

SPRING 2020

CAMPBELL

MAGAZINE



AD ASTRA PER ASPERA

THE OLD AND THE NEW

The 94-year-old D. Rich Hall, Campbell University's second-longest standing building, is seen from the second story of the campus' newest addition, the Oscar N. Harris Student Union, completed in April. This edition of *Campbell Magazine* includes a 10-page photo spread (page 40) providing an early look at the impressive 110,000-square-foot student union, plus a feature story on the man whose name adorns the bricks near both entrances. *Photo by Ben Brown*





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ABOUT THE COVER



Master of Physician Assistant graduate (2005) Alexa Carda Gaters has worked in several emergency departments in WakeMed hospitals during the COVID-19

pandemic, and she shared not only her experience, but how the virus has changed her view on health care and the career path she chose. Gaters is one of many students, faculty and alumni featured in our cover story on how COVID-19 has changed everybody's lives. Photography by Smithfield-based photographer Ben Brown.

COVER STORY

6 AD ASTRA PER ASPERA

The COVID-19 global pandemic has changed our world. And the impact the virus has had and will have on higher education and institutions like Campbell University is both far-reaching and dramatic. The cover story to our spring edition of *Campbell Magazine* shares the experiences of our students, faculty and alumni since the beginning of the pandemic and how it not only affected their lives, but how it's inspired them to answer challenges to lead and serve, living by the University's motto, *ad astra per aspera ... to the stars, through difficulties*.

40 The Student Union | A look inside

The long-needed and highly anticipated 110,000-square-foot Oscar N. Harris Student Union opened its doors in May to an empty campus. With Campbell's campus closed to social gatherings until at least the fall, the first impression many students got of the building was a Facebook Live virtual tour held in May. Photographer Ben Brown offers another up-close look at the finished product in this 10-page photo spread.

52 Myths of the Homeschooled

Myths and stereotypes abound about home schooled high school graduates. But Campbell students Aaron Schnoor and Brianna Fanning dismiss those myths and share their home-schooled stories — a timely story as just about everybody is learning from home these days.

56 The Boys of Bleak Creek

Rhett McLaughlin and Link Neal have millions of fans online and a new novel. They owe both to their upbringing in Buies Creek, made clear by their recent visit to their hometown.



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CASE III Award of Excellence Best Magazine: 2017, 2019 Best Article (Platinum): 2018 Editorial Design: 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 Feature Writing: 2018, 2020 Periodical Design: 2018 Publications Writing: 2014 Illustrations: 2016

Founded in 1887, Campbell University is a private, coeducational institution where faith, learning and service excel. Campbell offers programs in the liberal arts, sciences and professions with undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degrees. The University is comprised of nine colleges and schools and was ranked among the Best National Universities in the South by *U.S. News & World Report* in its America's Best Colleges 2020 edition and named one of the "100 Best College Buys" in the nation by Institutional Research & Evaluation, Inc.

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CAMPBELL PROMISE

*\$20,000 annual scholarship for **all*** incoming Campbell University students*

As families across the country deal with the impact of COVID-19, Campbell University remains committed to educating students for purposeful lives and meaningful service.

While uncertainty looms, the Campbell University Promise Scholarship provides a guaranteed **\$20,000 scholarship**: \$18,000 toward Campbell tuition and \$2,000 toward on-campus room & board expenses for undergraduate students entering Campbell in fall 2020. Whether you're considering a career in the health professions, business, education, criminal justice and security, ministry or another field, we know a Campbell education is an investment in a brighter future, not only for our students but for North Carolina, the nation and the world.

Who is eligible? All incoming undergraduate students attending the University's main campus starting in the fall of 2020. Adult & Online Education students are not eligible to receive the Campbell Promise Scholarship.

What do I need to do? Apply to Campbell, get accepted and let us know you're coming – that's it! You do not need to complete the FAFSA to receive the Campbell Promise Scholarship, but it is required if you are interested in receiving additional forms of aid such as grants or loans.

How long does the scholarship last? The scholarship will be renewed annually up to four years as long as you continue to be enrolled full time (at least 12 hours) in main campus undergraduate classes. Scholarship recipients are also required to maintain a 2.5 cumulative GPA. Note: Incoming students who have already been awarded a scholarship will not receive the Campbell Promise Scholarship in addition to their current scholarship. However, if the scholarship is currently less than \$20,000, they will receive the Campbell Promise Scholarship instead.

** Merit restrictions apply*

3 Steps

To earn your \$20,000 annual Campbell Promise Scholarship, follow these steps.

Step 1: Apply

- Visit campbell.edu/admissions and apply online today

Step 2: Schedule a Virtual Visit

- Connect one-on-one with an experienced counselor to learn more about Campbell

Step 3: Enroll

- Submit your enrollment deposit to let us know you'll be a Camel in the fall

Links to all of these steps can be found online at campbell.edu/promise



CAMPBELL
UNIVERSITY

CAMPBELL.EDU/PROMISE

Campbell University is committed to educating student for purposeful lives and meaningful service. To learn more about the Campbell Promise Scholarship, visit us online and apply today for the Fall 2020 semester.



Like most colleges and universities across the world, Campbell shut down its campus in March to help prevent the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus. To stay in touch with the Campbell community — its students, faculty, staff and friends — President J. Bradley Creed delivered weekly video messages offering words of encouragement, providing updates on important administrative decisions and reminding Camels that their campus will be waiting for them when the clouds part. *Photo by Ben Brown*

Our mission still beckons us

BY J. BRADLEY CREED

Our world has changed dramatically since the last edition of the Campbell Magazine landed in your mailbox. The circumstances we find ourselves in due to the global pandemic of the COVID-19 coronavirus are unprecedented.

Not since World War II have our country and other nations faced a test that has disrupted our way of life and posed such daunting economic and social challenges. The pressures on colleges and universities have been enormous as campuses across the United States scrambled to suspend classes, send students home to shelter in safety and move rapidly to remote learning and on-line instruction to continue the delivery of education.

Campbell University made this shift mid-March, right after spring break. This monumental transition has been relatively

seamless without an interruption to our core mission of graduating students with exemplary academic and professional skills who are prepared for purposeful lives and meaningful service.

Even though there will not be a traditional commencement ceremony this spring, our seniors will graduate and earn their diplomas, thereby completing a major life goal and attaining a significant accomplishment that will redound to their benefit for the rest of their lives.

To recognize them, we are planning a virtual ceremony for the conferring of their degrees and exploring plans to bring them back to campus at a later date to celebrate this achievement live and in-person with friends and families.

Responding rapidly to a highly fluid and unsettling situation would not have been possible without the commitment and teamwork of all of our employees who love Campbell and serve us so capably. Foremost in

our mind has been the health and safety of our students. Having a medical school on campus and a highly trained professional medical staff at our Health Center has been invaluable for monitoring the public health challenges of this virus.

Education is our main enterprise, so transitioning to remote and on-line instruction has been a top priority.

Deans and faculty have made swift adjustments to continue their courses and give final exams at the end of the semester. Our staff are attending to the many responsibilities that are necessary to keep a university going. They are recruiting prospective students for the fall semester, making credit adjustments to student accounts for unused room and board from the spring semester, ensuring that classroom, living, and office spaces are clean and sterilized and fielding calls and emails from students and parents who have questions or need assistance.

I take great encouragement from our

exceptional employees who make our Campbell community a special place to work and belong.

Campbell University is informed and inspired by its Christian heritage which gives shape and spirit to our mission. As people in need, facing the disruption and uncertainty of a global pandemic, we can turn to God for guidance, comfort, and courage.

I pray daily for wisdom and guidance, especially during this extraordinary time, and make intercessions for those I am aware of who are in particular need of strength and grace, and earnestly make supplications to the Lord for our entire university community. I have found reassurance by reading the Psalms, and Psalm 91:1 has become a meaningful verse to me in these days:

“Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.”

Let’s remember that we are Camels. The camel is one of the most resilient creatures in the animal kingdom. Let’s familiarize ourselves again with our university motto: *“Ad astra per aspera – To the stars through difficulty!”*

Though COVID-19 has been a setback, we still reach for the unattainable, our commitment unwavering. Celestial lights are signs of hope and a future brimming with promise.

The stars are our students and those who serve them sacrificially. Our mission still beckons us, and our aspirations are undimmed by these present trials.



J. Bradley Creed
President
Campbell University



President J. Bradley Creed discusses COVID-19’s effect on rural communities with Patrick Woodie, president of the North Carolina Rural Center, on his first **Campbell Conversations** podcast, which can be heard on the University’s Rhymes With Orange podcast network.

#CAMELSWEARORANGE

When Campbell University’s campus went quiet from the COVID-19 pandemic, theatre arts professor E. Bert Wallace took it upon himself to keep “Wear Orange Wednesday” alive. Wallace’s weekly Instagram posts were a delight for the entire Campbell community.



COVID-19 AND CAMPBELL UNIVERSITY

AD ASTRA PER ASPERA

The COVID-19 pandemic altered life as we know it and shut down campuses around the world. It also called on Campbell University students, faculty and alumni to persevere and lead in ways they never imagined.

By Billy Liggett

For seniors like Ka'Deem Wynn, it meant an abrupt end to four years of personal growth and career preparation. The college experience without a capstone. Uncertainty looming over the future.

For student-athletes like Hayley Barber, it meant a dream unfulfilled. A college basketball conference title and an invitation to the Big Dance, only to have midnight come before the carriage arrived.

For professors like Meredith Williams, it meant a sudden transition from the personal connections she'd developed in the classroom over her 17-year career to remote learning, relying on online

conference technology to educate and track more than 100 students.

For experts in their field like David Tillman, it meant becoming a voice of reason in the North Carolina public health sector during a time of confusion and uncertainty as some sought to distort research and facts to support their own ideals.

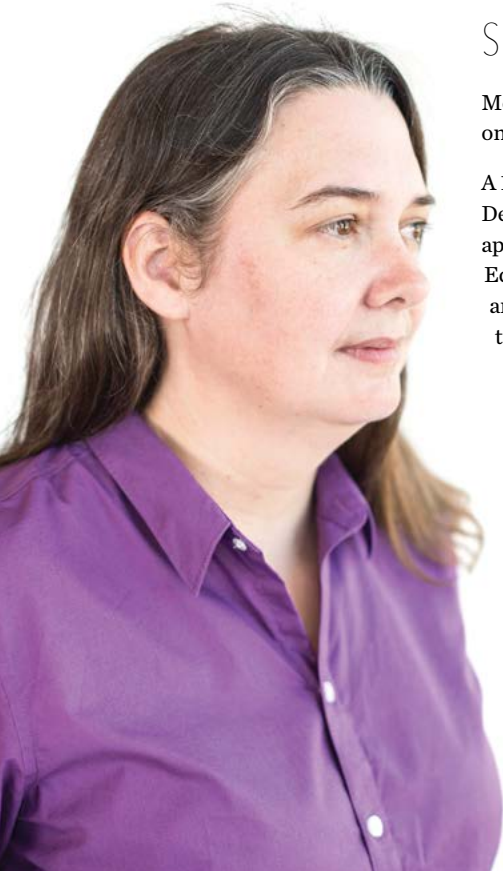
And for health science alumni like Krista Udd, it meant being asked to risk her life to save others at a New York City hospital hit hardest by the outbreak. Taking the skills she'd learned as one of her school's first physician assistant graduates and putting them to use in a setting she could only describe as "unsettling, chaotic and surreal."

Campbell Master of Physician Assistant graduate Alexa Carda Gaters treats COVID-19 patients at hospitals throughout the Triangle. Photo by Ben Brown





Meredith Williams joined Campbell University's *Rhymes With Orange* podcast in March to talk about her transition to online teaching. Hear her interview and find all recent COVID-19 related Campbell podcasts on iTunes, Spotify or other sites where podcasts are heard.



The COVID-19 global pandemic has changed our world. And the impact the virus has had and will have on higher education and institutions like Campbell University is both far-reaching and dramatic. Not only did the virus — which by mid-May had infected more than 4 million people and killed nearly 300,000 globally — shut down the University's campuses for the first time in 120 years, it's put into question what life at Campbell will look like in the coming months and years.

But Campbell has seen difficult times before. Born in a time of post-Civil War reconstruction, the still-fledgling Buies Creek Academy was dealt a blow in 1900 when a fire all but wiped out the entire campus. From the ashes rose Kivett Hall, a renewed purpose and a motto the school has championed through great depressions, recessions, world wars, natural disasters and, yes, epidemics.

Ad astra per aspera. To the stars, through difficulties.

"The past two months have been some of the most challenging in the history of this institution," says Campbell University President J. Bradley Creed. "But these challenges and trials of life make us stronger. They are the crucible which temper us. It's my hope these difficult times are going to make all of us stronger."

SPRING INTERRUPTED

Meredith Williams had thought about trying out online instruction before the pandemic hit.

A 17-year math professor and chair of Campbell's Department of Mathematics and ITS, Williams approached the University's Adult & Online Education administration about creating a course and went through a weeks-long training session to learn the ins and outs of remote learning. Still, she entered the spring semester this year not entirely confident that she was ready to take on a course or two in addition to her three current in-person classes.

"I like the personal interaction of teaching," says Williams. "I want my online students to feel like they're getting the same delivery from me that my in-class students get. I didn't think three months of training was enough to be ready to teach one online class."

