across the region under the auspices of the LCVA.

"The great thing about art is that, if you mess up, you do it again or make something from it," said Kayla Dixon, a senior last year at



(LEFT) Deborah Wilkinson Ford '76, M.A. '90, helps 11th-grader Jasia Miles with a sculpture at Amelia County High School. Jasia's artwork *Belle Ame* (DETAIL RIGHT) was selected for the youth art exhibition. (FAR RIGHT) From the youth art exhibition: Detail of *Colorful Classmates* by 10th-grader Dakota Shahan-Beaver, one of Ford's students.



Partners in art education

Accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, the 33,000-square-foot LCVA is the only museum of its size and scope in the 7,000-square-mile area surrounding Prince Edward County. Known for its innovative outreach and participatory visual arts education, it is an important anchor and beloved resource in the Farmville community. Each year, more than 38,000 children and adults visit the LCVA to view exhibits, take classes or participate in workshops and lectures.

"Art is not only an essential part of education, but of life," said Emily Grabiec, the LCVA's director of education and outreach. "Our role is to help foster creativity, curiosity and involvement in visual arts for residents throughout south central Virginia."

One of the tenets of its mission is school education and outreach. The LCVA offers professional development workshops that are designed for all K-12 teachers, not just art educators. The SOLs-based workshops help teachers earn re-certification points as well as learn methods

of integrating art into their curricula.

In addition to the preschool art program in Buckingham County, the LCVA offers two "Have Art, Will Travel" programs—focused on Africa and China—for local elementary students that teach SOL objectives through global lessons. The programs allow the LCVA to showcase its extensive collection of African art, which includes objects representing 59 cultures from 17 countries, and its Rowe Collection of Chinese Art. Last year, more than 550 children participated in the program.

During the summer months, the LCVA offers free daily art workshops and previously has run an art program for at-risk fourth-graders at area schools.

Hanback, the recent Longwood graduate, said the time she spent volunteering at the LCVA was instrumental in her understanding and appreciation of the nontangible benefits of art.

"You see all walks of life come in. It was nice to see families who don't have a lot financially come and bring their kids to these free events,"

she said. "It meant so much to the kids, and they would leave with handfuls of crafts."

When the LCVA moved to its current location in the center of downtown Farmville 25 years ago, it was viewed as both a physical and symbolic bridge between Longwood and the surrounding community. It not only serves as a vital art resource for children and teachers across Southside Virginia, but it also provides a fertile training ground for aspiring art teachers like Eamigh, Overstreet and Kristen Mosley '17, who just finished her first year as the art teacher at Cumberland County Middle School.

For those three alumnae, and many others, working and volunteering at the LCVA not only gave them beneficial work experience but also integrated them into the local art community.

"I can't say enough about how much the staff at the LCVA influenced me and helped me," said Mosley, who has had her still life paintings exhibited as far away as Chicago. "I'm so thankful for how they prepared me to be the teacher and artist that I am today."



From the youth art exhibition: (ABOVE LEFT) Detail of *Eye of the Tiger* by Maria Olmos, an 11th-grade student of Ronda Jones '88 at Cumberland County High School. (ABOVE RIGHT) Detail of *Torn Paper Selfie* by Kierra Green, a 12th-grade student of Carley Fetty '10 at Prince Edward County High School. (LEFT) Detail of *Native American Self-Portrait* by Kayla Watson, a fourth-grade student of Emily Overstreet '06 at Cumberland County Elementary School.

'Art is not only an essential part of education, but of life.'

— Emily Grabiec, Director of Education and Outreach, LCVA

A job that satisfies and inspires

It took Overstreet, a graphic design major, one year working at a graphic design firm to realize that sitting in front of a computer all day wasn't the career for her. She called Nelson, the art education professor, and that conversation convinced her to return to Longwood to become an art teacher.

"Sometimes I can't believe this is my job and this is what I'm getting paid to do," she said. "It's a wonderful feeling going to work and loving what you do."

Whenever someone raises the negative aspects of the education system or questions why she became an art teacher, Overstreet explains there aren't many other professions that are as rewarding on a daily basis.

"The child's reaction when they finish that project—that 'I made this!' look and the pride that they have in themselves when they are

done—it makes it so worth it," she said.

For 42 years, Ford has watched many of her students transform not just artistically, but personally as well.

"It makes you want to come back every year," Ford said. "I feel like I can't let them down. I have to come back because I want to see them grow some more. That's what drives you to get out of bed every morning."

One of those students is Dakota Shahan-Beaver, a sophomore last year, who said she uses art as a form of therapy. Shahan-Beaver had her artwork featured in the youth art exhibit for the first time this year.

"I have depression and anxiety, so it calms me down and helps relieve my stress," she said. "You can portray a lot of emotions through art. You just have to have the imagination for it." Years ago, Ford said, her art classes were not as populated with students who were serious about art.

"The students I have now are truly more interested in learning the skills and the techniques, and take pride in their work," she said. "They are interested in going to see colleges like Longwood to maybe pursue art as a career."

Each year, Ford brings her students to Farmville to visit campus and the LCVA, sometimes to view the student art show and sometimes to do an art project with the staff. She shows them the Ruffner rotunda, and they eat lunch in the dining hall—while she regales them with stories of how tough Dr. Elisabeth Flynn's art history class was or how revered longtime art faculty members Barbara Bishop and Homer Springer were.

Ford's decision to retire from teaching full time this year was bittersweet. The students and those trips to Longwood are among the things she will miss the most.

"I have a good day every day," she said. "A lot of teachers can't say that. You have to love what you do." 🌟



Admissions events in the past year have attracted capacity crowds.

Agent of Change

A fresh approach, teamwork and a deep appreciation of Longwood are yielding results for Admissions Dean Jason Faulk

BY MATTHEW McWILLIAMS

You can hear him coming from the other side of Brock Commons.

He's telling a student to call his mom. He's laughing at a joke. He's calling out a welcome to a group of prospective students taking a tour of campus.

Every university has an admissions director, but Longwood's Jason Faulk is singular in his genuine enthusiasm, vitality, pep—and his megawatt smile.

Even so, he knows all that will only take him so far.

Hired 18 months ago as dean of admissions,

Faulk was charged with modernizing admissions strategies and outreach. He embarked on a widespread transformation that, as he approaches the conclusion of his first full recruitment cycle, has yielded the most accomplished freshman class in recent Longwood history. The Class of 2022, entering this fall, is on track to include the most-ever freshmen who graduated high school with an A average.

To what does Faulk attribute this success? It is telling that he first mentions the can-do spirit among staff, faculty and administrators he has gotten to know. Then he talks about Longwood students themselves, who embody the characteristics at the university's heart and who truly believe in Longwood's selling points.

What's the most surprising thing about Longwood students?

They are refreshingly open. It's interesting—

at all the other universities where I've worked, students are generally intimidated by administrators or faculty members, but not here. They are quick to open up, talk about issues and share their opinions. And then most importantly, they're willing to do the work to shape their campus the way they want it to be.

We talk a lot about students being their own advocates in the admissions world—having the tools to make the right choices for themselves when it comes to which college or university they will attend. I think a lot of our students come in with those tools.

What kind of student finds a home at Longwood?

We've worked really hard over the last 18 months to answer that question. We all want to build freshman classes with students who will not only be successful but really find a community they can be a part of. What we have found is that the things that we all know and love

about Longwood are really shared in each class.

These are students who are willing to help and get involved. We have major campus events each year where thousands of prospective students visit Longwood for the first time, and I have to work hard to find jobs for all the current students who want to be involved. And I think they are looking for opportunities to grow. There's a deep desire to work on getting better at the things they aren't yet great at—whether that's in the classroom or somewhere else.

For all that, though, they don't like to be pigeonholed. Our students want a university experience that's unique to them, no matter what they hope to achieve or what their goals are. That's why I think some new initiatives on campus like the coaching groups that bring freshmen with similar interests into a mentoring situation with a faculty or staff member are really going to pay dividends. They're individuals, and they're being treated as such.

At the same time, the world is changing.

Very much so, and they feel that intensely. Broadly, today's students are concerned about the environment, concerned about social justice, concerned about their lives 15 years from now. They want to change politics to reflect their values, and I don't think that's a trend. It's a culture shift. They will be the leaders of the future, and I'm excited to see where they take us.

You outlined a few goals when you came here, including trying out new ideas. What are some of the things that you have changed, and have they produced dividends?

Change always presents its own challenges, but thankfully the admissions staff has the support of the faculty and administration, who are surprisingly ready to try anything

we cook up. I tell the staff: Not every admissions department has that kind of trust and flexibility—so don't take it for granted.

We took a look at the application process and have tried to de-stress it as much as possible. I seriously don't know why the world of higher education makes applying to college so difficult. So we've adopted some new communication tools and



Jason Faulk and his team have streamlined the application process to make it easier.

'We're being very intentional in bringing in groups of students who in past years likely wouldn't have visited or considered Longwood. ... And more and more of these students are choosing us, because, when they get here, they feel that incredible sense of community that we all feel every day.'

— Jason Faulk, Dean of Admissions

integrated some new software to streamline the process.

We've also really taken a look at the events we put on and whether they are bringing in the type of student who applies, enrolls and is successful at Longwood. We've added events, changed ones that weren't working so well and tried to make sure that every experience prospective students have with us is positive.

And finally we've tried to build better bridges with faculty.

In an article about you when you were first hired, you said, "I immediately felt the energy of the place. My first thought was, if you get people on this campus, Longwood sells itself." Eighteen months in, do you still feel that way?

It's even more true. We're being very intentional in bringing in groups of students who in past years likely wouldn't have visited or considered Longwood; we're reaching deeper into communities. And more and more of these students are choosing us, because, when they get here, they feel that incredible sense of community that we all feel every day.

You're also a mentor to admissions staffers—many of whom are in their first professional jobs.

It's a fulfilling role. It goes back to the old cliché: "Pay it forward." Several people helped me when I was a young professional, and I wouldn't be where I am today if it weren't for them. The average admissions counselor stays in the job three to five years before moving on. A lot of them—though not all—are Longwood graduates, which means they get some valuable work experience while being in a unique position to share their own experiences of college with prospective students.

Are alumni part of admissions?

Yes, we've gotten alumni involved because I've found that anytime you can connect generations with each other, there's an authenticity there that can't be replicated. So alumni are involved in several of our regional events, and, through the alumni office's One Hour A Month initiative, we have been able to send prospective students handwritten notes from Longwood graduates, which has been really powerful. 📧

When It Rains,

The Class of 2018, brimming with talented students embarking on bright futures, finds downpour a reason to celebrate

BY SABRINA BROWN AND DAN CAWLEY

It Pours

If rain does mean good luck—and Longwood President W. Taylor Reveley IV declared it so at undergraduate commencement on May 19—then the Class of 2018 has it made.

The speeches were complete and about two-thirds of the graduates' names had been called when the skies opened up over Wheeler Mall at this year's ceremony. Unwilling to let it ruin their day, Longwood's newest alums greeted the downpour with cheers, and those who had yet to cross the stage lined up for their moment in the spotlight, albeit at a much faster pace.

It was almost as if they wanted to prove that President Reveley was right on target with his earlier remarks about their generation, including statistics showing millennials are more optimistic about the future than Generation Xers or baby boomers.

"There is a myth that needs to be dispelled," Reveley said, referring to the 2013 *Time* magazine cover story that characterized millennials as lazy and self-involved. "I want to take a moment to powerfully disagree, especially with regard to the Lancers assembled here before us."

He went on to point out that the millennial generation is the most diverse and the best-educated in American history. And Longwood millennials have the advantage of getting their higher education at a university where they were "taught not just how to have a career but how to live a life," Reveley added.

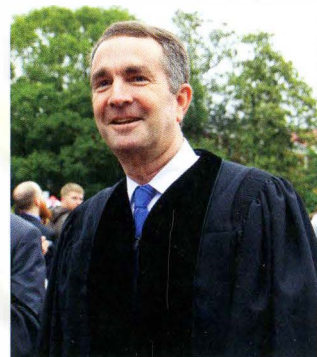
"The 21st century beckons..." he concluded. "Lancers, the great Class of 2018, I take profound hope in you."

Looking at the individuals who earned the 984 bachelor's degrees and 166 graduate degrees awarded this year, it's easy to understand why Reveley is so hopeful about the future. You'll meet 23 of those individuals, a few of whom completed their requirements in August or December 2017, in the next few pages.

Among them are a biology graduate headed to the University of Chicago to begin a Ph.D. in immunology; a computer science and modern languages major set to start a job at Deutsche Bank; and a teacher excited about her Peace Corps placement in a small village in South Africa.

And there's Kate Colley, who majored in chemistry, conducted research on chemical reactions in drug design, played four years on the field hockey team and put her hat in the ring to be considered for a Rhodes Scholarship. She's been accepted to pharmacy school at VCU, well-prepared by her Longwood experience and already a bit nostalgic for it.

"I will never forget the long practices, bus trips to Ohio and tough games that I shared with some of my very best friends," said Colley, who is included in *Longwood* magazine online. "Longwood has brought me so much joy, both academically and athletically. My advice to future graduates? Enjoy your time in Farmville while it lasts."



Gov. Ralph Northam spoke to graduates at the undergraduate ceremony.

To read more about Commencement 2018, including remarks by Gov. Ralph Northam, who spoke at the undergraduate ceremony, and philanthropist Joan Brock '64, who spoke to students receiving graduate degrees, go to magazine.longwood.edu.