On March 12, she was given just four days.

On that day, the University Board of Trustees voted to transition all in-person classes on all Campbell campuses to online and remote learning. The original plan was for the change to last from March 16 to April 5. At the time, North Carolina had just 15 reported COVID-19 cases and no hospitalizations, and Gov. Roy Cooper had issued restrictions on gatherings of more than 100 people.

By March 16, Campbell's first day of remote learning, confirmed cases in the state had more than doubled. Among the new cases was the first reported Campbell student to test positive after a visit to the University's health center.

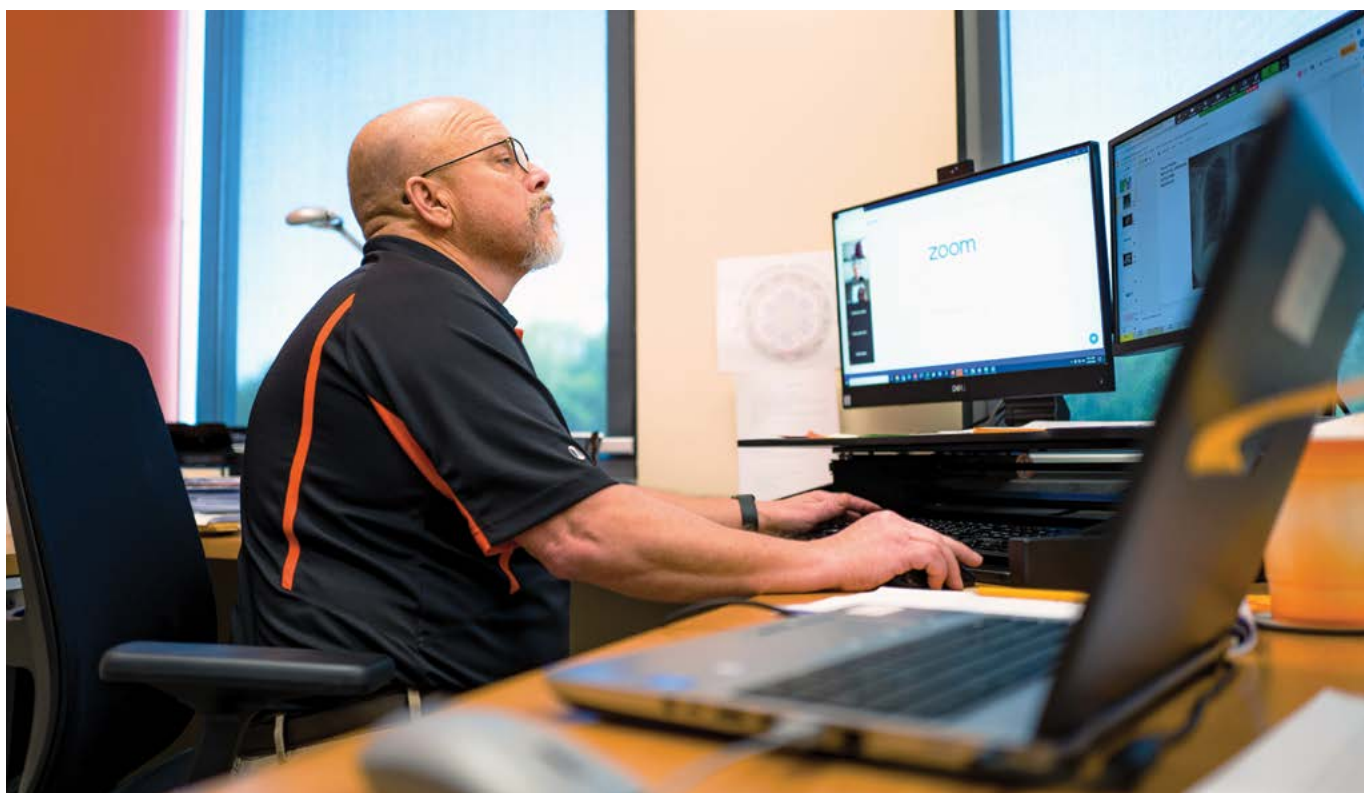
By March 19 — with cases climbing and campuses across the nation beginning to shut down — Creed made the difficult decision to make the transition to online learning permanent for the spring semester and shut down all residence halls and campus-run apartments until the campus was deemed "safe" for students to return. This also meant a halt to all spring sports (the Big South Conference had previously canceled all spring games a day earlier), all academic events and Study Abroad travel and a postponement of spring commencement in May.

Within a matter of days, Zoom meetings and WebEx classes became the new "normal" for Campbell students, faculty and staff. The annual Wiggins Memorial Library Academic Symposium became a virtual symposium, with more than 100 students taking part with online presentations. The scheduled opening of the University's 110,000-square-foot student union was delayed, and the facility was introduced to the public for the first time through a 40-minute virtual tour hosted by students and staff on May 6.

And while University officials remain hopeful commencement can take place sometime this year, the Class of 2020 was honored with a virtual commencement celebration on May 9.

"Hopeful" is the key word in looking ahead.

In April, Campbell administration formed a Fall Semester Task Force led by Vice President for Student Life Dennis Bazemore to better plan for how to manage "traditional operations" of the University while also protecting students, staff and the Campbell community. As of this publication, no decisions have been made regarding the fall. As a result, Campbell traditions like Welcome Week,



Freshman Convocation and Homecoming are, for the moment, in a state of flux. As are face-to-face fall classes, football games and other athletic events and whether or not students can move back into residence halls.

Williams says she hopes to see her students in person when August arrives. But if that scenario isn't in the cards, she says she — and her fellow faculty members — are up for the challenge of educating their students by any means necessary.

"It's not easy for us, but it can be even harder on the students," Williams says. "When we made the transition, I had students who weren't able to access the class. One student was relying on his public library for WiFi access, but then that closed. I had international students who took weeks to get back home. It's been a challenge, but my students have been great as far as being open to what I'm trying to do, and they've been supportive of the process."

Like many professors and all working parents who've been asked to telecommute, Williams has been forced to balance performing her job and making sure her children — two boys, ages 11 and 13 — are keeping up with their own online learning.

"They're not the quietest children," she says, recalling a moment of levity during these difficult times. "There was one day I had asked my 13-year-old to be quiet while I recorded a video for a class. I

got through all but the last 30 seconds of it, and he walked into the room and burped very, very loudly. I was so close to being finished, and I didn't want to start over, so I posted it. I think the class got a kick out of it — one student rated it a 9 out of 10 for the burp and for my reaction."

NO CLOSURE

Ka'Deem Wynn was looking forward to the final stretch of his college career when he returned to Buies Creek from spring break in early March.

The final memories with friends. Several photography and videography projects lined up. The annual CAMMYs ceremony. Walking the stage at spring commencement.

The buzz was loud when students returned to classes on Monday, March 8. Colleges and universities across the country had begun to shut down over the COVID-19 pandemic, its spread considered to be in its infant stages in the U.S. at the time.

By Thursday of that week, the announcement was made — Campbell would transition to online through early April. Soon after that, the transition was extended through the semester, and all students living in residence halls or on-campus apartments were asked to leave for home.

Virtual labs

Peter Fenn, associate professor of health professional studies for the College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences, offers an OB Sim lab (usually performed in an in-person, hands-on setting on Campbell's Health Sciences campus) through Zoom to his students from his office in an otherwise empty Tracey F. Smith Hall of Nursing and Health Sciences in April. *Photo by Ben Brown*



An early end

Seniors like Ka'Deem Wynn and Abigail Pore not only had to live with an abrupt end to their college careers, they're entering the next phase of their lives while uncertainty looms in the world around them. "You expect it to end a certain way," says Wynn. "And when it doesn't, you feel like you're in limbo."



For Wynn, a communication studies major and former cross country student-athlete, that meant going back to Palm Coast, Florida, and finishing his degree online nearly 500 miles away.

"You have this dream — college is supposed to be this big experience for you, and you expect it to end a certain way," says Wynn. "And when it doesn't, you feel like you're in limbo, if that makes sense. It's not any one thing I'm missing out on — you just want those final few months to accept the end of it. Campbell was my home for four years, and it almost felt like I was being evicted early. I would have just liked to have finished on my own terms."

Abigail Pore was already home in Mebane, North Carolina, getting work done on her car when she received word that her time on campus, with her friends and classmates, had come to an end. While she and her classmates officially earned their degrees during a virtual commencement ceremony broadcast to more than 1,400 people on May 9, she feels her undergraduate experience still lacked one very important thing ...

Closure.

"While I didn't miss having a graduation enough to possibly risk lives, I do think I missed the feeling of being able to fully sit with being *done*," says Pore, who earned her degree in English. "Finishing an online exam in my room just to

turn and be able to tell my dog is much different than a celebratory trip to Cook Out or a museum trip with friends."

Hayley Barber's final season of college basketball came to a sudden end twice this year.

The first time was back in late February, when a knee injury forced the senior to miss the final four games of the regular season. When she discovered that her injury wasn't season ending, she was primed to lead the Big South Conference champions to their first NCAA Tournament in 20 years. Barber was scheduled to play in her team's conference quarterfinal game at home against Presbyterian on March 12 when the news came down. No conference tournament. No NCAA tournament. No basketball. No spring collegiate sports whatsoever.

Barber was crushed.

"Just a chance to play one more game, that's all I really wanted," she says. "Once [the tournament was canceled], it did not seem real for a really long time. It's so weird because the weather outside was perfect and everything seemed kind of normal. But the world just stopped."

The pandemic has presented challenges for every college student. For many, that challenge is trying to transition from school to "real life" and careers in a tanking economy and uncertainty of when this will all end. For many others, the struggle is mental — intense feelings of anxiety and frustration or loneliness and isolation while disconnected from friends and loved ones.

Researchers at Penn State University published a report in April addressing the mental health of college students during the outbreak. The research found the disruption of academic routine, the abrupt evacuation of campuses (for many a "homelike and welcoming" atmosphere), the competitiveness in the job market and the overall challenges of living through social isolation and the worry of contracting a potentially deadly virus have all led to increased anxiety and negative psychological consequences for college students. For some, it's led to an increased risk of substance abuse and self harm.



Tory Weaver and Kellie Nothstine share more about mental health of students during the COVID-19 pandemic and what the University is doing to help those students on the *Rhymes With Orange* podcast, available on iTunes, Spotify and other places where podcasts are heard.



Tory Weaver, mental health therapist for Campbell University counseling services, has helped students who are struggling with social isolation. *Photo by Ben Brown*

Sterling Ta'Bon, a recent Master of Public Health graduate, says his education at Campbell has prepared him for a post-COVID-19 world. Photo by Ben Brown



Kellie Nothstine, dean of Campus Life and Title IX, and Tory Weaver, mental health therapist for Campbell counseling services, say the University has been attentive to the needs of students during these unprecedented times.

“Before the pandemic, 66 percent of those who were coming to Campbell’s counseling center were coming because they felt socially isolated,” says Nothstine. “So students were already struggling with this.”

This forced isolation, Nothstine says, has only added to these struggles. She points to studies that have found the more time a person spends looking at a screen instead of having face-to-face interactions, the more likely they are to report depression and anxiety. Now factor in that all classes the past few months were done online and that just about all social interaction has been done through FaceTime, texting, Zoom meetings and other forms of social media ... and it’s only made it worse for a generation that already spends up to nine hours a day looking at a phone, tablet or computer screen.

Counseling Services and Student Life have worked to make the content they share with students more engaging and, hopefully, uplifting, according to Weaver.

“There’s research that shows if you’re passively scrolling on social media, that can be connected to mental health struggles,” she says. “The difference with what we’ve tried to do is it’s more purposeful. If you’re purposely using social media to connect, to laugh with each other or to do things like watch parties, those are things that can engage students and make their social isolation more bearable.”

Purpose is important. And for many students, the pandemic has only heightened the importance of the degrees they’re working to obtain.

Sterling Ta’Bon, who earned his second Campbell degree (a Master of Public Health) in May, says COVID-19 has shone a whole new light on his career path and the impact he can have. He says pandemics and epidemics were thoroughly discussed in public health courses throughout his time at Campbell, from preparation to response and the impact they can have on rural and underserved communities.

For Ta’Bon — who has worked with children in foster care during his time here and who has an



eye on a career in public policy and possibly politics — the world has become a case study. And coming at it with a “public health mindframe,” he says he’s optimistic about the future.

“COVID-19 has changed how important my career is,” he says. “Not a lot of people realize everything that public health officials do. And now, we’re the experts everybody is turning to. Public health is the reason we have seat belts and stop lights. Preparation and knowledge can save lives.

“We learned at Campbell that things like this could happen and hit us hard, but if we’re prepared for it, we can save lives and move forward.”

First-year Master of Divinity student Johnny Serratt says the pandemic has made him and other theologians think hard about what “presence” truly means at a time when church leaders have been forced to lead and minister without the benefits of face-to-face interaction (laying hands on someone to pray or offering a needed hug).

“For ministers or future ministers, we’re taking very seriously our role as counselors — listening to our parishioners and being there for them when we can’t actually be there with them,” Serratt says. “Then there’s the challenge of mobilizing congregations to do good works and directing our younger members to help out our older members.