Olivia Zaleski

H R S V

Majors: Computer science and modern languages with a concentration in Spanish

What's next: Analyst

Where: Deutsche Bank, Cary, North Carolina

Lab report: "The campus would be quiet and peaceful, but the [computer science] lab would be abuzz with activity, fingers flying over the keyboards with an intense concentration, people yelling out code. The atmosphere was great."

The wow factor: Hiking on a glacier in Alaska, gazing at the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, standing just a few feet from the Rosetta Stone. "When I look back at my experience, I'll remember that, because of Longwood, the world was my classroom."

Couldn't have done it without: Dr. Thomas Wears, mathematics faculty, and Dr. Robert Marmorstein, computer science faculty. "They have an incredible energy when teaching. Through their encouragement and support I was able to grow as a student, a programmer and a person."

Meredith Puryear

H I S V

Major: Communication sciences and disorders with minors in Spanish and special education

What's next: Master of Science in speech language pathology

Where: Longwood University

A song in her heart: Meredith served as director of Pitch Perfect, one of Longwood's female a cappella groups, for 2-1/2 years. "It has been the purest form of love, support and acceptance that I have ever known."

Spain on her brain: Studying abroad in Valencia "shaped my entire future goals," she said. "It made me realize that in my future career I want to work with children who have fluency and articulation disorders where English is their second language."

Couldn't have done it without: Dr. Lissa Power-deFur, communication sciences and disorders faculty. "Dr. Power-deFur has been a guiding light for me this last year of school and a constant source of joy."

Michaela Malboeuf I T R S V

Majors: Psychology, and criminology and criminal justice

What's next: Operational support technician

Where: Federal Bureau of Investigation

Changing her world view: Michaela studied abroad in London, the Hague, Brussels and Amsterdam and met with representatives from the U.S. State Department, the International War Court and the Anne Frank house, to name a few. "This trip was ultimately the reason I chose to pursue a career in federal law enforcement."

The sound of silence: Michaela interviewed undocumented immigrants as part of a research project. "I was grateful for the opportunity to share their stories in an era where immigration is a hot topic but immigrant voices are silenced."

Couldn't have done it without: Dr. Sarai Blincoe, psychology faculty. By gently pushing me out of my comfort zone, she helped me discover my passion and future career."



Carli Hanback V

Major: Art education with a concentration in crafts

What's next: Art teacher

Where: Landstown High School, Virginia Beach

Free time: Carli spent much of her time at Longwood volunteering. The Big Event, Habitat for Humanity, FACES and the LCVA were on the receiving end of her devotion to helping others.

Spring break redefined: As vice president of Longwood's Alternative Breaks group, she chose to spend her spring breaks doing service work in Death Valley and Everglades national parks.

Couldn't have done it without: Kelly Nelson, Kerri Cushman and Dr. Terri Sabatos, art faculty. "I truly aspire to be at least half the educator that they have been for me."

Zachary Glasscock I V

Major: Theatre

What's next: Performer

Where: Theatre West Virginia, Beckley

Getting down and dirty: His first appearance on stage at Longwood was as Pigpen in *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*.

Enter, stage right: He made his directorial debut with *Shrek The Musical* for Farmville's Waterworks Players. It was the first time Waterworks had selected a Longwood student to take charge of a production. "I fell in love with directing and hope to do it a lot more in the future."

Couldn't have done it without: Lacy Klinger, theatre faculty. "Lacy helped me get on my feet as an actor and gave the best advice during my time at Longwood."

Ashleigh Bielen I R V

Major: Kinesiology with a concentration in exercise science

What's next: Master of Science in exercise science

Where: Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro

A good run: On St. Patrick's Day of her senior year, Ashleigh cheered on several clients who ran a 5K after training with her for six weeks. "Getting to see them accomplish their goals was one of the most rewarding feelings ever."

Twofer opportunity: Ashleigh received a scholarship to attend the National Intramural Recreational Sports Association conference in Denver, Colorado, and was offered a position as a fitness graduate assistant by MTSU while she was there. "I had never considered grad school due to costs. Going to this conference was a huge stepping stone to my future."

Couldn't have done it without: Alina Cioletti, Intramurals and Campus Recreation fitness coordinator. "Alina always had confidence in me, even when I didn't have it in myself."

Brittany Bishop I R

Major: Master of Science in education, counselor education/mental health counseling

What's next: Ph.D. in human sexuality-sex therapy

Where: Widener University, Chester, Pennsylvania

Eat. Sleep. Grad School.: This T-shirt that Brittany helped create as president of the Graduate Student Association says it all. "I was proud to be part of creating a community where graduate students could meet, have fun and share the experiences of our unique population."

Strictly Ballroom: Brittany hosted a GSA ballroom dancing event teaching tango and salsa to other grad students.

Couldn't have done it without: Dr. Kathleen A. McCleskey, counselor education faculty. "Dr. McCleskey was an amazing teacher and was always available to help with conferences, references and anything else I needed."

Tamiya Vanhook-Davis R V

Major: Psychology with a minor in neuroscience studies

What's next: Master of Science in occupational therapy

Where: Jefferson College of Health Sciences, Roanoke

Good news about cheating: "Most people tend not to cheat as much as you think." That was one of the findings of "Cyber Cheats," a senior seminar research project Tamiya conducted that focused on the impact of social media on academic dishonesty.

Couldn't have done it without: Dr. Catherine Franssen, psychology faculty. "Dr. Franssen will always be someone I hold dear to my heart."

Tristan Hobbs I V

Major: Business with a concentration in information systems and cyber security

What's next: Data analyst

Where: SEVA Technical Services, Inc., Newport News

Mister Vice President: Tristan served as executive vice president of the Student Government Association for two years. "I will always cherish helping to make positive change on campus."

The diner re-do: Tristan's fraternity helped renovate Walker's Diner, a Farmville landmark, on the Food Network show *American Diner Revival*. "It was really fun and rewarding to help remodel something that has been in this historic town for so long."

Couldn't have done it without: Patti Carey, McGaughey Internship and Professional Development Center director. "She always left her office door open and was ready to lend a hand, especially when I was preparing for job interviews."

Patrick Gobran A I T R V

Major: Business with concentrations in finance and real estate and a minor in economics

What's next: Investment banking analyst

Where: Animus Capital Partners, Inc., Calgary, Alberta, Canada

The big leagues: Patrick landed an internship at Goldman Sachs in New York City, then leveraged that experience into his job at Animus, where he provides advice on mergers and acquisitions, growth financing, capital raises and restructuring for middle-market companies primarily in the oil field services and exploration and production sectors.

A winner in Vegas: He brought home a Best Paper award from a conference in Las Vegas for a presentation based on his senior honors research paper.

Couldn't have done it without: Dr. Frank Bacon, finance faculty; Claire LaRoche, business law faculty; and Melinda Fowlkes, assistant business dean. "They helped me in a huge way to shape the career decisions I have made and guide me through my time at Longwood."

Halle Parker A H I S V

Major: Communication studies with a concentration in mass media and a minor in photography

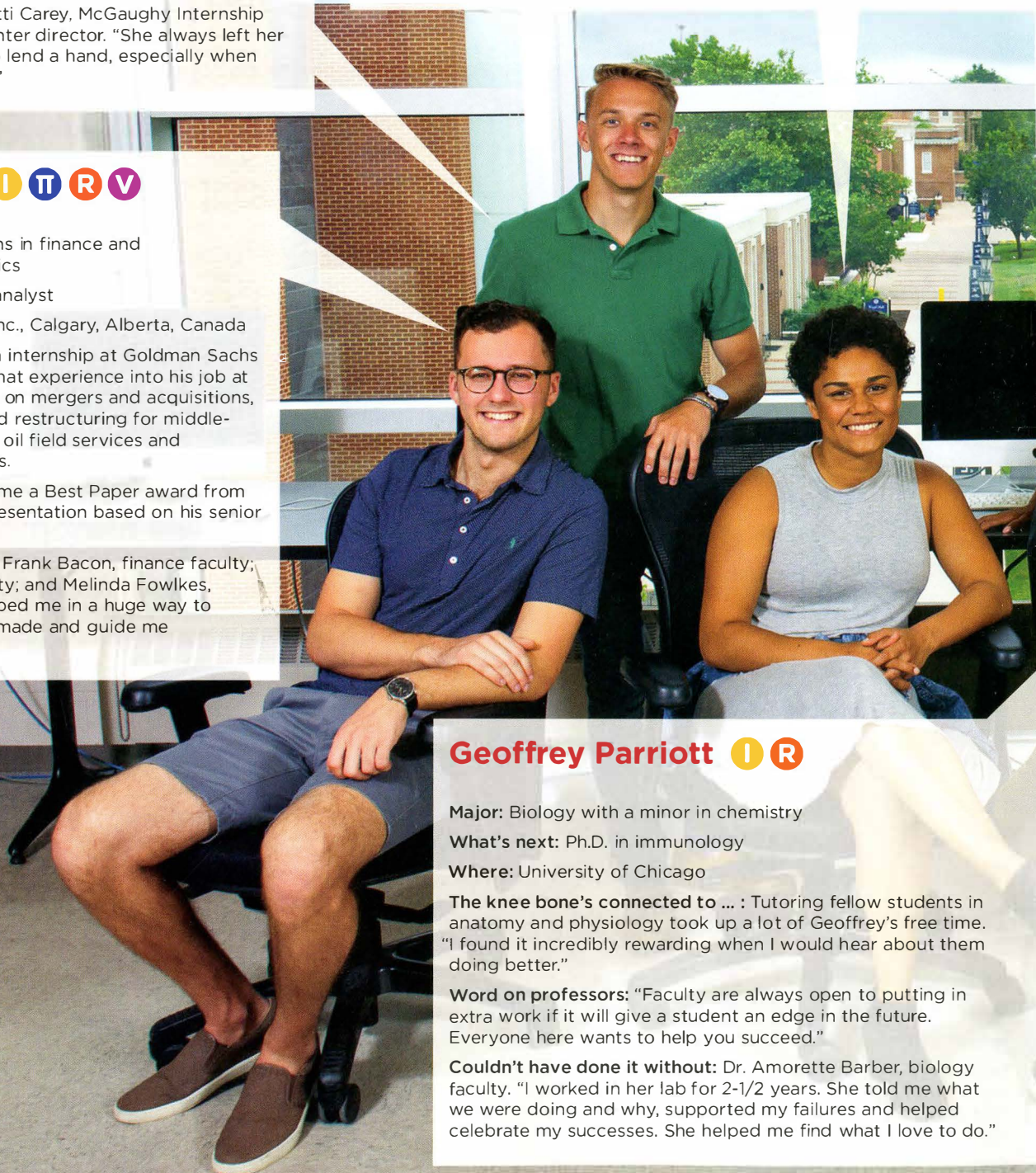
What's next: Reporter

Where: *Danville Register & Bee*

So much to do ... : Halle played on Longwood's Division I soccer team and served two years as editor of *The Rotunda*, Longwood's student newspaper.

Inspired by a *Gilmore Girl*: During her internship at the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, Halle told a reporter there her inspiration came from the TV series *Gilmore Girls*, where one of the characters is an aspiring journalist. "*Gilmore Girls* didn't steer me wrong—I love this field and all that it stands for."

Couldn't have done it without: Jeff Halliday, communication studies faculty, and Michael Mergen, photography faculty. "They challenged me to develop as a leader ... [and] fostered my passion for all kinds of storytelling."



Geoffrey Parriott I R

Major: Biology with a minor in chemistry

What's next: Ph.D. in immunology

Where: University of Chicago

The knee bone's connected to ... : Tutoring fellow students in anatomy and physiology took up a lot of Geoffrey's free time. "I found it incredibly rewarding when I would hear about them doing better."

Word on professors: "Faculty are always open to putting in extra work if it will give a student an edge in the future. Everyone here wants to help you succeed."

Couldn't have done it without: Dr. Amorette Barber, biology faculty. "I worked in her lab for 2-1/2 years. She told me what we were doing and why, supported my failures and helped celebrate my successes. She helped me find what I love to do."

Charleigh Kondas **A I R V**

Major: English with a concentration in rhetoric and professional writing

What's next: Master of Arts in public policy

Where: University of Alberta, Canada

More than a game: "Be your own legacy. This was the mantra our lacrosse team lived by this year. Be present. Be in constant pursuit of what you can do to make this world a better place." Charleigh credits Longwood athletics with expanding her "drive, critical thinking skills, commitment and work ethic."

Academic highlight: Charleigh received the Susan H. May Book Award, which is presented to the English student with the most outstanding academic achievements.

Couldn't have done it without: Dr. David Magill, English faculty. "Dr. Magill inspired me to pursue a master's degree and pushed me to write about controversial topics."

Lauren Hyatt **I S V**

Major: English with a concentration in secondary education

What's next: Peace Corps

Where: South Africa

The second time around: Lauren will soon be teaching English to children in a small, rural village in South Africa, the country where she studied abroad. "Being able to travel to Africa and experience even a slice of the different culture and history helped me solidify my belief that I could join the Peace Corps."

Candid camera college: "At Longwood I felt like I was in a movie sometimes, with those TV teachers who are too good to be true and say all the right things."

Couldn't have done it without: Dr. Melissa Kravetz, history faculty, and Dr. Jennifer Miscek, English faculty. "They brought me to South Africa and encouraged me to be knowledgeable and adventurous."

Katelyn Sisson **I S V**

Major: Social work

What's next: Master's degree in social work

Where: George Mason University, Fairfax

Connecting with troubled teens: During an internship with United Methodist Family Services, Kate developed relationships with teenagers in a therapeutic foster care program who were struggling with PTSD, depression, severe anxiety and other challenges. "These teens had such unsteady lives at home, and this program was a safe place for them. Saying goodbye to them was more difficult than I imagined."

Couldn't have done it without: Ian Danielsen, social work faculty. "He is a very kind person and is always willing to do things for others. He has written me multiple recommendation letters, and I wouldn't have had the same opportunities without him."

Mike Dinh I T V

Major: Nursing

What's next: R.N., Medical Respiratory Intensive Care Unit

Where: VCU Health System, Richmond

Caring for People: "I am passionate about nursing, caring for people and the Student Nursing Association. It made me really happy to see the impact we made on campus."

Ready, set, throw!: For Mike, a moment to remember is that brief silence just before the start of Color Wars. "I love the growing anxiety, the hush of silence waiting for the emcee to open the event as everyone is trying to plan the best way to throw the most paint—and then you get hit instead."

Couldn't have done it without: JoAnn Davis, nursing faculty. "She is my advisor, but she's more than that. She is a strong proponent of social justice and advocacy. Without meeting her, I would not be the person I am today."

Lauren Bencick I R V

Major: Business with a concentration in accounting and finance

What's next: Audit associate

Where: Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP, Tyson's Corner

Taking stock of research: Lauren's research paper on the impact of 9/11 on the stock market was published by the Allied Business Academies. "Being able to conduct research and present it at an academic conference as an undergraduate student was an incredible experience."

Couldn't have done it without: Patti B. Carey, director, McGaughey Internship and Professional Development Center. "Professor Carey truly cares about all of her students and was always willing to help." Lauren will never forget when Carey came running out of Hiner Hall waving copies of her résumé. "I had an interview with an accounting firm visiting campus, and she had made one more edit to my résumé and printed several new copies for me."

Deirdre Bates H I T R S V

Major: M.Ed., reading, literacy and learning

What's next: Ed.D.

Where: University of Virginia

All in the family: Deirdre's daughter-in-law graduated with her this spring, and her son will follow in December. Meanwhile Deirdre's daughter will enter Longwood in the fall. "We bleed blue and gray."

AKA "Momma D": "Students and even some faculty call me 'Momma D' for the years of cooking barbecue, macaroni and cheese, collards and corn bread for as many as 50 students twice a year at my home."

Couldn't have done it without: Dr. Angelica Blanchette and Dr. Wendy Snow, Reading, Literacy and Learning Program faculty. "Their unending patience and encouragement helped me find my calling."

Heather Switzer R S

Majors: Mathematics and computer science

What's next: Ph.D. in computer science

Where: College of William & Mary, Williamsburg

Madame Presidents: She got this nickname by serving as head of two clubs at the same time—the Math Club and the Association of Computing Machinery.

Connecting the dots: One of her research projects involved statistical analysis and creating algorithms to maximize the score in the video game SameGame. "I found that clearing the board by clicking groups one color at a time actually worked the best. It was really fun."

Couldn't have done it without: Dr. Julian Dymacek, computer science faculty. "Doing research with Dr. Dymacek is what made me decide to go to graduate school. He was always there to offer encouragement or advice when I needed it."



Tyler Chuba **H I S V**

Major: Business with a concentration in information systems and cyber security and a minor in computer science

What's next: Master of Science in information systems policy and management

Where: Heinz College, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh

The long haul: Tyler worked in Curry as a resident technology associate, but willingly broke out of that job description during move-in. "I can't count how many fridges I carried up the stairs that day, but I do remember how thankful the students and parents were for my help."

Culture shock: Studying abroad in Thailand "showed me a whole other world of culture and endless breathtaking landscapes. It was the most difficult and fulfilling two weeks of my life."

Couldn't have done it without: Dr. Paul Barrett, business faculty and former dean. "Through his guidance and recommendations, I was accepted to a highly competitive fellowship at Carnegie Mellon University, which then led into the graduate program."

Tatianna Griffin **A H T R S V**

Major: Anthropology with minors in history and biology

What's next: Master of Arts in anthropology with a concentration in biological anthropology

Where: University of Tennessee, Knoxville

CSI college edition: Tatianna attended a highly regarded summer program in forensic anthropology in Pennsylvania, where she gained experience in procedures including death-scene archaeology and human toxicology. "It truly made me realize that not only am I pursuing what I love, but I am pursuing what I was meant to do."

Cheer-full: She loves supporting Longwood athletics as a cheerleader.

Gaining closure: Tatianna wants to work for the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency to find answers about missing military personnel.

Couldn't have done it without: Dr. Brian Bates, anthropology faculty. "Dr. Bates was like my 'campus Dad.' His passion for anthropology was very evident, and he was always there for me when I needed encouragement."

William Daniel Bartle **A I T R V**

Major: Political science with a concentration in pre-law and a minor in history

What's next: Juris Doctor degree

Where: Antonin Scalia Law School, George Mason University, Fairfax

8 minutes of fame: Danny appeared with President W. Taylor Reveley IV on an MSNBC program to talk about Longwood's hosting the 2016 Vice Presidential Debate. "I saw how students can be part of the political discourse and that our voices can be heard across the nation."

Couldn't have done it without: Dr. William R. Harbour and Dr. Mary Carver, political science faculty. "They helped me develop my analytical writing skills as well as supported my passion for law."

Taylor Morris **I**

Major: Liberal studies with a concentration in elementary education

What's next: Fourth-grade teacher

Where: Meadow View Elementary, Henry County Public Schools

A planner's planner: Taylor was known as 'Miss Organized' and folks would depend on her planner for due dates. "I think it's the teacher in me."

Hometown college experience: Taylor spent one semester at Longwood in Farmville and then finished her degree closer to home at the New College Institute in Martinsville. "Longwood at NCI allowed me to be close to home and work a job while obtaining my bachelor's degree and teaching license."

Couldn't have done it without: Dr. Pamela Randall, NCI program director. "She was very supportive and encouraging throughout my experience at NCI. She made sure we were on the right track, molding me into the teacher I am."



Hotel Weyanoke is reborn as a downtown Farmville destination

HISTORIC *to* HIP

BY LAUREN WHITTINGTON

On a warm May evening, a few hours before the new Hotel Weyanoke's opening night reception, Ross Fickenscher and Garrett Shifflett surveyed the view from the granite-topped bar at Catbird, the hotel's rooftop lounge.

French and Ruffner Halls spread out before them on Longwood's classical campus to the south. Farmville's increasingly vibrant Main Street lay to the east, snippets of the Blue Ridge to the west.

Soon the venue would be packed with guests from across Virginia, sampling gourmet pizza and sipping specialty cocktails and craft drafts from Danville's Ballad Brewing Company—another of the development duo's successful historic-to-hip ventures.

The business partners who spotted Farmville as the next hot new place couldn't help but reflect on the series of milestones the occasion represented, not only for them but also for

Longwood and Farmville, which are enjoying the fruits of a college-town renaissance.

"We bet big on this project because Farmville is undergoing a transformation and we wanted to be part of it," said Shifflett, who with Fickenscher has been renovating, rehabbing and repurposing historic properties—like converting old tobacco warehouses into urban lofts—for a decade in Lynchburg, Richmond and other locations.

"There's an energy about this project and the community that's unlike any other that we've experienced," Fickenscher added.

The Weyanoke isn't just Farmville's first boutique hotel. It's also transforming Farmville's restaurant scene, with options ranging from gourmet coffee to artisan pizza to upscale Italian dining.

Taken together, it's only the latest project that is making downtown Farmville a growing destination for tourists, craft beer aficionados, history enthusiasts and foodies.

Longwood has been an important partner for the Weyanoke since the hotel's earliest years—and university leaders played a key role in encouraging its revitalization. Not only will the hotel serve as a convenient and attractive option for alumni returning to their alma mater,

it also will encourage further development projects that bring more visitors to the town and to campus.

"It feels like springtime in Farmville in so many ways," Longwood President W. Taylor Reveley IV said. "There's palpable momentum and many good things happening. This hotel will be the catalyst for many more things. The vitality is real."

Making old new again

Two months before the grand opening, Fickenscher and Shifflett were installing the original cast iron light fixtures that adorn the front doors of the Weyanoke. The two lanterns—which have welcomed guests to the hotel since it was built nearly a century ago—may have some refurbished glass, but their charm and character is unchanged.

Fickenscher and Shifflett, partners in Richmond-based Aoss Ventures, specialize in making what is old new again. When the hotel was sold at auction in December 2012, they were unsure of which direction they would ultimately go with the property, which then rented rooms to Longwood students.

Eventually they realized that restoring the



Business partners Garrett Shifflett (left) and Ross Fickenscher 'bet big' that the Farmville area was ready for a project like the renovated Hotel Weyanoke, which opened for business in May. Weyanoke means 'land of the sassafras' in Algonquian, the language associated with the Weyanoke Indians, who historically inhabited a peninsula in what is now Charles City County.

Meridith De Avilla Khan





(OPPOSITE)The hotel offers 70 guest rooms, ranging from standard queens to king suites. (ABOVE LEFT) Valet parking is available at the main entrance to the hotel, located on High Street just across from Longwood's French Hall. (ABOVE RIGHT)The Catbird rooftop lounge offers views of campus and downtown Farmville.

hotel and returning it to its original use made the most sense—a decision that came after stakeholders from the Farmville community and Longwood expressed their strong support. “Given that it’s right across the street from Longwood and a block up from Main Street, we thought a hotel was most appropriate,” said Fickenscher. “Also, the Farmville community desired a higher-end boutique hotel with a lot of character, so it seemed like a natural fit.” The Weyanoke is the first hotel project for Fickenscher and Shifflett—an aspect that carried more risk but also more reward.

In 2015, they partnered with Williamsburg-based Cornerstone Hospitality and began the process of returning the hotel to its historic use. The partners soon found that securing financing for a hospitality project in a town the size of Farmville and without a national hotel brand associated with it would be difficult. There was one point when the lender was on the fence and Fickenscher knew what needed to happen: He had to go look at the hotel and feel what was happening in Farmville.

“He went there the next day and called me and said, ‘You are absolutely right,’” Fickenscher said. “He went to the property, walked up on the veranda and looked around, and thought, ‘This is perfect.’”

The 70-room renovated hotel opened this

spring—just in time to host parents, alumni and guests for Longwood’s commencement exercises and Mega Reunion weekend.

“The importance of this project to Farmville is really what sets it apart,” Shifflett said. “We do a lot of renovations of historic properties. But the coolest thing to me is that we are bringing back something that originally had such importance to the town of Farmville. We’ve not only restored the building but its importance to the town, as well.”

Hub of hospitality

The Weyanoke was originally conceived as a community development project by the Farmville Lions Club. When it first opened in 1925, it was one of the largest and most regal of the hotels between Richmond and Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

It was a catalyst in turning Farmville into a hub of hospitality and a popular convention center—which the renovated hotel is poised to do again a century later.

At the hotel’s grand opening in May, Mayor David Whitus ’83 noted that between 1926 and 1928 the town hosted 10 statewide conventions, including the 1927 Lions Club convention at the Weyanoke that was attended by Helen Keller. He said Farmville quickly

earned a reputation for being “Virginia’s friendliest town.”

“We are still Virginia’s friendliest town,” Whitus said. “And we will again one day be hosting conventions and statewide events. Great things lie ahead for this town.”

A photo of Keller’s visit remains on display in the hotel, along with other historical items including old ledgers and a Currier and Ives print that were unearthed during the renovation. When the hotel opened, it was billed as “modern” and “strictly fireproof” based on its all masonry and steel construction. Fickenscher and Shifflett tried to keep the historic fabric of the building intact as much as possible, saving and restoring many of the original components—including light fixtures, doors, flooring, windows and tin ceilings.

“Throughout the years our appreciation has grown stronger for the historic character of any building,” Fickenscher said. “It gives you a special feeling when you can peer through the windows and doors and see the waved glass.”

The hotel also continues to hold a special place in the memories of many Longwood alumni, who fondly recall staying at the hotel or having a meal there—which was a special treat.

While a student at Longwood, Linda Palmer Barnes ’67 enjoyed visits from her great aunt,



(ABOVE LEFT) The Weyanoke logo can be found on items throughout the hotel, including bathrobes for guests. (ABOVE RIGHT) Campagna, an Italian restaurant located on the hotel's lower level, is open for dinner and available for private parties. (OPPOSITE) Effingham's First Call restaurant is known for its craft beer and artisan grilled pizzas. The restaurant's name is a nod to local history: Legend has it that the historic Effingham Tavern in Cumberland County was the site where the first patriot called for independence from Britain. Photos by Alec Hosterman/Courtesy of Hotel Weyanoke

who would take her shopping at Baldwin's department store and then to lunch at the Weyanoke.

The hotel dining room, with its white tablecloths and fine linens, was a destination for the prominent citizens of Farmville and the surrounding areas. High tea was served in the afternoon, and popular menu items included the pear and cottage cheese plate and liver and onions.

"Long after I left Farmville, my standard for measuring nice restaurants was the Weyanoke," Barnes said. "I recall linen tablecloths and napkins, fresh flowers on each table and a full service of flatware, and Aunt Ruth made sure I knew how to use each piece."