“We need to pay attention to the ways social media and the internet offer ‘good presence.’ There’s a large group of parishioners living in nursing homes

Life lessons

Zane Weekman (left), a Master of Education student, and Johnny Serratt, a Master of Divinity student, both feel like their future careers will be impacted by COVID-19. For Weekman, it’s advancement in online teaching and remote learning, and for Serratt, it’s better defining what ‘presence’ means for ministers in a virtual world. Photos by Ben Brown



Local care

Third-year medical student Brian Gottwalt cares for a patient at the Campbell University Health Center. Like all third-year students, Gottwalt's rotations were cut short due to the COVID-19 pandemic, so he finished out his year working on campus. Through May 15, Harnett County confirmed 232 cases of COVID-19 and 15 deaths. *Photo by Ben Brown*

or unable to travel who have only been able to access the church through TV or online. Now that everybody has been forced to worship this way, we need to reconsider how effective we've been in reaching these people."

Second-year Master of Education student Zane Weekman says watching his professors navigate the sudden change to online learning has been just as educational as the content in their lessons. A future high school history teacher, Weekman says all new teachers will need remote teaching skills in the future — pandemic or no pandemic.

"What I've seen that's been effective is having one week to work on assignments and the next week for video conferencing and discussion on what we'd done the previous week," Weekman says. "All of this has forced me to look at how I would have handled this situation as a teacher if I suddenly didn't have face-to-face time with my kids. Would I still be effective? Would they still get something out of this?"

Ka'Deem Wynn says everybody is learning from COVID-19. He calls the pandemic a "defining moment" for his generation. "This is our generation's 9/11," he says. "It's changed our lives. No question.

"But I think a lot of people my age, we've gotten good at adapting to things. And I think in the end we'll be alright and we'll figure this out. It might take a little bit of time, and it won't be easy. But

we'll figure it out."

And for Abigail Pore, getting through this means counting blessings and focusing on the positives.

"I'm lucky that I can reach out to people, even if it's FaceTime or through long emails," she said. "I'm lucky that I am safe and not concerned about a family member right at this moment who has the virus. Holding onto that and counting my blessings helps me to hold my own feelings of needing closure with the feelings of wanting the world to heal. I am not being selfish by acknowledging some hurt, yet I cannot forget the world in my own feelings if I want to remain unselfish."

THE FRONTLINE

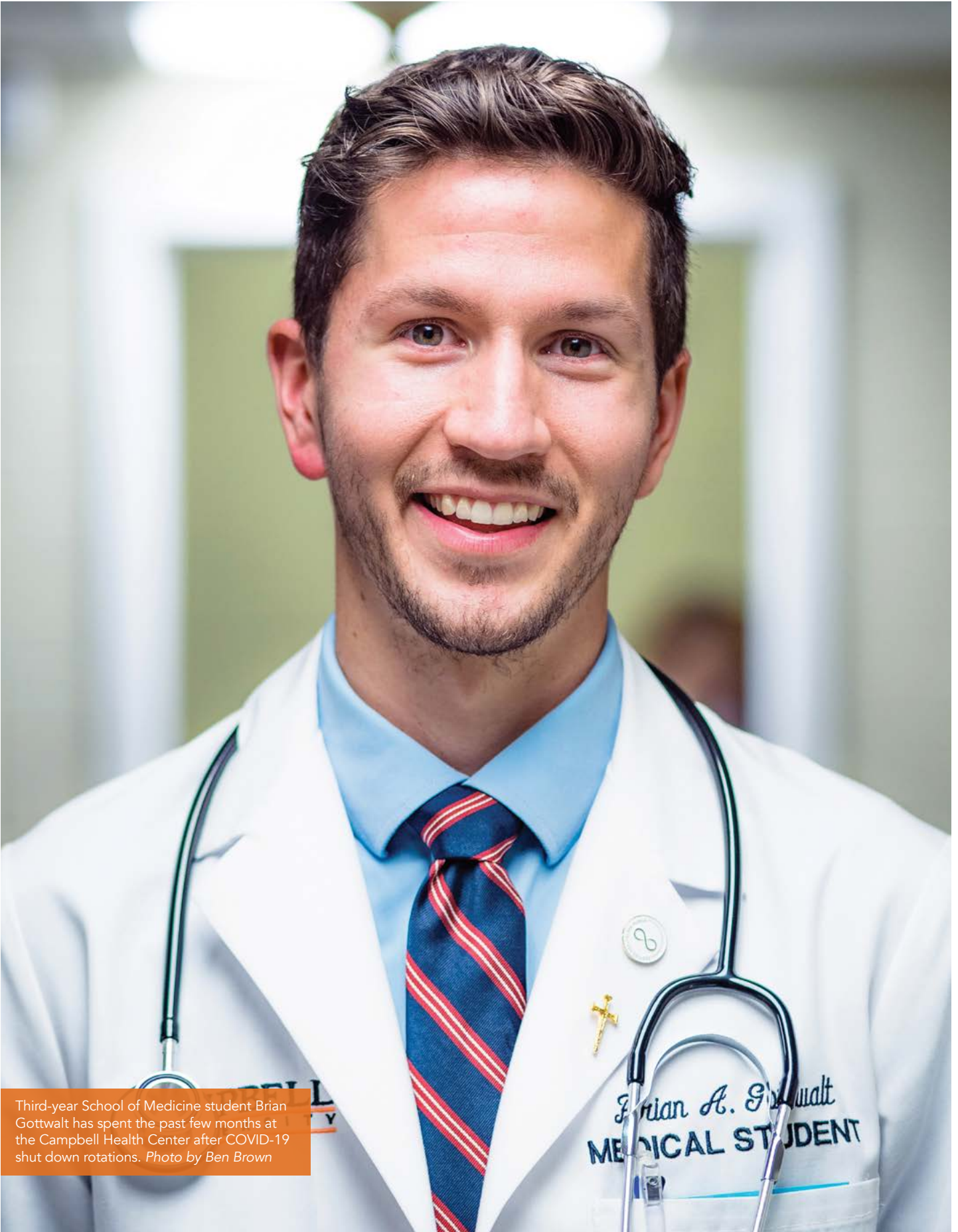
Preparation and protection.

That's how Alexa Carda Gaters describes the atmosphere in hospitals throughout Wake County two months into the COVID-19 pandemic. Through May 15, the novel coronavirus has infected more than 16,500 North Carolinians (killing 615) and more than 1,000 of those cases (23 deaths) have come out of Wake County.

It's not an epicenter for the virus — cities like New York, Philadelphia, Los Angeles and New Orleans have been hit hard, and hospitals in those regions have seen the worst of what the virus



Dr. Nicholas Pennings, director of the Health Center, helped lead Campbell's response and set guidelines after the COVID-19 outbreak began in March. *Photo by Ben Brown*



Third-year School of Medicine student Brian Gottwalt has spent the past few months at the Campbell Health Center after COVID-19 shut down rotations. Photo by Ben Brown

can do to large populations. But hospitals like WakeMed have worked around the clock to ensure emergency departments and intensive care units are prepared for an influx of patients, should they come. They've also erected and utilized outdoor drive-up tents for testing, COVID departments within the ER, outpatient respiratory diagnostic centers and constant updates for physicians and residents.

COVID-19 has forever changed Gaters' career and the professional futures of all Campbell University health science alumni and students.

A 2015 graduate of Campbell's Master of Physician Assistant Practice program and a Wallace Student Society president, Gaters was originally called to medicine as a young teen when she lost her mother, Shirlee Carda, to cancer. The High Point native and UNC-Chapel Hill graduate chose the physician assistant path because she liked the flexibility and lateral mobility of the profession. Today, she works for Wake Emergency Physicians, PA (WEPPA), an independent group of physicians and advanced practice providers that has an exclusive contract to staff all of WakeMed's seven emergency rooms in the Triangle region.

"We've seen the full spectrum of illness in our emergency departments, from minor coughs to respiratory distress requiring intubation," Gaters says. "And although we are accustomed to immediately rushing to the bedside in the ED, we now take the time to don our [personal protective equipment], knowing that they can make a life-or-death difference for ourselves, our families and our colleagues."

She says her education at Campbell prepared her for the current challenge. She can still hear the words of PA Chair and Director Betty Lynn Johnson reminding her to "stay flexible and always keep the patient first, treating them as you'd want your own grandmother to be treated."

"This has especially helped me over the past couple of months, as we've had to stay flexible to keep up with the evolving guidelines and protocols each day, and to practice medicine in ways we aren't familiar with," Gaters says. "My patients need my compassionate care and reassuring touch more than ever, as visitor restrictions mean that most are completely alone in the emergency department and when admitted to the hospital. Taking an extra moment to listen to them, reassure them that



they are in good hands and to call to update their worried families, can make a world of a difference in an already challenging time."

When Campbell launched its PA program in 2011, it marked the beginning of a decade-long plan to purposefully expand its offerings in health sciences (its College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences had made a name for itself in the pharmacy world, and the University was poised to grow from that seed). Osteopathic medicine, nursing, physical therapy and other health science programs soon followed, born to not only serve underserved regions of North Carolina and the Southeast but to also answer the call for projected health care professional shortages throughout the country.

Few factored in "global pandemic" to that need, but that's where we currently stand. Not only are these professionals in demand in most regions of the country, recent graduates are being called to step up in many areas where the risk is too high for older nurses and physicians to be in close contact with infected patients.

"[The pandemic] has changed the perspective of how I look at medicine and the career I've chosen," says Bryan Gottwalt, third-year medical school student whose hospital rotations were cut short in February when school officials made the move to protect its students from working in high-risk areas. "Medicine is something I've wanted to do for a while, because I wanted to help people. But now I'm seeing just how essential it is. It's been sobering to hear what some of my friends who are resident

In demand

While most students ended their spring semester from home, many looking to enter the health care industry remained on the job, like fourth-year PharmD student Cara Beth Brann and first-year PharmD student Emily Joyce. While classroom learning for both shifted online, they continued their rotations at the Campbell Health Center pharmacy. "It shows that in health care, even when everything around you shuts down, you're still important and needed. It's put my career into a new perspective," says Brann. *Photos by Ben Brown*

The epicenter

Krista Udd, physician assistant working COVID-19 wards in New York City at the heart of the outbreak in the U.S., on her experience: "We have stood at the bedsides of our patients and watched as they succumbed to this deadly disease and shared in their families' grief when we called to give them the news. We have watched as our own families, friends and colleagues have become ill but have continued to dutifully show up to work every day to continue this fight. We have felt broken and beaten down and even hopeless at times but we have never given up." *Photo courtesy of Krista Udd*



doctors are going through — a lot of long hours and just increased expectations in every regard."

With his rotations put on hold, Gottwalt, who's working toward a career in family medicine, decided to put in time at the Campbell Health Center on campus, seeing Campbell students and staff, as well as Harnett County residents. The High Point native says he wanted "at least one day" of in-person training this semester "learning and doing something I'm committing the rest of my life to."

"Physicians and all health care professionals are making an enormous difference on a regular basis," he says, "and I want to do that. I may not find myself working in a crisis like this again, but I want to be there alongside people who want the same thing if the situation ever arises again."

Krista Udd, another 2015 Master of Physician Assistant Practice graduate, is one of the many who are making a difference and risking their own health in the process. Udd was working in the cardiothoracic ICU of a hospital in New York City (Manhattan), at the heart of the pandemic outbreak in the U.S. The area accounted for nearly 200,000 COVID-19 cases and more than 15,000 deaths through May 15.

For the past two months, Udd has worked in

the COVID ICUs — an experience she can only describe as "surreal."

"I will never forget the day our unit was opened for COVID," Udd says. "We rushed all the remaining cardiac ICU patients to a makeshift ICU on a step-down floor so that negative pressure filters could be added to the rooms to prevent the virus from aerosolizing into the common areas, making our rooms safer treating COVID-positive patients. Over the remaining 10 hours of my shift, the admissions began pouring in. Most of them needed immediate intubation, some were acutely hemodynamically crashing and needed immediate central access, while others were struggling to breathe on one form of respiratory support or another."

She said the experience made her head spin. She and her team were overwhelmed by a scene she described as "absolute chaos."

"We ran out of IV tubing, central line kits, ICU ventilators and masks with shields," she says. "Patients were arriving so quickly, there was no time to adequately evaluate them, admit them properly or call their families. It felt like a war zone, with doctors, PAs and nurses running from room to room, treating emergencies only to be interrupted by a seemingly more pressing matter. There was a lot of yelling, confusion, frustration and fear.

"When the dust settled at the end of that shift, orders were not completed, consults were left outstanding, some lines still needed to be done, but every patient was still breathing. I have never been more proud of the medical team, my team, than I was on that day. We had done our best, and though it didn't feel like it that day, looking back a month later I can honestly say it was enough."

Eventually, her hospital and her team adapted. As the cases mounted, their response became more focused and more calculated. They learned on the spot. Udd has seen patients succumb to the disease, and she's seen patients survive and overcome it.

"This was never how we expected to practice medicine," she says. "COVID-19 humbled us all. If this experience has taught me anything about medicine, it is that as a community we are determined, creative and capable of taking on whatever challenge is put in front of us. We believe in our cause, and we believe in the oaths that we took as medical providers to ease our patient's suffering and above all else, do no harm."

RURAL RESPONSE

Dr. Nicholas Pennings, chair of family medicine for the School of Osteopathic Medicine and director of the Campbell Health Center, helped lead the University's initial response to COVID-19, providing regular updates to the community and setting guidelines to curb the spread of the disease while students were still on campus.