Farmville is for foodies

With three upscale restaurants and the rooftop lounge, the Weyanoke will once again be known as one of the finest dining establishments in the region.

Guests and local residents are raving about the new food options: Sassafras, a coffee and pastry shop; Effingham's First Call, an artisan pizzeria; and Campagna, an upscale Italian restaurant and wine bar open for dinner only. Menu items from the hotel's restaurants can be brought to Catbird on the rooftop as well.

The hotel's executive chef is Frank Paris III, a recent fixture in the Charlottesville culinary scene and formerly executive sous-chef at Primland Resort in southwest Virginia. He was trained in the intensive apprenticeship program at The Greenbrier, a premier hotel and resort in West Virginia.

John Shideler, the Weyanoke's general manager, formerly was the general manager of the Williamsburg Inn and worked for Colonial Williamsburg for 25 years. He and his wife relocated to Farmville, and he loves hearing from local residents when he's at work or walking around town.

"We have gotten great guest feedback on the property and the staff," he said. "I tell our guests the property can be great, but it's the staff that make it special."

Cornerstone is experienced in developing boutique hotels, reinvesting in small communities and repurposing historic buildings—the hospitality management company's other properties include the Craddock Terry Hotel in Lynchburg and the Bolling Wilson Hotel in Wytheville.

There are 27 rooms in the historic part of the Weyanoke, with the remaining rooms in a new residential wing that almost doubled the original size of the hotel. In addition to the hotel's luxurious accommodations,

amenities include valet parking, adjoining individual rooms, large walk-in showers and two elevators.

The hotel showcases several partnerships with Farmville-area businesses. The coffee mugs in each room were made by Longwood art professor Adam Paulek at Mainly Clay, a Main Street pottery shop; the furniture was purchased at Green Front; and guests can rent bikes provided by The Outdoor Adventure Store to go for a ride and explore High Bridge Trail State Park.

With the Weyanoke, upscale restaurant options, two breweries, a wine bar, the Moton Museum's addition to the U.S. Civil Rights Trail and the Longwood Barnes & Noble Bookstore's downtown location, the burgeoning vibrancy and revitalization of downtown Farmville is real. The town is increasingly becoming a weekend getaway spot for culture, shopping and outdoor activities—and is a true embodiment of the state's tourism mantra.

"People come to Virginia for outdoor adventures, great places to eat, shopping and history, and Farmville has all of those things we love statewide in one location," said Wirt Confroy, director of business development for the Virginia Tourism Corporation. "Farmville is such a wonderful place—it's alive and thriving—and so indicative of why Virginia is for Lovers." 🍷



LONGWOOD CALENDAR

JULY

THROUGH AUG. 3

Summer Art Studio. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday, Longwood Center for the Visual Arts. Information: lcva.longwood.edu or 434-395-2206.

22

Alumni Event: Longwood Night with the Washington Nationals vs. Atlanta Braves. Game time, 1:35 p.m.; Nationals Park. Registration and ticket information: longwood.edu/alumni/events.

23-27

Global Village Summer Camp: For children in grades 2-7. Costs, registration, schedule and information: longwood.edu/internationalaffairs.

27

Summer Wine and Brew: 5-7 p.m., Longwood Center for the Visual Arts. Information: lcva.longwood.edu.

28

Alumni Event: Longwood Night with the Salem Red Sox vs. Winston-Salem Dash. Pregame picnic, 5:30 p.m.; game time, 7:05 p.m.; Salem Memorial Ballpark. Tickets include admission to the picnic and the game. Registration and information: longwood.edu/alumni/events.

29

Soccer Camp: For girls ages 13-18. Athletics Complex. Information and registration: totalcamps.com/LONGWOODwomensSOCCER.



Poodle, attributed to Wilhelm Schimmel (1817-1890), pine, gesso and paint, 1875-1885, Collection of Barbara L. Gordon

A SHARED LEGACY: FOLK ART IN AMERICA AUG. 18 - NOV. 4

16

Alumni Event: Welcome to the City. Various locations around Virginia. Registration and information: longwood.edu/alumni/events.

18 - Nov. 4

Exhibition: *A Shared Legacy: Folk Art in America*. Opening reception: 5 p.m. Aug. 17, Longwood Center for the Visual Arts. Information: lcva.longwood.edu.

18 - Nov. 25

Exhibition: *LeUyen Pham: There's No Such Thing As Little*. Longwood Center for the Visual Arts. Reception with the artist, 5:30-8 p.m. Oct. 19. Information: lcva.longwood.edu.

20

Faculty Recital: First Night Gala. 7:30 p.m., Wygal Auditorium. Information: 434-395-2504.

24

The G.A.M.E.: Greatest Athletics March Ever. 3 p.m., departing from Wheeler Lawn. Information: 434-395-4802.

24

Field Hockey. 7 p.m., Athletics Complex. Information: longwoodlancers.com.

24

Hearing Loss Support Group: For those with hearing loss and their families. Featuring topics like improving communication, new hearing aid technologies and hearing conversation. 1-2 p.m., Longwood Speech, Hearing and Learning Services, 315 W. Third St. Information: 434-395-2972.

26

Basketball Camp: For boys in grades 9-12. Willett Hall. Information and registration: longwoodlancers.com/MBBCamps.



AUGUST

11

Alumni Event: Longwood Night with the Norfolk Tides vs. Columbus Clippers. Pregame picnic 5:30 p.m.; game time, 7:05 p.m.; Harbor Park. Tickets include admission to the picnic and the game. Registration and information: longwood.edu/alumni/events.



CONVOCATION SEPT. 13

29

Art After Dark: *Come Back to the 5 & Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean* film presentation and panel discussion. 6 p.m., Longwood Center for the Visual Arts. Information: lcva.longwood.edu.

30

Involvement and Volunteer Fair. 4-6 p.m., locations throughout campus. Information: 434-395-2267.

SEPTEMBER

5

Accounting Job and Internship Fair. 12:30-3:30 p.m., Blackwell Ballroom. Information: 434-395-2066.

12

Law Enforcement Job and Internship Fair. 12:30-3:30 p.m., Blackwell Ballroom. Information: 434-395-2066.

13

Convocation. Information: 434-395-2001.

14-16

Family Weekend. Families are invited to campus to share activities with their Longwood students. Locations throughout campus. Information: 434-395-2694.

20

Art After Dark: Sacred Circle Dance Workshop with Joan Tipton and Tammy Tipton-Nay. 6 p.m., Longwood Center for the Visual Arts. Information: lcva.longwood.edu.

28

Hearing Loss Support Group: For those with hearing loss and their families. Featuring topics like improving communication, new hearing aid technologies and hearing conversation. 1-2 p.m., Longwood Speech, Hearing and Learning Services, 315 W. Third St. Information: 434-395-2972.



**CHAMBER WINDS
NOV. 5**

28-29

Joan of Arc Celebration: For alumni who have celebrated their 50th class reunion. All alumni are invited to honor the classes of 1963, 1958, 1953 and 1948. Locations throughout campus. Information and registration: longwood.edu/alumni.

OCTOBER

4

Alzheimer's Walk. 5 p.m., departing from Lancaster front lawn. Information: 434-395-2107.

6

Oktoberfest. Noon-10 p.m., Stubbs Lawn and Lancaster Mall. Information: 434-395-2107.

9

Job, Internship and Graduate School Fair. 1-4 p.m., Blackwell Ballroom. Information: 434-395-2066.

10

Art After Dark: *A Shared Legacy* gallery talk with Dr. Terri Sabatos. 6 p.m., Longwood Center for the Visual Arts. Information: lcva.longwood.edu.

11

Concert: Wind Symphony. 7:30 p.m., Jarman Auditorium. Information: 434-395-2504.

17-19

Virginia Children's Book Festival. Locations throughout campus. Information: vachildrensbookfestival.com.

23

Speaker: Liz Chassey, director of Madeline's House. Madeline's House provides services for individuals and families experiencing domestic and sexual abuse. 4 p.m., Hiner Hall 207. Information: 434-395-2509.

26

Grand Opening: Upchurch University Center. Information: 434-395-2944.

26

Hearing Loss Support Group: For those with hearing loss and their families. Featuring topics like improving communication, new hearing aid technologies and hearing conversation. 1-2 p.m., Longwood Speech, Hearing and Learning Services, 315 W. Third St. Information: 434-395-2972.

28

Free Family Workshop: Dia de los Muertos. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Moton Museum. Information: lcva.longwood.edu.

NOVEMBER

5

Concert: Chamber Winds. 7:30 p.m., Wylgal Auditorium. Information: 434-395-2504.

7

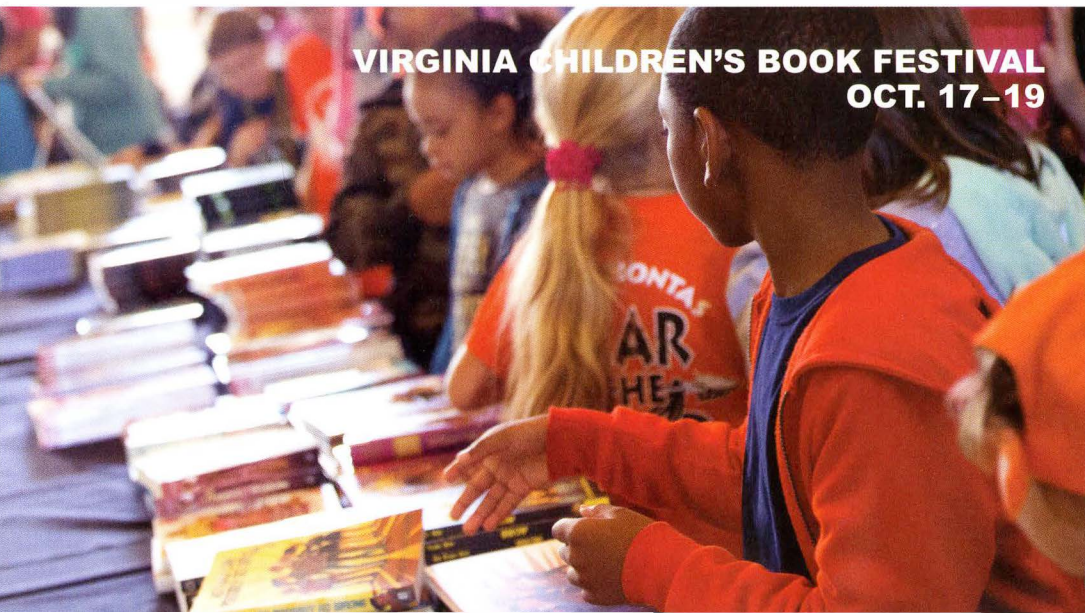
Greek Lipsync: 8 p.m., Jarman Auditorium. Information: 434-395-2103; tickets: longwood.edu/boxoffice.

16

Hearing Loss Support Group: For those with hearing loss and their families. Featuring topics like improving communication, new hearing aid technologies and hearing conversation. 1-2 p.m., Longwood Speech, Hearing and Learning Services, 315 W. Third St. Information: 434-395-2972.

For information on athletics events, go to longwoodlancers.com or call 434-395-4802.

All events are free and open to the public unless costs, tickets, registration, etc., are noted. All events are subject to cancellation and change. Please visit www.longwood.edu for updated information. Persons with disabilities who wish to arrange accommodations or material in an alternative format may call 434-395-2391 (voice) or 711 (TT).