Pennings says in addition to strengthening his students' determination to enter the health care field and make a difference, the pandemic has also served as a learning tool for Campbell students, residents and licensed physicians.

"One thing we've taught is infection control and infection management, so we're seeing scenarios play out that we've only discussed in the past," Pennings says. "[COVID-19] has also sparked the growth of telemedicine. This virus has shown the value of telemedicine to allow us to communicate, connect and evaluate our patients without creating a risk to the health of health care professionals and other patients in the exam room."

Campbell's mission to serve patients in rural areas was recognized by the North Carolina General Assembly when it passed its \$1.6 billion relief package signed into law on May 4. Campbell was one of five universities included in the "COVID-19 research" portion of House Bill 1043 — joining Duke, UNC-Chapel Hill, East Carolina and Wake Forest.

The \$6 million allocated to Campbell directly impacts the work and mission of the University, which has been tasked to form a community- and rural-focused primary care workforce response to the pandemic. Medical faculty and students at Campbell will work to "support community testing initiatives, provide treatment in community-based health care settings, monitor rural populations, educate health professionals on best practices for a pandemic response and support rural communities through primary care," according to language in the bill.

Pennings says the grant and Campbell's work with rural populations is important as the virus continues to spread in outlying areas, even while major metropolitan areas are starting to see a decline in new cases.

"Rural areas are still home to food processing plants, nursing homes, industries and other



areas where people are living or working close together, and the person-to-person spread in those settings can be much quicker, then spreading into the communities," Pennings says. "One of the important things we can do is improve contact tracing. We need to be able to identify new cases as they occur, to diagnose people for testing and trace the contacts of those people properly quarantined, and isolate individuals to prevent the spread. That's an important role Campbell's public health program can take on."

David Tillman, chair of the Department of Public Health at Campbell, and Wes Rich, associate dean of health sciences, have tracked COVID-19 since its inception in North Carolina and have offered their expertise to several media outlets and in online conferences over the past few months. Tillman says while rural counties are experiencing (on the whole) fewer cases per population than higher-density urban areas, they are experiencing higher hospitalization and death rates for a variety of reasons.

"Rural areas tend to have older populations, slightly sicker populations and limited access to resources, such as health care. You put those factors together, you get a tinder box of what this novel virus can mean to rural communities," Tillman says. And while some urban areas are starting to see a "flattening of the curve," rural areas are either peaking or yet to peak. Hundreds of rural counties experienced their very first COVID-19 case in May.

Rich says he worries that a "reopening" of North Carolina and the nation that's done in haste

Sanitizer help

Campbell's Pharmaceutical Education & Research Center has been making hand sanitizer to distribute to local health care facilities and other areas needing the suddenly hard-to-find item. The first batch consisted of 300 four-ounce bottles of FDA-approved sanitizer. "Our colleagues are battling this pandemic and need all the help they can get," says Dr. David Eagerton, PERC executive director. "We are very proud to provide this defensive tool to help stop the spread of the virus."

Photo courtesy of Will Bratton



Campus Minister Louisa Ward has offered words of encouragement to the student body through counseling and essays during their period of social isolation. *Photo by Ben Brown*

without carefully planned guidelines in place will erase all the work that has been done to “flatten the curve” since March.

“Flattening the curve doesn’t mean we’re eliminating this,” Rich says. “It means we’re extending this out. Cases we would have seen in a one-month period, we instead see in a three- or five-month period. It gives people time to be sick, get good care, recover and then let the next group do the same without overwhelming our health care facilities. It’s mitigation. Until we have a vaccine and good treatment practices in place, mitigation is all we have.”

COMMUNITY OF RHYTHMS

What will Campbell University look like in the fall? In 2021? In five years?

These are questions that, unfortunately, do not have a solid answer. When the cabinet and University Board of Trustees agreed to suspend all in-person classes through the summer, it immediately formed a task force to look into what would need to happen to have students back on campus in the fall — assuming state and national executive orders support the idea.

“We’re talking a lot about how we are going to manage a mass of people at a time like this,” says Dennis Bazemore, vice president for student life and head of the University’s fall semester task force. “How do we do this and ensure they’re safe here? How do we handle food? How do we handle housing? Athletic events? These are questions we need to research before we make those decisions.”

The University announced in May that should the campus reopen in the fall, Campbell will provide all residential students with private rooms in their residence halls for the academic year. Campbell was the first university or college in the state to announce such a plan for the fall — a plan designed to reduce the amount of cohabitation as much as possible.

In addition to the virtual commencement in May, Campbell has shifted all orientations and campus visits to the virtual realm. The University has kept in contact with not only its students, but its future and prospective students and alumni through a series of videos and live streams. President Creed began weekly video messages to the Campbell community in late March, delivering updates on

important announcements and providing words of encouragement and hope through uncertain times.

Spiritual Life has also played an important role in not only keeping the community informed, but providing counseling through faith — important for a University with a Christ-centered focus, says Faithé Beam, associate vice president of spiritual life. Like Creed with his videos, Beam and Campus Minister Louisa Ward have sent weekly “words of encouragement” emails to Campbell students, faculty and staff.

“It’s important to put out a word of care to our community,” Beam says. “Not only do we need to continue to function and know who we are as a University, we have to do so with a sense of solidarity. We’re a community of rhythms, and when our rhythms are disrupted, we need to care for each other and support each other, even when we’re scattered in so many different places.

Beam and Ward say using faith as a support system can help create a new sense of community and a new sense of rhythm.

“Our community says ‘welcome home,’ ‘you belong here,’ ‘you can be loved here’ and ‘you’re known here,’” Ward says. “It’s a community we’ve all worked so hard to build. It’s not fragile, even if we’re not here in person. We can still care for each other and have a ministry through presence. We can still be present with each other even if we’re not close. It gives us hope. And ‘hope’ is a good word.”

Students. Professors. Staff members. Alumni. Teachers. Health care professionals. Ministers. Business owners. Military personnel.

All of these lives have changed because of the pandemic. And all of them have been asked in some way to contribute to the greater good, whether it’s through their profession or through following guidelines to stay home and distance from others who face a greater risk.

Alexa Carda Gaters says the outpouring she’s seen toward health care professionals has encouraged her and brightened otherwise stressful days. But what has been most rewarding is being able to serve her community as a helper and healer.

“I believe everyone has an inherent desire to help others in some way,” she says. “We just have to discover and nurture the gifts that God gave us to learn how we can best realize this purpose in life.”

Online

Continuous updates to COVID-19 and its effect on Campbell University and decisions moving forward can be found on the University’s coronavirus page online: campbell.edu/coronavirus.

Contributors

Kate Stoneburner, Stan Cole, Will Bratton, Dr. Nicholas Pennings, Sarah Hardin, Krista Udd, Meredith Blalock and Lissa Gotwals contributed to this report.

W. IRVIN WA



CAMPBELL
**CAMPBELL
TAG DAY**

*Students celebrating the generosity of Alumni,
Friends, Faculty, Staff, Foundations & Corporations.*

#campbelltagday



WARREN ATHLETIC CENTER



CAMPBELL
TAG DAY

Celebrating the generosity of Alumni,
Faculty, Staff, Foundations & Corporations.

#campbelltagday

GRATITUDE THE PATH TO GREATNESS

More than \$68 million has been raised over the past three years toward Campbell University's ambitious \$75 million Campbell Leads campaign, launched to fund the new student union, student scholarships and the Fund for Campbell. The gifts have come in the form of more than 40,000 individual donations from alumni, students, faculty and staff and outside organizations. Each year, students like Jonathan Molai and Hannah Holmes offer their appreciation during Thank-A-Giver (TAG) Day. *Photo by Billy Liggett*

Readers share more of their inspirational #WomenofCampbell

To the Editor:

Sherri Yerk-Zwickl is Campbell's chief information officer and associate vice president of technology. She is one of two women identified to serve on the University Cabinet, a first in Campbell's 131-year history. Sherri arrived at Campbell in July 2017 and in a short time, she has transformed the outdated "computing services" to the relevant Information Technology Services. She has influenced the entire university to adopt a mindset focused on adopting and implementing today's technology in education. Sherri has also developed strategic goals for IT Services supporting the aims and initiatives of the university.

Beyond these initiatives, the values for the department include collaboration, transparency, empathy and innovation. With a mission to inspire others and embrace change, Sherri leads with sincere enthusiasm, compassion and decisiveness. She has empowered her personnel in their areas of responsibility and encouraged all to employ a customer first attitude. She has enhanced the functionality and capability of the department, bringing all facets of technology such as Digital Media Services, Telecomm and Networking and Infrastructure under the same organization.

She has demonstrated open communication and in return, the staff exhibit great respect for her as a leader.

JILLIAN KEEGAN
Campbell University

To the Editor:

Sherri Yerk-Zwickl is an innovative leader at Campbell and proudly represents women in the technology field. She was named the first CIO in the history of university.

Women in the information technology field are consistently underrepresented and rarely hold leadership positions. Sherri's background in educational technology and years of higher education experience have made her invaluable to the IT Services department and working with deans and



#WOMENOF CAMPBELL: Our Fall 2019 edition of Campbell Magazine honored 138 years of "amazing, trailblazing women who shaped Campbell University," and our cover story was a big hit with readers. Revisit our cover story at magazine.campbell.edu and watch videos about the process behind picking the 14 women represented and the work of artist Amanda Dockery, who brought them to life.

directors. Sherri brings knowledge of strategic processes and is able to plan with university partners such as Wiggins Library and institutional effectiveness.

On a national level, Sherri is very involved in IT organizations such as EDUCAUSE. She serves on the Enterprise IT Program Advisory Committee that focuses on how to initiate digital transformations and promoting

diversity, equity and inclusion. She was selected and completed the Leadership North Carolina program. This program is for current and emerging leaders to develop abilities to drive outcomes and improvements in their communities.

Sherri is considered a transformative leader within IT Services and the greater campus community.

CHARLOTTE COX
Campbell University

To the Editor:

Two women who were inspirational in my life were the co-managers of the cafeteria in New Mens Dorm (now called Murray). Their names were Ava Upchurch and Lena Stewart.

I worked for the food service three of my four years, and these two ladies kept us guys on the straight and narrow path. They taught us to be on time and take pride in our work and never call out.

WOODROW W. HATHAWAY JR. ('71, '93)

Concord, North Carolina

To the Editor:

My mother, Sharon Faircloth Drake ('82), is my inspiration. Growing up in rural Stedman, North Carolina, she is the baby of five children and a first-generation college student.

She earned her Bachelors of Business Administration in 1982 and was an active member of Omicron Delta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, the Adam Smith Club, and the O Kay Chorale — just to name a few. On top of that, she graduated Summa Cum Laude.

Since her time at Campbell, she has worked in almost every facet of the business field. She is the reason I chose to attend Campbell for my undergraduate studies. She still remembers the long nights of studying, the whirl of the microfiche machines, and the best hot fudge sundaes from the student center. Every time she comes back for a visit, she always tells me “it still feels like home.”

EMILY DRAKE ('17)

Rocky Mount, North Carolina



Good was never hard to find

There were 20 cars lined up along the street in my neighborhood on March 26 — balloons and streamers tied to side mirrors, posters taped to doors and “happy birthday” wishes shoe-polished on windshields.

Inside several of the cars — families I’ve known since I moved to Sanford, North Carolina, nearly 13 years ago. Families whose children have grown up with my children. And in the other cars — people I barely knew, but people who know (and love) Henry, my youngest of three who turned 6 on that day.

Henry’s birthday party was supposed to take place with a gaggle of friends at a local gymnastics facility. This was before a global pandemic came along and made “gatherings at a local gymnastics facility” a serious no-no (and health hazard). By the time the big day rolled around, we were in Week 3 of social isolation and obeying stay-at-home orders as best as we could.

So instead, Henry’s birthday was spent at home with his parents and his two siblings. It featured a few gifts, some cupcakes and not one, but three songs delivered by classmates, friends and family via Facebook Messenger and Google Classroom.

Best of all — thanks to some on-the-fly planning by my amazing wife and the extremely unselfish generosity of the community I live in — it featured a parade.

Like ... a *real* parade. A 20-car line-up of decreoated vehicles (led by a sheriff’s deputy and capped by an honest-to-goodness fire truck) starring family friends, neighbors and teachers. They honked horns, they tossed beads and candy and one family even pulled over to perform for my son on their instruments.

When the final blare of the fire truck siren sounded, my son was beaming and couldn’t believe something like that just happened.

“Was that all for me?” he asked with the sincerity only a 6-year-old could muster.

It was, pal.

These last few months have been trying. But you don’t need me to tell you that. And while life has been uncertain, frightening, frustrating and, for many, lonesome, there have been silver linings in these dark clouds. I’ve been seeking them purposely.

I’ve seen them in my kids’ teachers, who conducted makeshift online classes and planned their own parades through local neighborhoods to show their support. I’ve seen them in the men and women who handed out meals to students who relied on school lunches for nutrition. I’ve seen them in health care professionals who risked their own health and battled high levels of stress for the greater good.

I’ve seen them in all of us who took this “social distancing” thing to heart. We became a nation willing to sacrifice quality of life and income to not only protect ourselves and our loved ones, but complete strangers as well.

Our “normal” has changed, possibly forever. But I believe when the dark clouds do finally part, we’ll be better because of this experience. In the short term, we’ll have more appreciation for dine-in restaurants, nights on the town, concerts and even a hug from a friend.

In the long term, we’ll be quicker to adapt to change. We’ll be better at remote communication. Many will never want to even think about homeschooling their children ever again. I’ll have a deeper respect for our health care professionals.

I’ll look back on this unique stretch of time and remember my wife stepping up to educate and entertain our children, and I’ll remember how we came closer as a family.

And without a doubt, I’ll remember that parade. And that boy’s smile. I wish those kind of moments for all of us.



Billy Liggett is editor of Campbell Magazine and director of news and publications at Campbell University.

POWER HOUSE

Cary Kolat leaves a nationally ranked and respected wrestling program in the hands of his successor, Scotti Sentes

After helping the program reach unprecedented heights, Scotti Sentes was handed the keys to Campbell's nationally ranked wrestling program in the spring, just weeks after the Camels won back-to-back Southern Conference titles and three in the last four years.

He succeeds his friend and mentor, former U.S. Olympic wrestler Cary Kolat, who left to coach at the Naval Academy after establishing himself as one of the premier coaches in the sport, building Campbell's program from the ground up. Under Kolat, Campbell had 19 NCAA Championship qualifiers, 12 individual Southern Conference champions and 28 medalists at the SoCon Tournament.

This year, five Camels were recognized by the National Wrestling Coaches Association as 2020 Div. I All-Americans, including two first-team selections — Josh Heil and Andrew Morgan.

Athletics Director Omar Banks said interest in Campbell's program was high when news of Kolat's departure got out, but Sentes was the obvious choice all along.

"We knew we wanted someone who could fit the culture that was developed within the program and continue the upward trajectory that has been established," Banks said. "Having served under one of the best coaches in the sport of wrestling for the last four years, he presented and articulated a

vision for the future of the program, which let us know that we had our coach. We are very excited for the future of Campbell wrestling under Coach Sentes' leadership."

Campbell enjoyed its best season in program history in 2019-20, taking their second straight SoCon tournament and dual titles behind six NCAA qualifiers, matching a school record. Five Camels earned SoCon championships, another school record, while five were named All-SoCon. Going 11-2 overall and a perfect 7-0 in SoCon competition, Campbell was ranked as high as No. 12 in the national rankings.

The Camels' season was cut short due to the COVID-19 pandemic in March, canceling the national championship tournament. Heil and Morgan — in addition to Noah Gonser, Quentin Perez and Jere Heino — received second-team and honorable mention All-America nods based on their overall body of work through the conference tournaments.

Heil became Campbell's first three-time conference champion and qualified for the national championships for the third time this spring — he finished his junior season 29-4 and earned a No. 8 seed in the NCAA Championships. Morgan also earned an eighth seed after earning his first individual SoCon title this season, and Gonser finished the season with 14 straight wins and was named the 2020 SoCon Wrestler of the Year.

CAMPBELL ATHLETICS



THE LEGEND GROWS

Cary Kolat was a national wrestling icon before he ever stepped foot in Buies Creek. Kolat won four-straight state titles and compiled a perfect 137-0 record as a high schooler in Pennsylvania and won two NCAA Championships in college. He went on to compete in the 2000 Sydney Olympics and was a three-time World Cup gold medalist.



CARY KOLAT

SCOTTI SENTES

5 12 28

For the first time in the program's history, five Camel wrestlers were named Div. I All-Americans in 2020 — Josh Heil, Andrew Morgan, Noah Gonser, Quentin Perez and Jere Heino. Campbell enjoyed its best season in program history, going 11-2.

Campbell's wrestling program ranked as high as 12th in the nation during the 2019-2020 season, just behind historic powerhouse programs like Iowa, Penn State, Nebraska and Oklahoma State. The Camels swept the Southern Conference in 2020 for the first time.

Campbell produced 28 Southern Conference medalists during Kolat's six-year tenure. The head coach went 0-10 in his first season, improved to 3-13 in his second and by the time his recruits got their feet under them, Campbell soon became a nationally ranked program.

PHOTO BY BENNETT SCARBOROUGH



PHOTO BY BILL PARISH

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING | CLASS OF 2020

BUILT FROM SCRATCH

Campbell's growing engineering program reaches another milestone, graduating the 33 charter class students who laid the foundation

Thirty-three students made history from their homes on May 9, as the first graduates of Campbell University's School of Engineering.

The graduates, who earned Bachelor of Science in Engineering degrees (with concentrations in mechanical, electrical and chemical engineering), have secured jobs in a variety of industries — bio pharmaceuticals and manufacturing, design firms and architectural firms, federal agencies and the private sector. Many will remain in the Research Triangle area close to home, while others have secured jobs as far away as Wisconsin and New Hampshire. Still others will head to graduate school in the fall to continue their studies.

Founding Dean Jenna Carpenter wasn't able to spend the historic day with her students, instead serving as the mace bearer during a virtual graduation ceremony held in a mostly empty Butler Chapel.

She described her feelings at the end of her school's first four years as a mix of elation and sadness.

"It is the culmination of five years of hard work on our part and four years on theirs," she said. "We have watched them grow from high school students into engineers. While all of our students are special, this class is special in a way that no other class can ever be. They have helped us build the school and program from scratch."

Campbell announced it was adding engineering back in 2014 and brought in Carpenter, then an assistant dean at Louisiana Tech University, the following year. The school officially launched in the fall of 2016 with diversity in mind and a mission to offer a unique, hands-on, project-based approach to engineering.

In four years, the school has come a long way from a fledgling program to a program that's gained national attention for its approach. In 2019 alone, the school competed in the NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge for the first time, attended the Grand Challenges Scholars Program for the first time in Washington, D.C., became the nation's 45th

Kern Engineering Entrepreneurial school, and — perhaps most impressively — was named one of the nation's most inclusive engineering schools by the American Society for Engineering Education. The program currently sits at more than 200 students, according to Carpenter, with plans for growth and additional concentrations on the horizon.

The COVID-19 pandemic put a halt to the charter class' final weeks of lab work and several inaugural events like the senior picnic and Engineer's Ball, but Carpenter is pleased that her graduates are entering a job market that's still affording opportunities to engineers.

"The job market in engineering seems to still be robust," she said. "The initial lockdown paused hiring for a few weeks, and some of our students have delayed start dates for their jobs, but they are continuing to interview and land jobs."

Graduate Morgan Hughes will begin her career as an engineering validation associate at Pfizer in Sanford in July — a job she obtained after the pandemic began affecting the job market nationally. She said her new position may require working from home for a few days a week — in addition to wearing a mask and gloves while at work — but she considers herself fortunate to have a position so soon after graduation.

She credits her experience at Campbell and the hands-on instruction she received to prepare her for the next step.

"Being a part of the inaugural class meant that I got to help lay the foundation of what a Campbell engineer can be," she said. "My education at

Campbell gave me the ability to work in a team and leadership experience through projects and through academic clubs. I could not think of a better place to have gotten my education than Campbell."

Michael Williams also cited teamwork when asked what he got most from his experience in the program.

"It's a huge part of the professional world," Williams said. "I will always have to be able to communicate effectively no matter what stage of life or work I am in. Also, I will have to be able to work well with others, both teammates and business partners. My various team projects during the past four years have given me a chance to see multiple types of teams and the different roles involved in successful teaming. I will certainly carry that with me into the next stage of my professional career."

Nelly Zavala — the graduate heading to New Hampshire this summer to work for The Timken Company in their operation development program — said Campbell strengthened her confidence to bring unique ideas to the table in her career. Having to spend the final two months working solely online taught her other skills.

"If anything, the pandemic has taught me to be more patient with others and myself," she said. "It also taught me self discipline that I didn't know I had in me."

BILLY LIGGETT

For everyone

Campbell's was named one of the nation's most inclusive engineering programs by the the American Society for Engineering Education in 2019. The accolade was the result of a mindset instituted by founding Dean Jenna Carpenter from Day 1. "We work hard to attract a diverse cohort of students and help them see the wide range of opportunities that an engineering degree offers to make a difference in the world."



Nelly Zavala: "I loved being able to come together with my classmates to build an amazing program — working alongside some of the best professors who were willing to not only improve the curriculum, but improve themselves as well."



Michael Williams: "I have been very blessed to be part of this first cohort of engineering students. I will miss being there, but I have so many great memories of this experience and friendships that will last a lifetime."



Morgan Hughes: "We laid the foundation of what a Campbell engineer can be. I feel very fortunate to have been a part of something like this and to have made great connections with the engineering dean, faculty and students."

STUDENT LIFE

Residence halls to offer private rooms in fall to all students

As part of the University’s ongoing efforts to limit the spread of COVID-19 and prioritize the well-being of students, Campbell will provide all residential students with private accommodations during the upcoming academic year.

“As we prepare to re-open campus this fall and welcome new and returning students, their health and safety is of the utmost importance,” said Dennis Bazemore, vice president for student life “We believe providing private rooms for all residential students is one of the major steps to achieve that goal.”

Bazemore said the University has reviewed all housing facilities and determined it has the space needed to spread out residential students. “We have taken this challenge and turned it into an opportunity to benefit them.”

The University will waive its private room fee, and students will not need to take any additional steps to receive a private room beyond completing the standard housing application, which should be submitted by July 15. Eligible students will still have the option to request to live off-campus.

The University will continue to follow CDC recommendations in regards to cleaning and disinfecting campus property. Residence Halls will be cleaned and disinfected before move-in. Following move-in, the University will continue to clean and disinfect residence hall public spaces and bathrooms.



PHOTO BY KRISHAN SIVARAJ

LEADING WITH PURPOSE

Doula right thing

Biology junior sets up certification program for students, health care professionals to assist expecting mothers

Like travel guides in a foreign country, birth and postpartum doulas help support new families through the life-changing experience of having a baby.

When junior Biology major Sucharitha Murugu transferred to Campbell last fall, she immediately set up a doula certification training nonprofit for students and health care professionals.

Doulas are trained non-medical companions who work with women before, during and after birth to provide care and information to expectant mothers. Murugu says she’s always been fascinated with women’s health, especially maternity and post-partum care. One day, she and a friend talked about how fortunate women are to have as many resources for giving birth as they do today as opposed to decades past — like prenatal yoga and birth blogs.

“As soon as I said it out loud, I thought of the underserved in our country and wondered how they experience birth differently,” she says.

Murugu researched the resources available

to uninsured women and found that doulas were top option, but an expensive one — up to \$3,000 per birth. She and her partner joked about starting up a nonprofit to solve that problem with volunteers. A month later, they had formed Birth Beginnings Doula Volunteer Services, which now has a branch in Buies Creek.

Her philosophy is simple.

“Doulas are meant to be a friend who has medical knowledge and is there to make sure mothers feel okay, understand what is happening to their bodies and know what questions to ask their care providers,” Murugu says.

The nonprofit is a volunteer-run doula service made up mostly of students currently enrolled in an undergraduate, masters or professional health programs. Its mission is to provide high-quality and accessible doula care to the Triangle Region by training doulas and making them accessible free of charge.

Services are available to any mother who needs them, regardless of insurance status. In particular, they strive to support those

who are eligible for programs such as presumptive Medicaid, Medicaid and WIC.

All volunteers have received their birth doula and postpartum doula certifications, along with lactation coach training, and have attended three births minimum to utilize their skills. Murugu herself is currently employed as a nurse aid at UNC Hospitals, where she gains experience in every department from cardiology to psychiatry to emergency. While she doesn't end up in the maternity ward as much as she'd like, she has assisted in more than 60 births there.

"Suchi's program is unique," says professor John Bartlett, who supports the program as an advisor by helping them find space on campus, utilize sponsorship resources and maintain proper legal documentation. "Setting up a nonprofit is not something that undergrad students usually navigate, and her dedication to it is exceptional. It is an honor to be able to help her start this program and get it up and running."

At Campbell, Birth Beginnings trains students to become doulas twice a year in fall and spring sessions. Small class sizes of 21 students per session ensure that everyone gets proper coaching, but Murugu says classes capped out before the pandemic.

Murugu believes post-partum support is an often overlooked aspect of doula care that her program can fill the need for. For one thing, not all births go as planned, unfortunately. If a mother loses her child or a family loses their mother, doulas can be a support person who assists single parents with newborn care. But even in cases of perfectly smooth delivery, post-partum support is essential.

"Everyone is around and excited during birth and with newborns, but when the novelty wears off, mom is left alone." Murugu says. "If they don't have support, it can be overwhelming."

That's why Birth Beginnings doulas stick with mothers for a month after birth as well as receiving training to assist mothers with water births, hospital births and home births. "Whatever the mothers want and need, we will be there to support them."

KATE STONEBURNER

BEFORE THE DANCE

Long before he became Air Jordan, a six-time NBA champion, a five-time MVP and the greatest basketball player of all time, Michael Jordan was a rising sophomore at UNC-Chapel Hill and a visitor to Campbell University's world famous Basketball School — a program that hosted "Pistol" Pete Maravich, John Wooden and several basketball hall of famers during its heyday. Jordan was back in the national spotlight this spring with his ESPN documentary, "The Last Dance," one of the most-watched and most-talked about series of the year. With His Airness on everybody's mind, we thought it was the perfect time to revisit Jordan's trip to Buies Creek in the early 80s.