IN PRINT

books by alumni, faculty, staff and friends

A Single Blow: The Battles of Lexington and Concord and the Beginning of the American Revolution, April 19, 1775

by Rob Orrison '98 and Phillip Greenwalt

This is the first book in the Emerging Revolutionary War Series, cofounded by Orrison. The series is geared to the general public, with the goal of sparking an interest in history. "We encourage readers to visit the sites listed in the book," said Orrison, historic site operations supervisor for Prince William County. He is vice president of the Virginia Association of Museums, the author of two Civil War books and a contributor to the Emerging Civil War blog. *Published by Savas Beatie, softcover, 192 pages.*

Making Room for Leadership: Power, Space and Influence

by Dr. MaryKate Morse '70, professor of leadership and spiritual formation at Portland Seminary at George Fox University

Described as "original and insightful," this is "both practical and a superb study of the gift of power for leaders." The Christian-focused book explores different types of power, how each can be used for good and harm, and how people gain and give leadership in group settings. Morse, who speaks on leadership at conferences and retreats in the U.S. and internationally, is lead mentor in a doctoral program at a multid denominational seminary. *Published InterVarsity Press, softcover, 215 pages.*

Death for Beginners

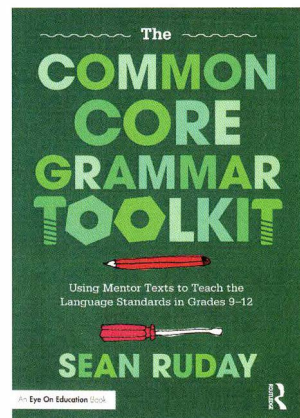
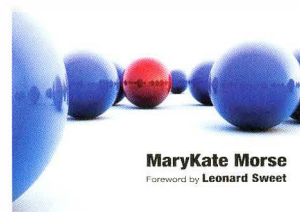
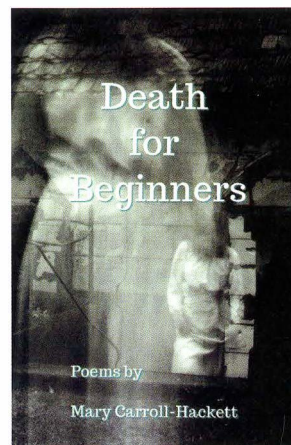
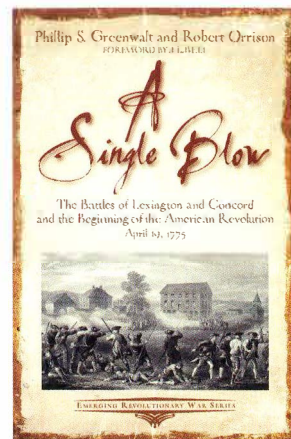
by Mary Carroll-Hackett, professor of English

This book of poetry, featuring "delicately powerful evocations of the author in communion with the dead," has been called "poignant and heartbreaking ... poetry of consoling wisdom and luminous originality." Another critic praised its "wisdom distilled into stunning imagery." Carroll-Hackett, who teaches creative writing, is the author of several other books of poetry, mostly recently *A Little Blood, A Little Rain*, and a collection of stories, *What the Potter Said*. *Published by Kelsay Books, softcover, 60 pages.*

The Common Core Grammar Toolkit: Using Mentor Texts to Teach the Language Standards in Grades 9-12

by Dr. Sean Ruday, associate professor of English education

Ruday's seventh book, and his third Grammar Toolkit book, is a guide for teaching high-school grammar in connection with literature. "It's about how authors use grammatical concepts—for example, how a relative clause is used in *Wuthering Heights*," he said. "Merging grammar and literature, rather than seeing them as separate, is more meaningful for teachers and students." Ruday is co-president of the Assembly for the Teaching of English Grammar. *Published by Routledge Eye on Education, hardcover, 166 pages.*





New head basketball coaches Rebecca Tillett and Griff Aldrich are preparing for their first season at Longwood.

Getting the Ball Rolling

New basketball coaches bring their winning ways to Longwood



March and April were exciting months for Longwood's men's and women's basketball programs, as both installed new head coaches: Griff Aldrich and Rebecca Tillett.

Aldrich took over the men's program in late March, and Tillett stepped into the head coaching position for the women's program three weeks later. The two received a formal introduction to the Longwood community on April 26 in front of a crowd that filled the Martinelli Board Room in the Maugans Alumni Center to capacity.

"This is a tremendous day for Longwood University," Longwood Director of Athletics Troy Austin said at the gathering, introducing the new head coaching pair standing next to President W. Taylor Reveley IV.

"We're fortunate to have hired two individuals who not only share a unique passion and knowledge for the game of basketball but also for developing young people and using the game as a means to help them grow. Their past success, both as coaches and professionals, speaks to their abilities as leaders and educators, and we're thrilled to be able to call both Coach Aldrich and Coach Tillett Lancers."

Both Aldrich and Tillett come to Longwood on the heels of noteworthy success in Division I basketball, with each playing key roles on their respective coaching staffs before joining the Lancers.

Aldrich garnered national recognition as a member of the staff of 2018 NCAA Tournament darling UMBC (University of Mary-

land, Baltimore County). The school became a household name after upsetting No. 1 Virginia in historic fashion in the first round of the tournament. A native of Virginia's Tidewater area, Aldrich served as UMBC's director of recruiting and program development from 2016-18 and acted as chief of staff for head coach Ryan Odom, his college teammate at

that would lead to Longwood, parlayed a decorated high-school coaching career in Virginia into an impactful four-year tenure on the bench at the U.S. Naval Academy. At Navy, she ascended to associate head coach of the program in her last two seasons and helped the Mids to an 81-47 record. In her last season, 2017-18, Navy set the program's single-season wins record at

'Their past success, both as coaches and professionals, speaks to their abilities as leaders and educators ... '

— W. TAYLOR REVELEY IV, PRESIDENT

Hampden-Sydney and son of legendary college coach Dave Odom.

Success at UMBC was only one stop along Aldrich's diverse, winning career path. After being inducted into Phi Beta Kappa and graduating *magna cum laude* from Hampden-Sydney in 1996, Aldrich earned a J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law. From there, he rejoined his college basketball coach, Tony Shaver, on the Hampden-Sydney bench for the 1999-2000 season, helping the Tigers to a No. 1 national ranking.

Aldrich then embarked on a successful 16-year career in law and business. He rose to chief financial officer for a national energy investment firm while also maintaining his passion for coaching by holding head coaching positions for more than a decade at the AAU level.

Meanwhile Rebecca Tillett, also on a path

25-8 and reached both the Patriot League Championship game and the Women's National Invitational Tournament (WNIT) for the second-straight year.

A 1998 graduate of William & Mary and a native of Williamsburg, Tillett enjoyed similar success as a high-school head coach, building both Forest Park and Osbourn Park into girls' basketball powerhouses in Virginia. Along with her coaching success, Tillett was equally decorated as a high-school teacher, earning recognition as the 2006 KidBiz3000 Teacher of the Year at Osbourn Park and a SPARK Award Hero in Education honor in 2010 at Forest Park.

Since their arrival, both Aldrich and Tillett have been busy assembling their coaching staffs, implementing their style of play and culture among their returning student-athletes, and shoring up their respective recruiting classes.



Riley Dolan '18 had a record-breaking senior season.

Lacrosse Lancer bests 2,500 Division I players in assists per game

There are more than 2,500 student-athletes playing Division I women's lacrosse. In 2018, a Longwood Lancer averaged more assists per game than any of them.

Longwood senior attacker Riley Dolan '18 forever etched her name in the NCAA record books by leading the nation in assists per game in 2018, putting her name—and Longwood's—atop the national leaderboard with a school-record 3.50 per game.

Dolan, a business administration major, set Longwood's single-season record with 63 assists in 18 games, breaking the Big South assists record and the Longwood school record of 51 set by Lauren Prasnicky '14 in 2013.

The record-breaking senior campaign came by way of a dominant second half of the season for Dolan, who caught fire and handed out 47 assists in her final 10 games. In a win over East Carolina on March 20, she dished eight assists—also a school record—en route to a career-best 11 points, the third-highest single-game total in program history.

For her efforts, Dolan earned All-Big South honors for the first time in her career and graduated from Longwood third on the program's career assists list, trailing only Prasnicky and Natalie Smith '01, the only other players to record 100 assists during their Lancer careers.



Micaela Ellis '18, a kinesiology major, played on the women's basketball team while earning her degree.

Academic Leaderboard

Lancers continue record-setting run in classroom



In the follow-up to a historically strong fall semester, Longwood's more than 200 student-athletes combined to turn in another impressive academic performance this spring.

After logging a 3.05 grade-point average in fall 2017 that was Longwood athletics' highest mark in nearly a decade, Longwood's

as a whole for helping lift each other up, and our student-athlete population en masse for representing our university in such a positive manner."

The success was a widespread effort, as 48 Lancers earned Dean's List honors for posting GPAs of at least 3.50, and 25 more received President's List recognition for holding perfect 4.0 GPAs. Additionally, Long-

'To put together an academic scorecard like they did ... is a testament to hard work, character and sheer grit, all qualities Longwood University values and fosters in our students.'

— TROY AUSTIN, ATHLETICS DIRECTOR

student-athletes hit the books hard again to surpass that mark with a 3.11 in the spring. That performance gave the Lancers a combined GPA of 3.08 for the 2017-18 academic year, improving on the 3.01 GPA the group posted in 2016-17.

"It's been an incredible year in the classroom for our student-athletes," said Longwood Athletics Director Troy Austin. "To put together an academic scorecard like they did this past fall and spring—and to a larger extent, over the past several years—is a testament to hard work, character and sheer grit, all qualities Longwood University values and fosters in our students.

"No one person can produce an effort like this, so I commend the student-athletes individually for their long-term effort, their teams

wood's men's teams amassed a cumulative GPA of 3.02, while the women's programs posted a 3.27.

Seven of Longwood's 14 programs posted team GPAs of at least 3.0 in both semesters of work: women's basketball, field hockey, men's golf, women's golf, women's lacrosse, women's soccer and softball. Field hockey's 3.54 GPA in the spring was tops among Longwood's women's teams, while men's golf's 3.52 mark was the highest among Longwood's men's teams.

Graduation weekend saw 40 Longwood student-athletes receive their undergraduate degrees from Longwood and another—men's basketball's Charles Glover '18, a business major—earn his graduate degree.

When Failure Is Success

Putting the sex trade out of business is soccer standout's ultimate goal



Over the past three seasons, Janese Quick '18 has been a unifying presence in the middle of the field for the

Longwood women's soccer team. Now after her standout playing career has come to a close, the former team captain is joining a different team, one on which she hopes to fill a similarly impactful role in the global fight against human trafficking.

Armed with her Longwood undergraduate degree and nearing the completion of her master's as well, Quick is fulfilling a years-long passion to combat a black market industry that she has seen firsthand in her native Florida. She is currently doing so with Rethreaded, a nonprofit retail organization based in Jacksonville, Florida.

Rethreaded fights human trafficking by providing a new path in life for victims who escape, and Quick has been a part of that mission since her internship with the organization this past winter.

"Rethreaded gives them a whole new perspective on life," said Quick, who still volunteers regularly. "They combat the sex trade industry by giving the victims a new identity and a purpose with practical business skills and holistic healing for them through the work."

Rethreaded was founded by Kristen Keen in 2012 as an "upcycle" business that turns donated clothing items into unique products, such as rugs, bags and scarves. The organization trains survivors of human trafficking to run various aspects of the business using a holistic model that provides as much practical business training as it does life-changing guidance.

During her internship, Quick worked alongside many trafficking survivors-turned-businesswomen, allowing her to see firsthand the effects of the sex trade on individuals and the life-changing impact of Rethreaded's healing program. The organization currently employs approximately 15 survivors and boosts its reach through the work of volunteers, like Quick, and donations.

"The more I got into it, the more passionate I felt about helping the victims and advocating for them," Quick said. "You develop relationships with them, and you see how badly they needed this safety net and this savior of a business. The more you develop those relationships, the more you want to go deeper and

really help those individuals who are stuck in the industry right now."

Quick, who earned her bachelor's degree from Longwood in just three years, remains involved with Rethreaded, balancing her work there with the pursuit of her MBA at Longwood.

Her current focus at Rethreaded is on wholesale management and client management, two areas that have allowed her to see the life-altering impact the organization's business model provides to survivors.

"It helped me get a new perspective on how a business can go beyond simply trying to sell a product and really change lives for the better," she said. "The people they've helped who work there are all in different stages of their rehab and healing. Some people are just a few months out of the sex trade, and some are years out. You get to see each step of the healing process."

That Quick would positively affect the lives of others so soon after her time at Longwood should come as no surprise to those who followed her soccer career as a Lancer. She not only made an impact on the field as a starting midfielder in her



Mike Kropf '14

'The more I got into it, the more passionate I felt about helping the victims and advocating for them.'

— JANESE QUICK '18

final three seasons, she also was elevated to team captain her senior year, helping propel Longwood in 2017 to its first Big South Championship game and its highest winning percentage in the Division I era. She was named to the All-Big South first team for her efforts, which came alongside a sterling academic record that included three-straight years on the Big South Presidential Honor Roll.

Now with her soccer career in the rearview, Quick is turning her sights to her burgeoning passion to combat human trafficking. The internship and volunteer work at Rethreaded is just the start.

"Right now I want to stay in nonprofit work and help the victims heal and recover, but I definitely want to get into the criminal justice side later in my career," she said. "I feel like the healing side is a good way to get my feet wet in the industry. I'd eventually like to take on the experience of working with more difficult encounters like victims coming straight out of the industry."

Regardless of where she ends up, Quick has more than proven she's a great addition to any team.—*Chris Cook*

Longwood alumnus named new head coach of cross country program

Longwood cross country has a new leader whose experience as a Lancer reaches back to his college days—and whose connections to the community reach back even further.

Assistant coach and Longwood alumnus Daniel Wooten '13 was elevated to head coach in early May. Wooten served as assistant coach of the program during the 2017-18 year and will now take over both the men's and women's teams. His appointment to head coach is the continuation of a coaching career that has seen him climb through the middle-school and high-school ranks in the Prince Edward County school system and now through the collegiate ranks at his alma mater.



Daniel Wooten '13

"Throughout the interview process, the things that stood out about Daniel were his detailed vision for Longwood cross country, his understanding of the priorities we place on the program and his unwavering desire to take the reins," said Longwood Director of Athletics Troy Austin.

"Daniel has many intangibles that can't be taught, including an intrinsic drive to

become better at all he does. I know he is excited to take over the cross country program at his alma mater, and I'm excited to see where he will lead the team."

Wooten joined Longwood's cross country staff as an assistant coach prior to the 2017 season and immediately contributed to all aspects of the program. He played a key role in assembling the largest incoming freshman class in program history, which will add 14 newcomers—seven men and seven women—to the roster this fall.

"I would like to say thank you to everyone at Longwood University and Longwood athletics who gave me this opportunity," said Wooten, who also ran track and cross country at Prince Edward High School in Farmville.

"To have the chance to become a head coach at the Division I level in my own hometown and at the university I graduated from is an amazing feeling. I am looking forward to impacting the young men and women of Longwood cross country not only on the course but also in the classroom and, most importantly, continuing the Lancer way of building leaders in the community."

One of Us

Women's soccer alum is leading expanded effort to connect alumni with Longwood athletics



Kylie Dyer '14

Longwood athletics is expanding its efforts to reach out to alumni, and the person in charge of the new initiative has one of the best qualifications of all—she's an alum, and an athletics alum, herself.

"It will be my mission to engage and unite all the different components of Longwood athletics' past, present and future," said former Longwood women's soccer player Kylie Dyer '14, who has rejoined Lancer athletics as the assistant director for athletics engagement. "This includes honoring all the people who have served our department and helped make it what it is today, informing our constituents about what is currently happening on campus and ultimately building a long-lasting foundation of supporters that will launch Longwood athletics into future success."

In her new role, Dyer will serve as a point of contact for Longwood alumni, enhancing connections with the Longwood community

through outreach and coordination of off-campus alumni events. Among her first initiatives is an on-campus celebration of the 25-year anniversary of the Longwood women's soccer program, which played its inaugural season in 1994 and is coming off its first appearance in the Big South Championship game in 2017.

Dyer graduated *summa cum laude* from Longwood with a degree in political science while playing all four years on the women's soccer team. She joined the Longwood admissions staff in 2015 and in three years worked her way up to lead admissions counselor.

Dyer and her family have longstanding connections to both Longwood and the Farmville community. Her father, Todd Dyer '93, and mother, Cassie Mullinex Dyer '92, were Longwood student-athletes. Her father played on the men's soccer team, while her mother was a member of the women's basketball team. Todd Dyer founded the Longwood women's soccer program and has been its head coach in the 25 years since.



AND THE AWARD GOES TO ...

Longwood Director of Athletics Troy Austin (center) congratulates Athlete of the Year award winners Amadeo Blasco '20 (left), a business major, and Sydney Wallace '19, a kinesiology major, at this year's Student Athlete Awards Banquet. Blasco's sport is tennis; Wallace plays on the women's soccer team. For more about the banquet and a complete list of awards, go to magazine.longwood.edu.



John Devaney '92 has been CEO of the charitable Cape Fear Clinic in Wilmington, North Carolina, for eight years.

Health Assurance

Alumnus leads growth of charitable medical clinic that provides safety net for those without insurance

John Devaney '92, CEO of the charitable Cape Fear Clinic in Wilmington, North Carolina, hates tooting his own horn—especially when it comes to talking about the many honors he's received. Those honors include being recognized as the 2017 Health Care Executive of the Year in the *Greater Wilmington Business Journal's* Health Care Heroes awards.

Under his eight-year stewardship, the Cape Fear Clinic has grown from serving 700 to 1,700 adults, all of whom are un- or underinsured and have incomes of no more

Person of Interest

than 200 percent of Federal Poverty Guidelines. During that same period, the clinic's annual budget has increased from \$300,000 to \$1.5 million, funding the medical, pharmacy and mental health services provided on site. Patients are asked to pay \$3 per visit, but no one is turned away due to inability to pay. The clinic's budget comes from foundation support, grants and individual donations.

"The reality is that, until we as a society value health care for all, we will always need places like this clinic," Devaney said. Cape Fear Clinic is not a drop-in clinic, he added. It serves as the bottom of the safety net, providing continuing, comprehensive care for both U.S. citizens and those who are undocumented.

"If we couldn't help them, they'd be at the ER. Cape Fear Clinic provides everything the patient needs for \$500 a year," said Devaney. "The average emergency room visit is \$2,500. The majority of those we serve have one or

two jobs. Those who don't work are generally too sick to be employed."

The top job at a charitable clinic wasn't exactly Devaney's dream job when he graduated from Longwood with a degree in sociology. "If you'd told me in college that one day I'd be running a charitable clinic, I'd have never believed it—but here I am," he said.

Devaney initially pursued an acting career in Washington, D.C., but a serious car accident halted his future treading the boards. Without health insurance and no money in the bank, Devaney needed a job quickly, so he took a job as office manager at the Whitman-Walker Clinic of Northern Virginia. To his surprise, he loved the job and stayed on. Nine years later he was the clinic's director, overseeing the operations of the largest HIV/AIDS clinic in Virginia.

He also previously was a vice president for a human services and health care consulting firm and director of operations for the Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia.

"I don't have an M.A. or a Ph.D., but what I do have is more than 25 years of experience on the job, and I learned a lot at Longwood," said Devaney. "A variety of leadership positions in fraternities and theater at Longwood prepared me for my career.

"My goal is to make things better for patients, staff and volunteers," added Devaney. "Every day, I go to work to ensure that medical and other professionals are available to help our patients. I'm not selling widgets or just making money—I get to effect change in people's lives. That's why I do it."

—Patrick Folliard

Joan of Arc Celebration set for Sept. 28-29

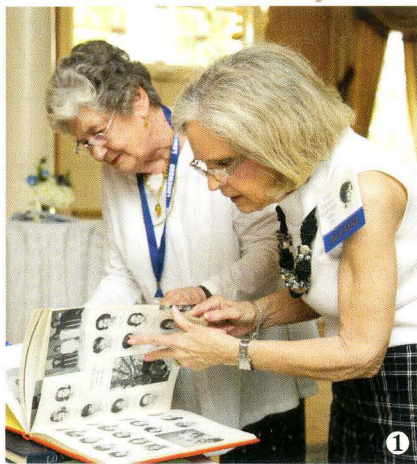
The second Joan of Arc Celebration for members of the Gold Society—alumni who have celebrated their 50th class reunion—will be held Sept. 28-29. While the event will honor milestones for the classes of 1963, 1958, 1953 and 1948, members of every class from 1967 and before are invited to attend.



The Joan of Arc Celebration promises family-style dining in Blackwell Hall as enjoyed by generations of Longwood alumnae.

The weekend will provide unique opportunities to spend time with classmates, have tea at the historic Farmville Train Station, sing with current students in the Rotunda and enjoy family-style dining in Blackwell.

If you would like to help form your class's outreach committee, call the alumni office at 434-395-2044 or email reunion@longwood.edu. Additional details and registration are at longwood.edu/alumni.



Fun for All

Mega Reunion draws hundreds for live music and dancing, exploring downtown and slinging red and green paint



Mega Reunion 2018 brought together hundreds of alumni—including for the first time many of the newest members of that group, the about-to-graduate Class of 2018—to celebrate old and new friendships and enjoy a fun and relaxing weekend on campus.

The event, dubbed Mega Reunion because of its scope (all alumni are invited back to celebrate with others from their decade), began in 2017 to great fanfare. The vision is to bring

alumni together when campus is at its most beautiful and energetic.

“I haven’t been back on campus since my 45th reunion five years ago,” said Alice Collier Cochran ’68, “and Longwood seems to have gotten even more beautiful than I remember. There was an incredible sense of energy and community on campus. Having all the different generations together was such a wonderful atmosphere, and I genuinely didn’t want to leave Farmville.”

- 1 The 1960s and 1970s reception provided a chance to reconnect with friends and look through Longwood yearbooks.
- 2 Fireworks lit the night sky following a full day of fun at the Stubbs Festival.
- 3 Alumni started the day off right with early morning yoga on Wheeler Lawn.
- 4 What could be better than getting a foot massage while catching up with friends?
- 5 Members of the Class of 2008 join the class parade to Wheeler Lawn.
- 6 It was the red classes vs. the green classes for another epic paint battle!
- 7 The Lancer Family Picnic under the big top provided a chance to catch up with friends and reminisce about life at Longwood.

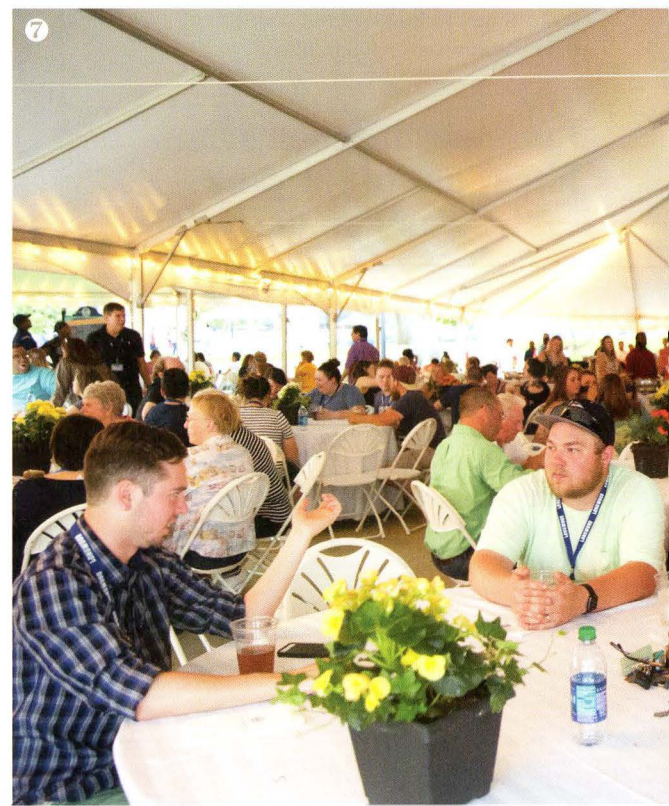




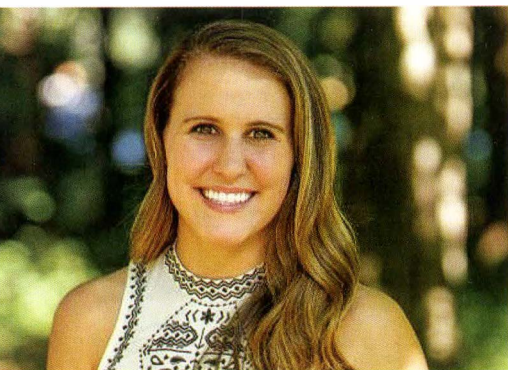
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Kyle Hodges

Career services team welcomes new assistant director

Kyle Hodges has been named assistant director for campus career engagement in the Office of Alumni and Career Services. Hodges will provide one-on-one career coaching to students and alumni, deliver presentations to classes and organizations, and organize career programming.

A native of Farmville, Hodges earned her undergraduate degree from Lynchburg College and her M.Ed. in higher education from the University of South Carolina, where she gained experience in career development, first-year programming, admissions, orientation and advising.

"We are incredibly excited to welcome Kyle to the Longwood family," said Bryan Rose '11, director of career services. "Her work with students and alumni will help us continue to build on the strength of the programs we have in place."

Summer baseball series hits it out of the park with excursion in Norfolk

Head out to Harbor Park in Norfolk this August to enjoy America's pastime with fellow Lancers. Join the fun on Saturday, Aug. 11, to watch the Norfolk Tides take on the Columbus Clippers. The pregame picnic begins at 5:30 p.m.; the game starts at 7:05 p.m.

Tickets, which include admission to the picnic and the game, are \$30 for adults and \$20 for children under 18. Register at longwood.edu/alumni.

ClassNotes

1960s

Dr. Betty Weaver '67, M.A. '73, retired in January 2017 after 17 years as school administrator at New Life Christian Academy in Farmville. She previously was CEO of the South Central Private Industry Council (1983-2000), a job-training planner with the Virginia Employment Commission (1978-83), a social worker for Prince Edward County (1973-78) and a teacher at Prince Edward Academy (1967-73). An ordained minister who has published three inspirational books and preached in more than 50 churches, she has a Doctor of Ministry degree from Trinity Seminary in Indiana and a Master of Divinity from United Theological Seminary in South Carolina. She remains associate pastor at New Life Church (which runs the academy), where she oversees the local missions program. Weaver, a lifelong Farmville resident, celebrated her retirement with a trip to Niagara Falls in July 2017 and earlier this year visited Ireland and Oregon.

Margaret "Peggy" Jones Crews '69, M.S. '80, is the coordinator of Kids Kollege, a summer enrichment program in South Boston sponsored by the Parsons-Bruce Art Association. Crews retired in 2008 after teaching history, English and writing at Cluster Springs Elementary in Halifax County for 39 years. She is a co-author of *An Architectural History of Halifax County, Virginia*, published in 2016.

1970s

Dr. MaryKate Morse '70, professor of leadership and spiritual formation at Portland Seminary at George Fox University, was selected to present the 2018 Beane Lecture at William Penn University in April. Morse has taught for 30 years at Portland Seminary, where she is the lead mentor in the Doctor of Ministry for Leadership and Spiritual Formation Program. She has held several administrative positions at the university, including seminary associate dean and university director of strategic planning. A Quaker minister who has planted two churches and written two books (see Page 36), she speaks at conferences and retreats in the

U.S. and internationally, in addition to serving as a church consultant and a coach for pastors. She has a doctorate from Gonzaga University and two master's degrees from what is now Portland Seminary, a multid denominational Christian seminary with Quaker roots.

Cindy Jamison Fulks '71, an artist who lives in LaGrange, Georgia, has a current exhibition at Studio 114 at the LaGrange Art Museum. *The LaGrange Landscape Series Exhibition*, which opened April 13 and runs through Aug. 30, features 10 of her oil paintings. Fulks' works can be found in Chick-fil-A's corporate office in Atlanta, the Ritz-Carlton Reynolds plantation near Atlanta, WellStar West Georgia Hospital in LaGrange, and private homes and businesses. In addition to her art career, she has sold real estate for many years. Previously she taught school and had a calligraphy business.