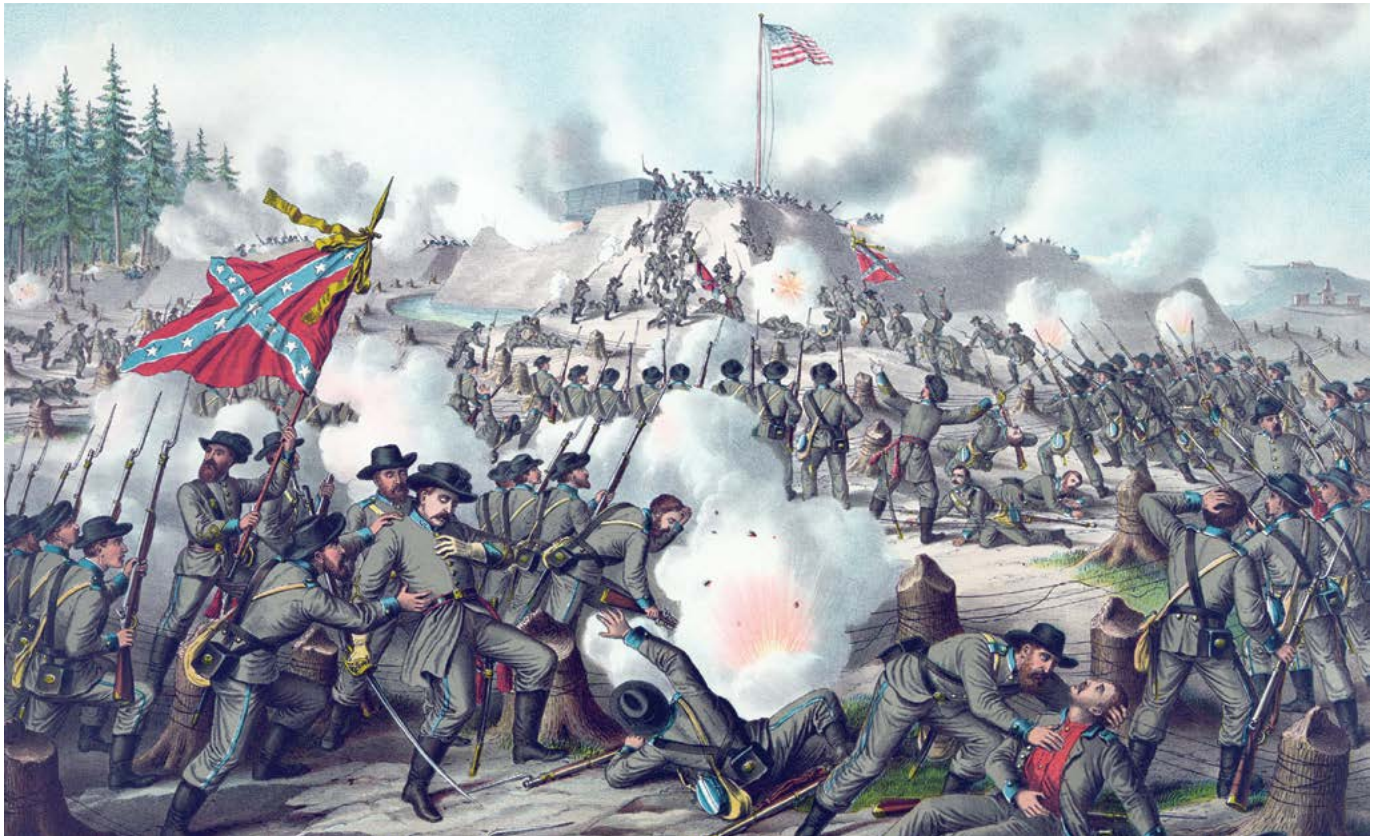


A BITTERSWEET END

Seniors Hayley Barber and Kianna Speight hold up the Big South Conference regular season championship trophy after beating Presbyterian on Feb. 29. The title was Campbell's first since 2001. The historic 21-8 season came to an abrupt end, however, with all spring collegiate sports canceled in March due to the COVID-19 pandemic, erasing the Camels' chance at competing in the NCAA Tournament. | Photo by Bennett Scarborough







FACULTY RESEARCH

Religion and the 'Lost Cause'

Professor's book studies the post-Civil War impact of minister J. William Jones

Over 150 years since the Civil War's end, we're a country still at odds over what it all meant and how best to commemorate it.

As debates over the existence of Confederate statues and monuments rage on across the South, a new book by Mercer University and Catawba College history instructor and 2005 Campbell alumnus Christopher C. Moore investigates the source behind today's neo-Confederate movement — the “Lost Cause” ideology that the Southern cause during the war was a just and heroic one and that minimizes slavery’s role in the war buildup.

Moore, who also teaches religion for Campbell Online, focuses on the life and preaching of Baptist minister J. William Jones, a Confederate chaplain known for his devotion to the Lost Cause. *Apostle of the Lost Cause: J. William Jones, Baptists,*



and the Development of Confederate Memory is an objective look at the antebellum South that focuses less on the “what and where” of that time in history

and more on the “how and why.” The book’s timeliness is somewhat coincidental — Moore is a self-proclaimed Civil War buff and an ordained Baptist minister. His love of history and religion, as well as his upbringing, played more of a role in researching this topic than current headlines and statue debates.

“I grew up steeped in this tradition,” says Moore, a native of Mount Olive. “I grew up

around folks who had portraits of Robert E. Lee on their walls. It wasn’t until I was a student at Campbell when I began to reflect on all this critically.”

He’s quick to point out that he is not a believer in the Lost Cause. In fact, Moore — a stickler for historical accuracy — calls the Lost Cause a manipulation of historical memory. But its impact is undeniable, and *Apostle of the Lost Cause* gets at the crux of J. William Jones’ motivation to keep the narrative alive.

“The tenor of the past few years [regarding the monuments debate and white supremacy], it seems there’s this destabilization of what history is,” Moore says. “The Lost Cause was a misinformation campaign. It destabilized the memory of the war. J. William Jones even wrote a textbook on Southern history used by schools at the time. In today’s context, we still question

what sources we can trust. It's a sobering conclusion that 150 years later, we haven't broken free of people creating their own ideas of what is factual and what is not."

J. Williams Jones was a native Virginian born in 1836 to parents who owned at least six slaves. Jones would go on to attend the University of Virginia and would be a part of the first class at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Greenville, South Carolina, in 1859. He was a minister in Charlottesville, Virginia, when that state seceded from the Union, and he was 25 when he enlisted in the 13th Virginia Infantry, serving as the company chaplain and eventually regimental chaplain.

Following the war, Jones served as a minister in Lexington, Va., and as campus minister at Washington and Lee University, where he became friends with Gen. Lee. He would later serve as a pastor in Chapel Hill and as campus minister at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He would publish a book about his friendship with Lee in 1974 and a biography on Lee in 1906. By then, he had also helped publish 14 volumes of paper defending the Confederacy as "righteous in waging a holy war against Northern intolerance of states' rights."

Moore says the more he researched Jones' life, the more fascinated he became with him. "I'm by no means a fan of J. William Jones," he says, "He was a petty sycophant who buddied up to Confederate generals and was very intentional in positioning himself to be pastor in a town where Gen. Lee was a college president."

"[But] if anyone truly believed in this Lost Cause, it was Jones. He thought you could narrate the story of the Civil War without talking about race and slavery. Today, defenders of Confederate monuments implicitly, if not explicitly, seem to believe you can still talk about the war without slavery being the linchpin that holds it together. They instead point to virtues of bravery and fighting for what you believe in or reacting against tyranny and oppression. They recast themselves as 'true Americans.'"

Apostle of the Lost Cause: J. William Jones, Baptists, and the Development of Confederate Memory is currently available in hardcover on Amazon, Barnes and Noble and other book-selling websites.

BILLY LIGGETT



PHOTO BY BILLY LIGGETT

HEALTH SCIENCES

A calling to serve and heal others leads Army veteran couple back to school

When he was 6, he cooked his first meal for his family — French toast and pancakes from scratch. Salt pork. Eggs over medium. He even got fresh milk from the cow that morning.

Two years later, he sliced his foot open between his big toe and the one next to it; the cut running halfway up his foot. He sewed the wound up himself with a needle and dental floss.

Aaron Quinn shares these stories on a warm December afternoon standing over a barbecue pit and about 20 pounds of pork near the fountain at the Lundy-Fetterman School of Business. Quinn — a 48-year-old biology pre-PA junior, a retired first sergeant in the U.S. Army and war veteran — and his wife Sarah (also a veteran and first-year PharmD student) are preparing a feast for Aaron's classmates and professors as an end-of-semester "thank you" during fall finals.

The parents of three children and owners of a construction company, the Quinns returned to school in their 40s to answer a dual calling to enter the medical field. The calling was spurred four years ago by a condition discovered when their infant daughter, Ava, was found unresponsive in her nursery. Aaron — who got extensive medical training as an infantryman in the Army — resuscitated her twice before she was taken to the ER. Doctors found an arrhythmia and three holes in her heart and were able to eventually treat and save her.

"That experience stuck with me," says Aaron. "It told me medicine is where I really needed to be. If it hadn't been for my previous training and my belief in God, I don't think my daughter would be here today."

The Quinns met in Afghanistan in 2009 and were married three years later. Sarah also had previous health care experience as a combat medic. She was studying to be a PA elsewhere when the medical issues with their daughter arose.

"I was ready to quit until Aaron said, 'You need to go into pharmacy instead,'" Sarah says. "I'd never thought of pharmacy, but I had it in my background, and I was good at it. I made the switch, and suddenly, all the doors opened. I got accepted into Campbell and started pushing Aaron to transfer as well. Seeing how the faculty here is and how they treat students and push them to succeed, I told him to come here."

Aaron will be 50 when he earns his Master of Physician Assistant Practice degree. The Quinns are appreciative of all the support he's received to now — hence, the cookout. But juggling family, a business and school hasn't been easy for either.

"It's like drowning and trying to breath through straws," Aaron says. "You put in the work, you put in the time, and you put your nose to the grindstone and keep grinding. Too old for this? Nah ... 50 is the new 20, right?"

BILLY LIGGETT

AROUND CAMPUS

SHADES OF EMPTY CAMPUS

Harnett County Sheriff's Deputy Michael Knodel patrols a mostly deserted Campbell University main campus in Buies Creek in April, riding his bike near the Academic Circle entrance to the new student union. Campbell students transitioned to online learning in March, and only a scant few staff and faculty members have worked on campus since executive "stay home" orders were put in place. | *Photo by Ben Brown*



PHOTO BY KATE STONEBURNER



DIVINITY SCHOOL

Rare 384-year-old King James Bible found in basement, donated to school

As primary caregivers for Jim’s uncle Robert, Jim and Betsy Pierce thought they were familiar with the large collection of family belongings in the basement of his home.

Before his passing, “Uncle Bob” had shared the locations of a few items that he thought were valuable to the family, telling the Pierces exactly where to find them among the odds and ends.

None of his stories mentioned anything about an old book. Yet when they began to sort through family heirlooms, the Pierces found one tucked inside a paper bag in a small safe with a few personal letters and old property records—a King James Bible that was printed in London, England, in 1634.

A quick Google search showed that the Bible was rather rare — so rare that an appraiser estimated its worth at \$9,000. Containing the Old and New Testaments bound with a concordance, a graphic genealogy and the metric Psalter, it was in remarkable shape for its age.

“We knew we couldn’t just put it back in the safe to live in someone’s attic for another hundred years,” said Betsy. After discussing a museum, a seminary and finally, Campbell University as the Bible’s potential new home, the Pierces called the Divinity School and left a message, hoping the book would find a place at their alma mater.

Jim and Betsy met at Campbell; she was a Meredith graduate who came for a summer class and he was a 1965 graduate and an active member of the Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity. They hoped Campbell would be interested in the Bible and were delighted that Wiggins Memorial Library and Divinity School wanted to preserve and display it in Taylor Hall.

“While it’s not a first edition from 1611, it is quite rare,” said Adam English, who was excited at the prospect of showing the edition to his students. “To be able to touch a book like this, to see the typeface, the illustrations and the physicality of the way the book was printed— unlike today’s publishing where everything is uniform— it’s clear that this book is handcrafted. This is the bible that English-speaking Christians used for 400 years, the first of its kind that could be widely read. It’s hugely significant.”

Library staff are hard at work to create a safe preservation space where the Bible can be displayed on the third floor of Taylor Hall. Students in the Divinity School will utilize the display when learning the history of biblical translation.

“We’re grateful to the Pierces for this gift that connects us to a deeper richer heritage. It’s not just an artifact. It’s already a family bible to us.”

KATE STONEBURNER

ADMINISTRATION

University adds VPs for business and admissions



Sandy Connolly and David Mee will join Campbell University’s cabinet this summer as vice president for business/CFO and vice president of enrollment management, respectively.



Connolly, the former vice dean for finance and administration for Duke University’s Trinity College of Arts & Sciences since

2007 has over 20 years of operational, financial, accounting and managerial experience in higher education.

“Sandy brings a wealth of experience, a savvy business mind and strong interpersonal skills to Campbell at a time that will help position the University for continued success and growth,” Campbell President J. Bradley Creed said.