1980s

Barbara Clark Cole '85 taught Art Connection for ages 8-12 in this year's Kids Kollege, a summer enrichment program in South Boston sponsored by the Parsons-Bruce Art Association. Cole, who has a master's degree from Lynchburg College, is an art teacher at Halifax County Middle School. She also has taught special education and second and third grades, all with the Halifax schools. Cole plays mandolin in a Gospel group, River Creek, and played the organ at her church for 15 years.

1990s

Helen Dennis Burgess '91, a K-5 special education teacher at Brookwood Elementary in Grovetown, Georgia, was recently accepted into the Master of Arts in teaching program at Augusta University, which she will begin this fall. She was a Title I tutor and substitute teacher for the Streetsboro City Schools in Ohio from 2002-15. She is married to **Dr. James Burgess '92** (see Page 47).

Greg Tsigaridas '94 appeared in the April production of *Gaslight* by the Waterworks Players, a community theater group in Farmville. A senior computer systems engineer in Longwood's Information Technology Services, he played the role of Jack Manningham. Tsigaridas, who has worked at Longwood since graduating, has appeared in 15 Waterworks Players productions, beginning with *South Pacific* in 2012.

Sean Ward '95 was promoted to director of residential construction for Eagle Construction in March. Ward oversees production for all of Eagle's residential communities in Richmond's West End. He has worked for the company since 2005.

Dr. Brenda Toone Palmore '96 was promoted to vice president for practice management and business development at VCU Health Community Memorial Hospital (CMH)

Continued on Page 46



She Did the Math

Emily Spady '13, M.S. '15, a sixth-grade math teacher at Grafton Middle School in Yorktown, was her school's Math Teacher of the Year for 2017-18. "Emily works tirelessly for all students," said her mentor-teacher, Bob Nealy, who nominated her for the award. Also during the past school year, Spady was the only teacher from her school chosen by the principal to participate in a divisionwide K-12 math restructuring initiative. She is her school's cheerleading coach and has led her squad to three consecutive Bay Rivers District championships.

“or some version of it”—though he occasionally goes solo. If you’re looking for a live show, you’ll find them playing primarily in the D.C. area and the mid-Atlantic region of the East Coast.

He also hosts and runs “The 9” Songwriter Series, a touring show that features a shifting lineup of nine solo singer-songwriters. Founded by Trawick in 2008, “The 9” performs monthly around the D.C. area, including an annual holiday show at the Kennedy Center. “The goal is to get more songwriters in front of more people and into better venues,” he said.

Trawick, who cut his chops on the saxophone and piano, got hooked on guitar at 13 after discovering his dad’s old six-string in a closet. He quickly also fell in love with songwriting.

“I’ve always liked putting poetry to music. I was never interested in playing covers of other people’s songs, which made me unpopular at parties,” he said with a smile.

One of Trawick’s five original songs on *Riverwash*, “All The Places That I’ve Been,” won Song of the Year honors at the Washington Area Music Awards in 2014. The EP also includes the band’s version of the Oasis hit “Wonderwall.” (For the uninitiated, an EP—or extended play CD/record—has more tracks than a single but not enough to qualify as an LP—long play.)

When he was at Longwood, Trawick formed a band, Woodburn Road, that performed mostly in Farmville, as well as in Richmond and Northern Virginia. After graduating, he began playing at open mics and formed the Justin Trawick Group. He has lived strictly on the income from his music since walking away from his last day job in 2008. (He was an account manager for



Justin Trawick '04 (center) and his band, The Common Good, are attracting attention on the East Coast with their unique take on Americana music.

His life, his music, his dream

A decade after quitting his day job, singer/songwriter continues to move his career forward on his own terms



If Justin Trawick '04 had written a song about his 36th birthday, he might have titled it, “A Tough Act to Follow.”

On Jan. 26, 2018, just a few days after he turned 36, the singer-songwriter was featured in a glowing story in the *Washington Post*.

Person of Interest

That evening, he and his band, Justin Trawick and The Common Good, experienced their first advance ticket sellout, and, to top it all off, they celebrated the release of their first EP, *The Riverwash EP*.

“We sold 275 tickets to the Pearl Street Warehouse, which has a seating capacity of 200—the first time we’ve ever sold out a show ahead of time,” said Trawick. “The *Washington Post* article was huge, both for that show and my career. It’s been like a great job reference.”

Trawick plays acoustic guitar and is the band’s lead vocalist. With an upright bass, mandolin and fiddle also in the mix, the group is well-suited to the “Americana” genre.

‘I’ve always liked putting poetry to music. I was never interested in playing covers of other people’s songs, which made me unpopular at parties.’

— JUSTIN TRAWICK '04

Trawick has recently embraced, to positive reviews. The *Post* article said it “lets his personal storytelling and songwriting shine through.”

“Americana includes bluegrass, country, folk and old-time music. We use traditional Americana instrumentation and bend the genre to fit a modern, unique sound that we’ve cultivated over the past 12 years,” he said.

A Leesburg native who lives in Arlington, Trawick usually performs with his full band

SoundExchange, a company that collects and distributes digital performance royalties on behalf of recording artists and master rights owners.)

“I’m loving the life I’m living,” said Trawick. “I’m proud that I’m paying my rent on what I’ve created, but more important, I’m doing what I want, what I love. I’m not going to someone else’s job and living their dream; I’m living my own dream.” —*Kent Booty*

Welcome to the City events help newcomers

Longwood's newest graduates moving to Virginia's three largest metro areas can fast-track their way to new friends in the alumni family—and the scoop on their new neighborhoods—this August.

Welcome to the City events are designed to bring together Longwood alumni already established in the area and the cities' newest residents—Longwood's Class of 2018. This year's events will be held on Thursday, Aug. 16, throughout the state.

Visit longwood.edu/alumni for more information and to register.

Oct. 9 career fair is open to alumni

Alumni who are seeking jobs or recruiting employees are invited to attend a career fair in Blackwell Ballroom on Tuesday, Oct. 9. The event is hosted by the Office of Alumni and Career Services and will be held on campus. For more information, contact Katie Trammell, assistant director of campus employer engagement, at brankleykd@longwood.edu or 434-395-2066.



Podcast charts journeys of wide-ranging alumni

The second season of the weekly podcast Day After Graduation launched in the spring.

Produced by the Office of Alumni and Career Services, the series features unique moments and personal reflections of Longwood alumni and friends as they navigate the conflicts of post-college life and chart a path to success. Episodes from seasons one and two are available on iTunes, Stitcher, Soundcloud and at longwood.edu/podcast.

New episodes include "Tales from Eastern Europe" featuring Brian Plum '02 and Thomas Moran '83; and "Big Fish, Small Pond" featuring Carnival Cruise ship performer Katelyn Stillman '08.

If you have a story to share, either about yourself or someone else, email career@longwood.edu.

ClassNotes

Continued from Page 44

in South Hill in March. She has administrative oversight of the operations side of all CMH physician practices and hospital-based physician services. Palmore, who was born in the hospital, has worked for VCU Health CMH since 1999. She has a doctorate from the Medical University of South Carolina and an MBA from Averett University.

2000s

Lindsay Mottley '01, M.S. '02, principal of Bettie Weaver Elementary in Chesterfield County, received the Administrator of the Year Award from the Virginia Association of School Librarians in November 2017, recognizing her support of literacy. Mottley was commended for the award by the Virginia House of Delegates in House Resolution No. 89, adopted this February. She began her career as a special education teacher in Hanover County. She has been principal at Bettie Weaver since July 2014. She will transition in January 2019 to founding principal of Old Hundred Elementary in Chesterfield, set to open in September 2019.

Laura Ellis '02 joined HHHunt Homes, the homebuilding division of HHHunt Corp., as an online sales adviser in March 2017. Ellis, who lives in Hanover County, worked in sales and marketing for Ryan Homes from 2002-17.

Jamie Erickson Orrison '02 has been the aquatics manager for Prince William County since 2012. She oversees all eight of that county's aquatic facilities (two waterparks, two indoor recreation centers and four outdoor community swimming pools). She has worked full time for Prince William since 2003. A former competitive swimmer (she swam on Longwood's club swim team her first two years), she is a lifeguard instructor trainer. She is married to **Rob Orrison '98** (see his latest book on Page 36).

Dr. Avetta White '02 earned a Ph.D. in higher education from Morgan State University in May. A licensed professional counselor and a national certified counselor, she has worked in the Office of Counseling and Disability Services at the University of the District of

Columbia for more than 12 years. She has a master's degree from Argosy University.

The Rev. Marvin Bowman '04 was installed as pastor of Bethel Grove Baptist Church, in the Clover area of Halifax County, in March. Bowman also is pastor of Second Baptist Church in Clarksville, a position he has held for eight years, and teaches civics and economics at Halifax County Middle School. His wife, **Rose Jones Bowman '02, M.S. '04**, teaches math in the special education program at Halifax County High School.

Matt Daniel '04 was named vice president of global services for ABODA by RESIDE, a leader in global housing services, in March. Previously he was senior vice president of sales for Regency Corporate Living and director of supply chain, Americas, for BridgeStreet Global Hospitality. He holds the Certified Corporate Housing Provider certification.

Larry "Trey" Deal III '05, a member of Longwood's golf team as a student, played golf professionally for several years and now is an account manager with Coca-Cola living in Orange County. He played in tournaments with the Professional Golfers' Association system in Virginia and the Carolinas.

Christie Ginther Archer, M.S. '06, was named account executive for Virginia for Troxell Communications, a national leader in educational technology and collaboration solutions, in February. She was a teacher and library media specialist for 10 years in Prince George County, where she lives, then in Brunswick County for five years.

Dr. Laura Hebert '06, graduate licensure in educational administration, was named principal of Twinsburg High School in Ohio in April and will begin her duties July 30. Hebert has been principal of Lloyd C. Bird High in Chesterfield County since 2011 and taught for 20 years in Virginia and her native Ohio.

Barbara Lenhardt, MBA '08, assumed the newly created position of general manager and deputy chief of retail at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., in February. She had been director of retail operations at the

John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts for nearly six years. Previously she also held retail positions at the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art and the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.

Sara Bonovitch Shell '08 was promoted to public relations manager for Space Florida in December 2017. She had been public relations coordinator since September 2015 for Space Florida, the state's aerospace and spaceport development authority, located at the Kennedy Space Center. Before joining the agency, she was a community news reporter with the *Sun-Sentinel* newspaper in Fort Lauderdale for two years. Shell, who has a master's degree from Virginia Commonwealth University,

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Charlotte Jones Blaylock '51 (right) and her freshman roommate, Ann Norfleet Taylor

Freshman roommates still close 71 years later

More than 70 years after becoming close friends when rooming together during their freshman year, **Charlotte Jones Blaylock '51** and Ann Norfleet Taylor still keep in touch. Since sharing a triple room in White House Hall in 1947-48—and numerous double dates—they have remained close through visits, phone calls and at least one minireunion, a vacation get-together with eight other Longwood friends at a rented beach house in Florida, where they roomed together again. (Blaylock has attended several other mini-reunions with Longwood friends.) Taylor, a lifelong Virginia Beach resident, attended Blaylock's second wedding and 80th birthday party, and Blaylock, a Salem native who has lived in the Baltimore area since 1960, attended the wedding of Taylor's daughter. "Mom and Ann are really good buddies. It's amazing they've stayed in touch so well," said Blaylock's son, Frank Greenbaum. "They must have really hit it off."

ClassNotes

Continued from Page 46

is workplace campaign chair for United Way of Brevard.

Emily James Powers '09 and her husband, Matthew Powers, are the parents of Katherine James Powers, born Nov. 7, 2017. Emily and Matthew were married Nov. 23, 2013. She was previously human resources manager at Parham Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center in Richmond; he is a natural gas transportation analyst at Dominion Power in Richmond.

Lindsay Reese '09, a physician assistant, joined the Harris Family Practice in Laurinburg, North Carolina, earlier this year. Reese, who has a master's degree from Eastern Virginia Medical School, also has worked as a certified athletic trainer with teenage athletes and at an urgent care facility.

Lauren Wood '09 was named supervisor of Bensley Recreation Center in Chesterfield County in April. She previously was activities director at Hanover (County) Health & Rehabilitation Center. Before that she worked in Isle of Wight County for seven years, first as a recreation specialist and then as fair and events coordinator.

2010s

Judy Deichman, M.S. '10, school librarian at Nottoway Middle School in Crewe, is the recipient of the 2018 American Association of School Librarians' (AASL) Innovative Reading Grant. Sponsored by Capstone, the \$2,500 grant supports the planning and implementation of a unique program for children that encourages reading, especially with struggling readers. Deichman's program is the Nottoway Book-A-Way Summer Bookmobile. She plans to entice readers with activities and books tied to a weekly theme such as "Minecraft Mania," "Popsicle Pazoza" and "Pamper Your Pets." AASL award winners were recognized in June during the annual conference of the American Library Association, a division of AASL.

Sara Kidd '10 was appointed an assistant district attorney in the Charlotte/Mecklenburg (North Carolina) District Attorney's Office in April. She graduated *cum laude*

from Campbell University School of Law in May 2017 and passed the North Carolina Bar Exam in July that year.

Charlotte Trant '11 played Bella Manningham in the April production of *Gaslight* by the Waterworks Players, a community theater group in Farmville. Trant, the music teacher at Buckingham County Elementary and Primary schools, appeared in her third Waterworks show, *The Illusion*, in June.

Paige Reitz '13 presented a spoken essay about her personal experience recovering from self-harm at a show in April sponsored by This Is My Brave, a mental health advocacy organization, at the Sterling campus of Northern Virginia Community College. Reitz, who has a master's degree from the University of Houston, is a social worker living in Leesburg.



Mary Knott Branzelle '89 (left) and her sister, Betty Knott Spiers '88, with their mother, Virginia Sutherland Knott '54

3rd-generation alumna named top teacher for Dinwiddie schools

Betty Knott Spiers '88, a third-generation alumna and one of three siblings to attend Longwood, is her school system's top teacher. Spiers, an instructional technology resource teacher (ITRT) at Dinwiddie County High School, was honored in May as the Dinwiddie Public School Division Teacher of the Year for 2019. Her mother, **Virginia Sutherland Knott '54**, and both of her late grandmothers, **Maude Clay Sutherland '56** and **Mary Virginia Thrift '21**, also taught in Dinwiddie. In Spiers' senior year at Longwood, her sister, **Mary Knott Branzelle '89**, and one of her brothers, **Raymond Knott '91**, also were on campus, during which time all three lived in Curry. Spiers, who has a master's from Virginia Tech, has taught in her native Dinwiddie County for 28 years. She has been an ITRT the past 15 years, after spending the first half of her career as an elementary teacher.

Amy Moore '14 was married May 26 to Justin Wilkins. She is a speech-language pathologist at VCU Health Community Memorial Hospital in South Hill.

Kelsey Pardue '14 was hired as the girls director of player development for the Virginia Soccer Association in April. She has coached at St. Bonaventure University and on the club level for the Bethesda Soccer Club and the Richmond Kickers. A standout midfielder at Longwood, she played professionally with the Washington Spirit for two years.

Ashlynn Kaufman Kolmer '15 and **Cameron Kolmer '15** are the parents of Raelynn Michele Kolmer, who was born May 18 and weighed 8 pounds 7 ounces. Ashlynn and Cameron were married in September 2016. He is a Virginia Beach police officer; she is

a pretrial probation officer with that city.

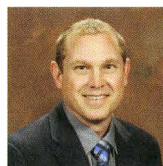
Josh Reimers '15 and **Kristen Scampoli '15** were married Sept. 30, 2017. The couple, who live in Williamsburg, met in the Health and Fitness Center during the spring semester of their freshman year and started dating that summer. He is a physical therapy assistant; she is a registered nurse.



Timothy Hale '87 (left), Tom DeWitt '80 and Col. Jason Craft '89

2 alumni speak at defense meeting

An April meeting of the Small and Emerging Contractors Advisory Forum (SECAF) held at Tysons Corner was a minireunion of Longwood ROTC alumni. The keynote speakers were **Col. Jason Craft '89** and **Timothy Hale '87**, a retired Army lieutenant colonel. They were introduced by **Tom DeWitt '80**, president and CEO of SNVC, who taught both in the ROTC program. In the meeting, which focused on the Department of Defense's modernization process, Craft, director of Army aviation programs and assistant secretary of the Army for acquisitions, logistics and technology, recounted his experiences as program manager of the Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle, the Army's primary vehicle for carrying soldiers into combat. Hale, product director for acquisitions, logistics and technology enterprise systems and services, spoke on the future of Army business systems and their migration to a cloud-based data center.



Dr. James Burgess '92

Chemistry professor develops new test to identify those at risk for diabetes

Dr. James Burgess '92, a professor of medical laboratory science, has been recognized for his work in advancing research and developing personalized patient diagnostics by inclusion in the latest edition of *Marquis Who's Who*, a collection of short biographies of notable individuals. Since January 2016, Burgess has chaired Augusta University's Department of Medical, Laboratory, Imaging and Radiologic Sciences, where he facilitates research and oversees three professional programs. His personal research includes identifying a reliable predictor of children at risk for high cholesterol through the use of electrodes ("a tiny wire smaller than a human hair"), an ongoing project. If successful, the "human sensing platform" for cholesterol and also bloodless glucose screening that Burgess has developed may help predict people who have, or are at risk for, high cholesterol or diabetes. "You'd be able to test by simply touching inside a person's cheek with a disposable, handheld sensor."



Send us your class notes

If you have any news from your professional or personal life, we'd love to hear about it. Please email the details to alumni@longwood.edu. Remember to give us your full name, the year you graduated and the degree you received.

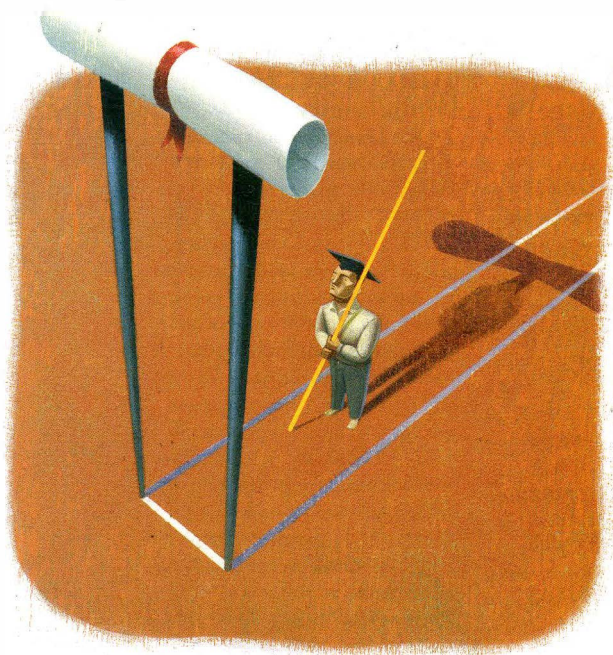
To Get a College Degree—or Not?

For students who can't afford college, scholarships are the answer to one of life's most painful questions

by Kevin Napier '18

Nelson Mandela once said, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

At Longwood, we learn that, as citizen leaders, we are expected to do our part to make the world a better place. The potential impact of each new class of graduates—armed with everything they learned at Longwood inside and outside the classroom—is enormous.



We don't have to look back very far to see how Longwood alumni have been responsible for positive change in their communities, in the business world, in research labs, in the military, in the lives of children and in so many other ways.

But we should never forget one critical element in this scenario: scholarships. This is not an exaggeration; it is reality. I know many Longwood students, myself included, who would not have been able to complete their education without the help of generous donors.

Throughout my four years at Longwood, I have been blessed to receive financial assistance from several scholarships. Each one has a special place in my heart.

The Herbert R. Blackwell Scholarship gained special meaning for me when Dr. Ken Perkins, who was then the provost, called me into his office to let me know I had been selected. I will never forget his looking me in the eyes and saying, "I think we are going to see big things from you, Kevin."

The Dabney Stewart Lancaster Scholarship is near and dear to my heart because, at my first Be the One scholarship banquet, I had the pleasure of meeting Mary Tabb Johnston Schubert '72, the granddaughter of former Longwood president Dr. Dabney Stewart Lancaster. Mrs. Schubert and I talked on and on about the history of Longwood and how proud she was to be an alumna of such a wonderful institution.

The Hull Scholars Excellence in Education Scholarship was the first Longwood scholarship I received. It is a renewable scholarship and is the main reason that I will graduate without any college

debt. I know how lucky that makes me.

Most emotional for me, however, is the Shane T. Adcock Memorial Scholarship, which I received this February. The scholarship was created in memory of Capt. Shane Adcock '03, who died on Oct. 11, 2006, in Hawija, Iraq, after being injured by enemy grenade fire. On Oct. 15, 2015, in the fall of my sophomore year and almost nine years to the day after Capt. Adcock's death, I enlisted in the Virginia Army National Guard, inspired by his example

and his sacrifice. Being in the National Guard has given me even more respect for what our nation's soldiers are fighting for overseas. At this year's scholarship banquet, I finally got to meet Capt. Adcock's parents and share with them how much the scholarship means to me.

For me, and for others I know, receiving a scholarship is more than just financial aid. It has a domino effect, opening opportunities for us to immerse ourselves in life-changing activities.

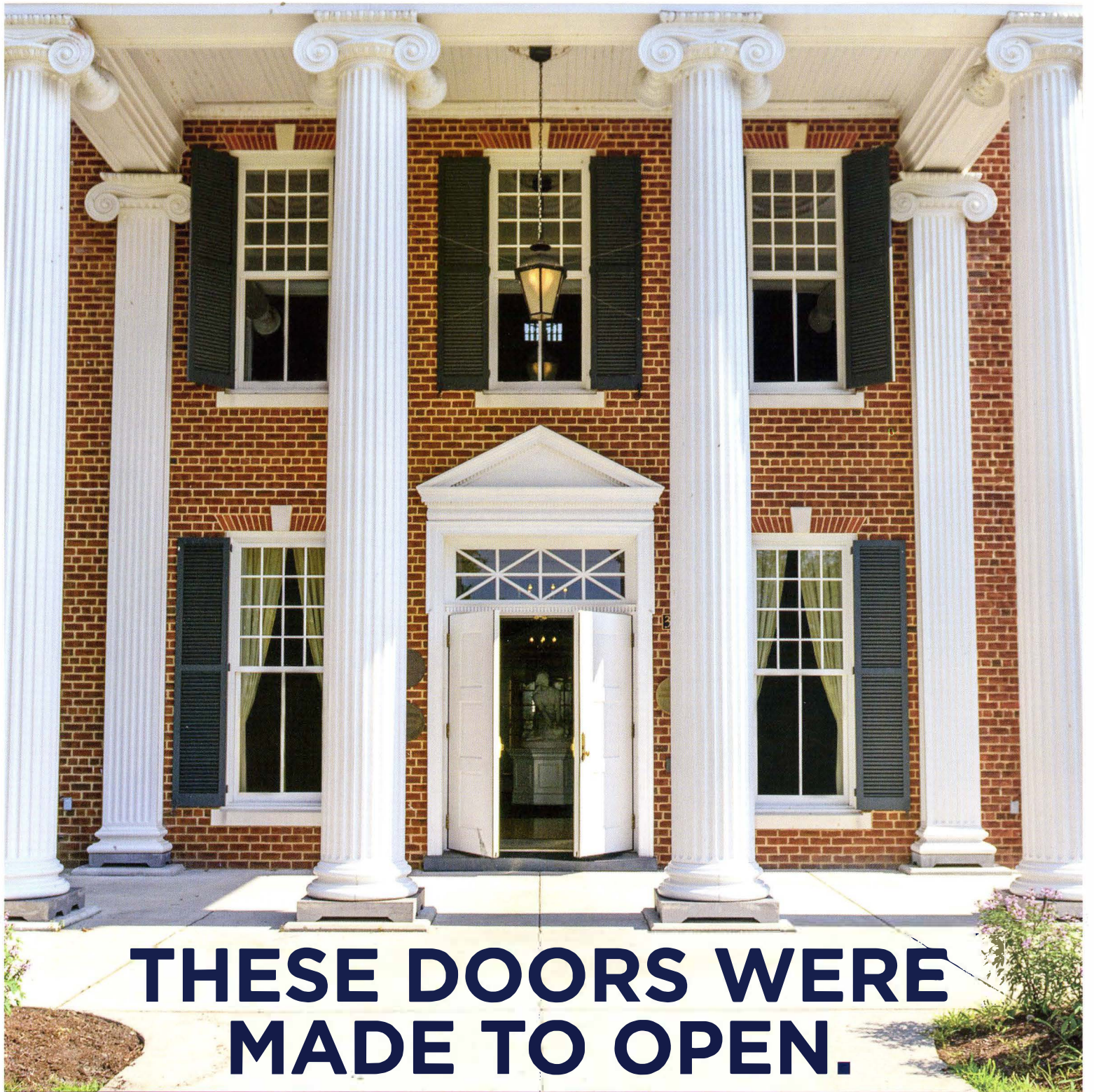
If I had not received my scholarships, there is no telling how different my college experience would have been. I might not have been able to enlist in the Virginia Army National Guard, work as an intern for the Dean of Students Larry Robertson '90 or conduct research with several faculty members in the kinesiology department.

Over my last four years at Longwood, I have been on a journey, striving to become the best possible citizen leader that I could be. The term citizen leadership has many different meanings to many different people. To me, citizen leadership means serving others without expecting anything in return, accepting everyone despite differences, working with others to advance society, looking for the positives in all situations, refraining from boasting even if you have accomplished something great, finding ways to connect with peers, lending a helping hand when you see someone in need, and being a genuinely honest and kind individual.

I truly believe that the scholarships I have been awarded have given me the opportunity to grow tremendously on my path to becoming the citizen leader that I strive to be. My hope for the future is to give back to the place that gave me so much—Longwood University. 🌟



Kevin Napier '18, a kinesiology major, served as president of the Student Government Association during his senior year, a position that includes the responsibility of representing his fellow students on Longwood's Board of Visitors. Napier (center) is pictured here with Maris and Vera Adcock, the parents of Shane Adcock '03.



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ART LESSONS Ancient Egypt was the focus of this year's window installation for the Annual Area Youth Art Exhibition at the Longwood Center for the Visual Arts. Created by students and teachers from Prince Edward County Elementary School, the installation introduced young visitors to the pyramids, hieroglyphics and ancient Egyptian customs and culture. Find out more about how alumni art teachers and the LCVA are using art education as a creative vehicle for learning on Page 12.