Mee is a 33-year veteran of higher education who most recently served as associate provost and dean of enrollment at Belmont University in Nashville. Under Mee’s leadership, total enrollment at Belmont rose 43 percent in nine years.

“He’s one of the most knowledgeable and successful university enrollment leaders in the nation, and we could not be more pleased for him to bring his talents to Campbell University,” Creed said.



 **i.am.rigby** Rigby — an honorary Campbell mascot — enjoys the view of Jim Perry Stadium from the new “humps” behind right field.



PHOTO BY BILLY LIGGETT

LOVE SONG

Performance center a tribute to a relationship built on love, passion for music

The gala that opened the Hobson Performance Center on Nov. 14 was more than a concert and more than a celebration of Campbell University's renovated auditorium at the heart of D. Rich Hall. It was a love song. A final, lasting tribute to a relationship built on faith, patience, destiny and a shared passion for music.

A packed house. Music from internationally renowned composer (and former Campbell band director) Jack Stamp, performed by the University Symphony and Wind Ensemble. Shared memories. A new, crisp sound never before created in the nearly century-old building.

It was the perfect night for David Hobson; its denouement a new arrangement of the hymn "The Holy City," written by Stamp. The performance brought tears to Hobson's eyes and a smile to his face.



The portraits of David and Anne Hobson hang at the entrances of the Hobson Performance Center in D. Rich Hall. The renovated auditorium is a tribute to David's late wife, who lost her battle with cancer in 2012.

"She would have absolutely loved it," Hobson would say later that night. "No. She did love it. She was here tonight. She was with us."

To know the love story of David and Anne Hobson is to know and understand the significance of that moment.

The two met on Easter Sunday in 1950 in their Sunday school class at Long Branch Church in Dunn, North Carolina. Anne Alphin was 7. David Hobson was 6 — and from the beginning, their friendship was strong.

In high school, Anne and David began working together to produce a daily morning devotional, transmitted to all classrooms through the school intercom system. Anne selected recorded hymns from a small library of phonograph record albums by artists such as Tennessee Ernie Ford and George Beverly Shea; David operated the system controls and cued-up the records; and Anne read the brief scripted devotional messages and "thoughts for the day" into a microphone.

Their hymn of choice was "The Holy City." Being together each day served to solidify their friendship.

The two would go their separate ways for college — Anne to the School of Nursing at

the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill and David to the School of Engineering at North Carolina State University. Anne would earn her degree and become a public health nurse and later a nurse epidemiologist. David would become bored with college and drop out to take a job installing intercoms in schools, churches and shopping centers. They both found love elsewhere, Anne marrying while in college and having two children, and David marrying and having one before re-enrolling at NC State and eventually getting his degree.

He used that degree to take a job as a park manager with the Northern Virginia Authority in Fairfax County, Virginia. After just a year, he was transferred to the park authority headquarters where he became the authority's grant-writer and later assumed responsibility for land acquisition, facility development and long-range planning. He ultimately advanced to become executive director of the authority and had a major role in acquiring almost 12,000 acres of park land and in developing innovative parks and facilities. He was the principal force in acquiring and developing the Washington and Old Dominion Railroad Trail, a "rail-trail" park that became a national model.

Both David's and Anne's first marriages ended in divorce, and the two reconnected and eventually married in 1975 and raised their three children together in Virginia. In 2000, they retired to Pinehurst, North Carolina. The following year, Anne was diagnosed with breast cancer.

Surgery, together with chemotherapy and radiation treatments, cured her disease; but the experience had a profound effect on her life. She began volunteering for numerous cancer support programs and made home visits to more than 100 patients — providing comfort and hope. The experience strengthened her faith and resolve, and it also strengthened David and Anne's desire to give back.

And giving back meant sharing their love of music with others.

"Anne's faith in God was her first priority. Next was her family," David says. "After these, it was her passion for music. She listened to Christian music or played the piano almost every night. It would be fair to say that music influenced and shaped almost every facet of Anne's life."

Before Anne's cancer diagnosis, the two talked about doing something together to promote Christian music in Harnett County. Anne, he says, had a desire to "preserve the use of old



The Hobson Performance Center opened with a gala on Nov. 14, featuring music from internationally renowned composer Jack Stamp. David Hobson and longtime friend David Brown spoke at the event, which honored David's late wife Anne, who passed away in 2014.

standard, sacred hymns in Christian ministry and worship. The two came up with an idea of establishing a "Christian music education center," and they looked to a Bible college in Dunn originally in 2008 to make it happen.

Anne's cancer returned a few years later, and the idea was shelved. When she died in 2012, David says the project was gone as well.

Longtime friend and former partner at the Northern Virginia Authority David Brown says the idea resurfaced in 2015, and Hobson was introduced to Campbell University through a church friend and Campbell Divinity graduate. Brown was brought in to help move the project along.

"The University officials we met with were all very enthusiastic about this idea," Brown says. "They were open to Dave's ideas, and they instantly made us feel like part of the Campbell University family. In June 2018, we had a handshake agreement to make this happen.

A couple of tears were shed that day. We can't

speak any more highly of any group we've worked with before."

When it opened in November, the Hobson Performance Center was the result of months of construction inside D. Rich — the previous auditorium was practically gutted so improvements could be made to the stage, the acoustics, the decor and the balcony level. By removing the proscenium wall and installing an acoustical shell, the space was transformed into a state-of-the-art concert hall.

"It really honors Anne's memory," says Hobson. "It's exactly what she and I set out to do. She was really enthusiastic about a project that would promote the performance of Christian music and song and help teach generations of musicians. It fulfills a dream for both of us, but most importantly, it fulfills her dream. This is not about me. It's about Anne, and it's about Campbell. It's something that will serve this University for a long, long time."

BILLY LIGGETT



A LOOK INSIDE

THE OSCAR N. HARRIS
STUDENT UNION

PHOTOS BY BEN BROWN



THE UNION

Photographer Ben Brown offers a first look at the long-awaited student union

When the Oscar N. Harris Student Union finally earned its certificate of occupancy in April of this year, the occasion was bittersweet. The certificate marked the end of over two years of construction and was the result of millions of dollars in generous gifts given to the University through the University's ambitious Campbell Leads campaign.

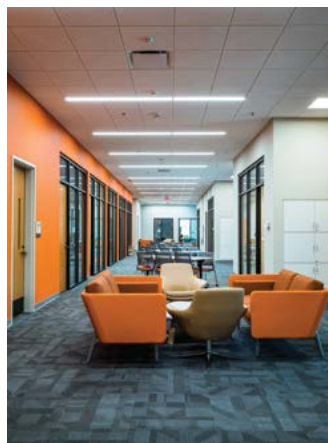
But the long-needed and highly anticipated 110,000-square-foot facility opened its doors in May to an empty campus. In a twist of irony, the building born to serve as a social hub for Campbell's student body was finished at a time when the only "social" activities happening are of the "distant" variety.

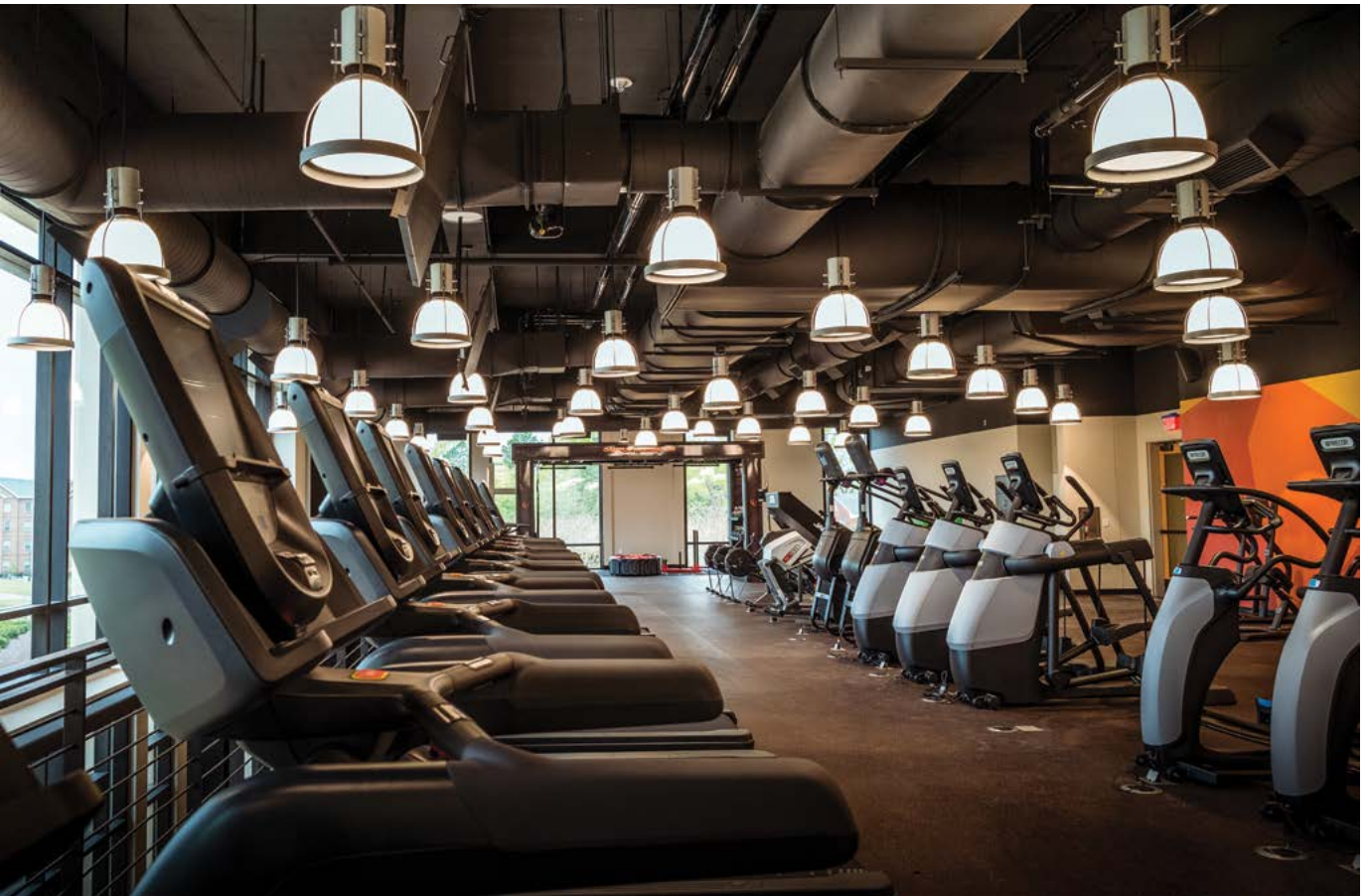
Instead of opening its doors to a large crowd of students, faculty and alumni, the student union was introduced to the Campbell community on May 6 through a virtual tour on Facebook Live that garnered more than 20,000 views online. The tour wasn't quite the celebration imagined back when construction began in 2018. But it provided hope that one day soon, Campbell students will be together and life in Buies Creek will return to some level of normalcy.

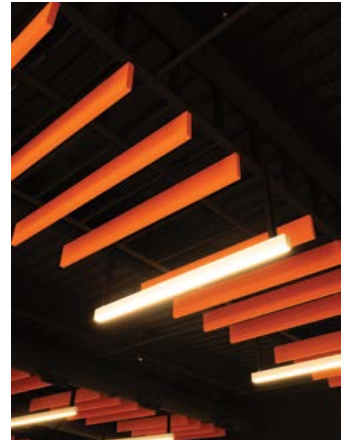
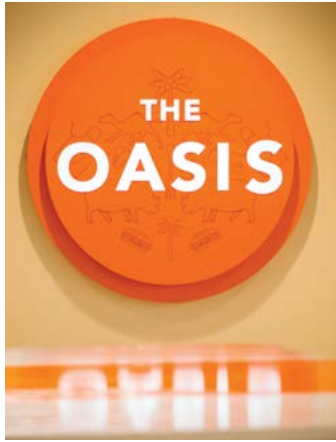
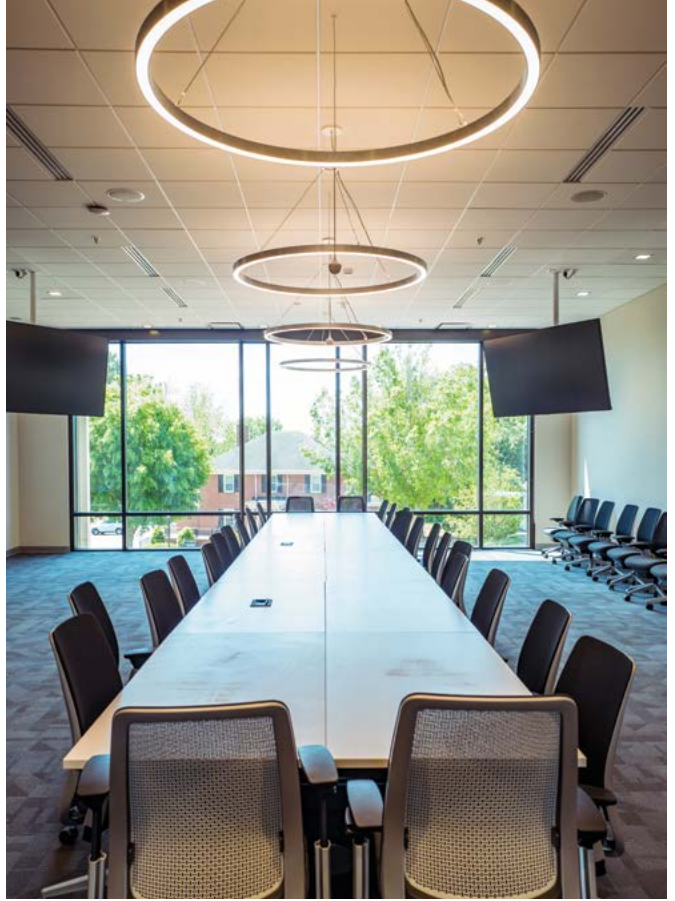
"This student union is something that started as a dream, and today, that dream is a reality," President J. Bradley Creed said to begin that virtual tour. "The campus has essentially been talking about doing this since the 1970s, and it's here today because of the hopes, dreams, prayers, dedicated efforts, hard work and generous and selfless contributions from our friends, our donors and our alumni."

Smithfield photographer Ben Brown toured the student union in late April to collect images of the architecture and interior design for this edition of *Campbell Magazine*.

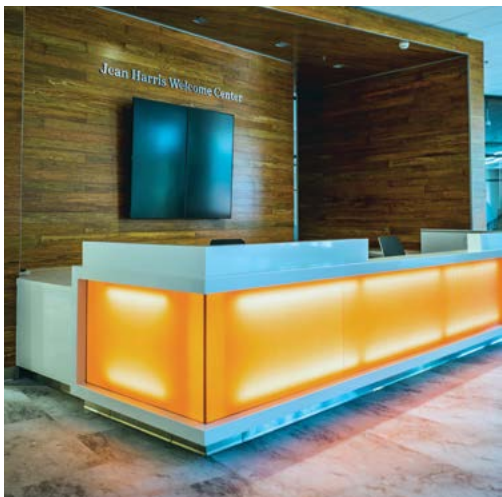
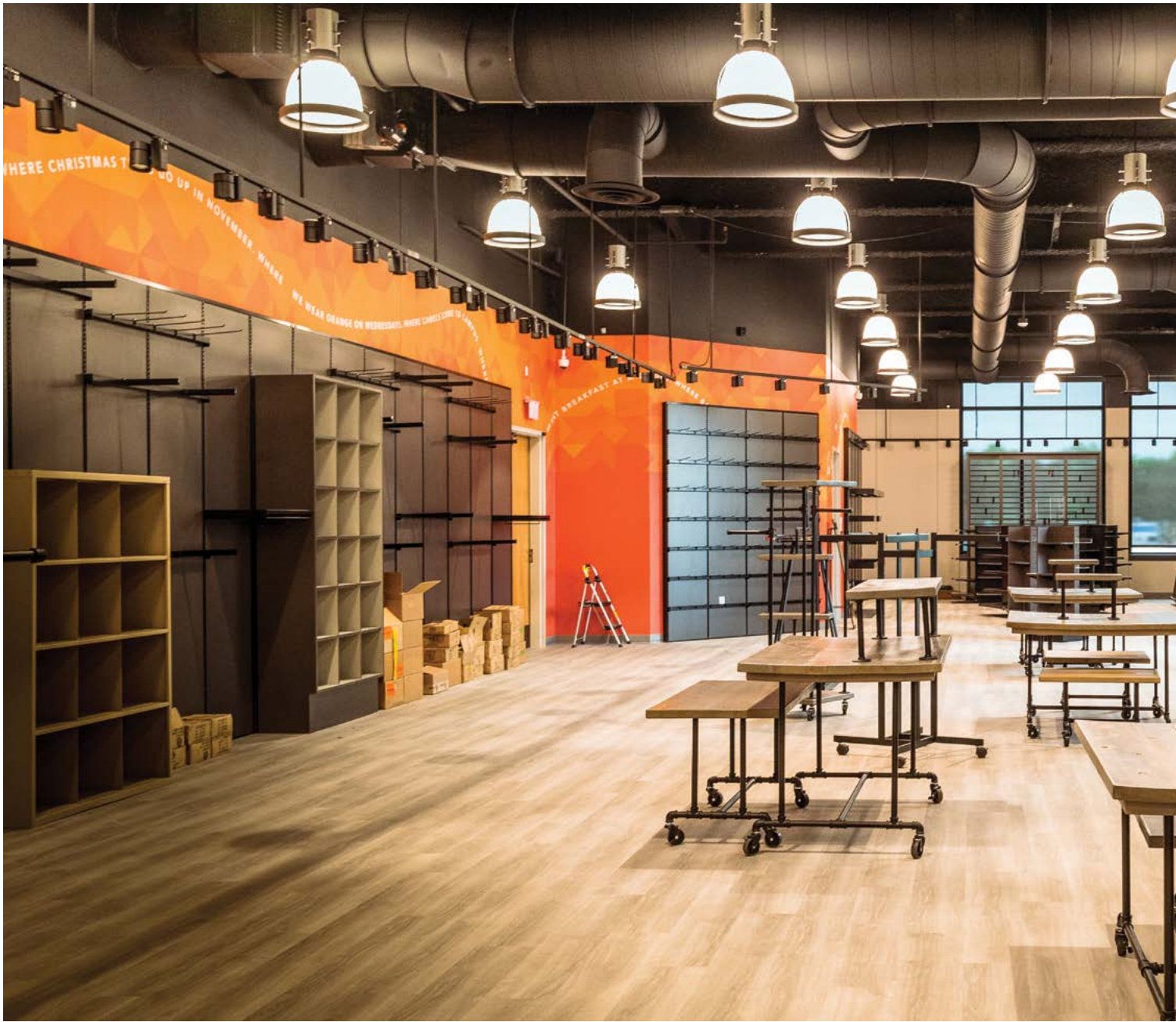
We're excited to share this building with the Campbell community when we can come together again. Consider these pages a sneak peek and a celebration of a building certain to have a transformational effect on the campus in the coming years.

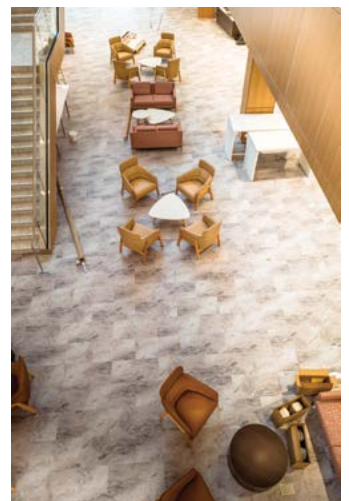
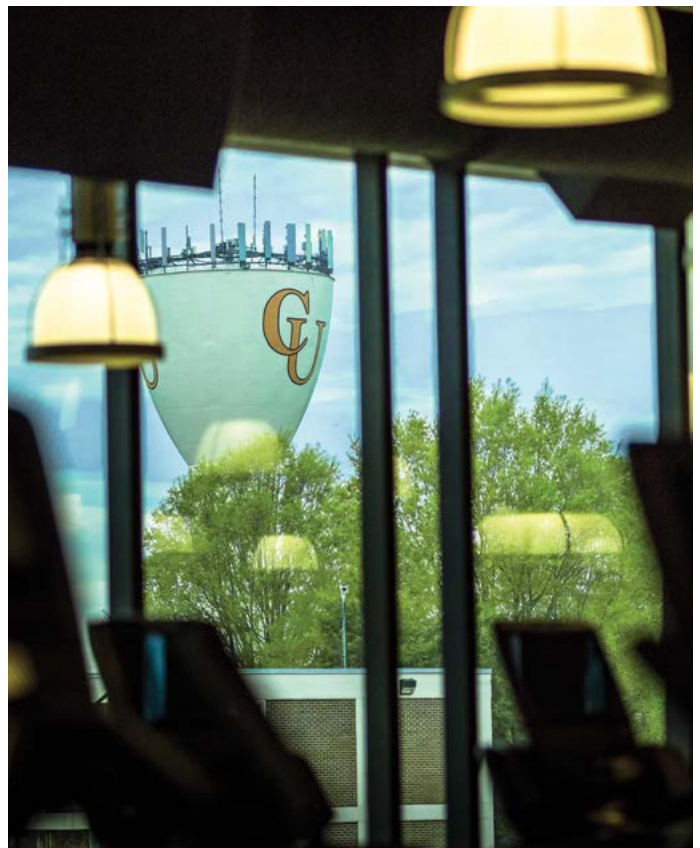
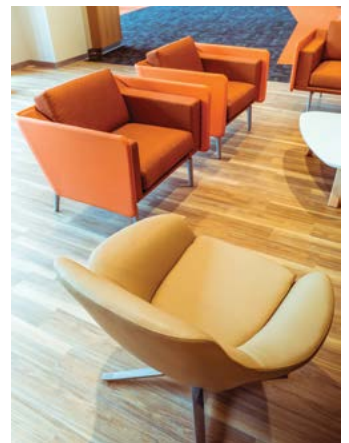




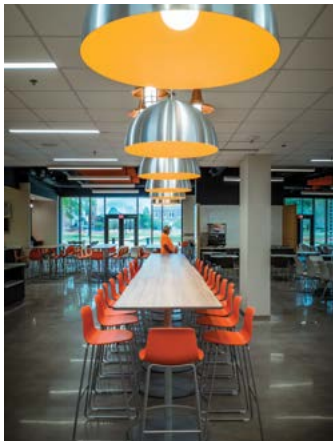












A LEGACY LIVES ON



The student union will bear the name of a man who was a tireless advocate for the college that gave him a chance

By Billy Liggett

Oscar Nathan Harris was in his first year at Campbell College in 1964 when he attended the opening ceremony for Baldwin Hall — one of two residence halls built in the mid-60s in Campbell's Academic Circle (the other Kitchin).

Fifty-six years later, in that same spot where Baldwin and Kitchin once stood, Campbell University would open the doors to a 110,000-square-foot student union — a building many are calling a “transformational” addition to the campus that will provide a much-needed gathering place for students for generations to come.

That building will bear Harris' name — a testament to a man who needed three loans to attend college after his service in the Marines and a man who built a successful career as a certified public accountant, state senator and longtime mayor to the City of Dunn, his alma mater's neighbor to the east. He invited good friend and Campbell vice president for advancement Britt Davis to his office in late December last year and handed over a generous naming gift for the building, five months before its completion.

Harris died suddenly a month later on Jan. 28 at the age of 80. He would never see his name on the building, and he would never see Campbell students enjoy the finished product.

“Oscar Harris loved Campbell University with every fiber of his being,” says Davis. “Two of the greatest honors of my life have been working with Oscar to raise money to construct the Leon Levine Hall Hall of Medical Sciences and working directly with him on the naming gift for the Oscar N. Harris Student Union. It saddens me deeply that Oscar passed on to heaven just weeks after providing this gift.”

Harris was a tireless advocate for his alma mater. The founder and president of his own public accountant firm, Oscar N. Harris & Associates PA, Harris was Dunn's longest-serving mayor, leading the city to two All-America City awards and consistent positive growth. All the while, he saw to it that the growing University down the road had his and his city's support, too. He served multiple terms on Campbell's Board of Trustees and was president of Campbell's alumni association at one time. He was perhaps most proud of his time as chairman of the founders' committee for



Construction on the Oscar N. Harris Student Union ended in April (aside from some interior touches and landscaping), and Campbell University announced the name on May 6 — the same day it introduced the building to the general public through a Facebook Live virtual tour.



a straight-A student and how he worked two jobs while going to school. He did all of this, got married to my mom and had me the whole time he was at Campbell. And he always touted the importance of an education — before he passed, he was telling my boys they need to get their master’s degrees and their doctorates. He was always pushing for higher education.”

Pieces of Harris’ legacy are found in the new building beyond the name outside of it. The information desk is named for his wife, Jean Harris, who preceded her husband in death in 2015. The two-story fitness center, his daughter says, was important to him because he believed in staying healthy and wanted the same opportunity for Campbell students.

Sheila Maness has not seen the finished product, aside from tuning in to a Facebook Live virtual tour on May 6. Even from that 40-minute video, she’s impressed with the building that bears her father’s name. She says he would be impressed, too.

“I don’t think words can describe what it means to us,” she says. “It was just so ... it’s just blowing my mind how big and how extravagant it is. It’s just awesome. Our whole family is very proud of how dad lived his life and carried out his life. I’m very proud that he chose to do this.

“The future students and even alumni can one day come to campus and enjoy it, have fun, fellowship with one another and even exercise. My dad would have loved to see that happen.”

Campbell President J. Bradley Creed says the University is forever indebted to Harris and his family’s generosity. “I cannot think of anyone more deserving of this recognition than Oscar,” says Creed. “His life was a testimony to every good thing that Campbell University stands for in Harnett County, North Carolina and beyond.”

the University’s Jerry M. Wallace School of Osteopathic Medicine, which became North Carolina’s first new medical school in 35 years in August 2013.

“He was so proud of that,” says his daughter Sheila Maness. “He worked so hard trying to get people to believe in the medical school and join him in making Campbell a better place by donating to make it happen. He was so proud of the fact that his alma mater was going to become North Carolina’s first osteopathic medical school. He talked about

it all the time.”

He talked about Campbell in general all the time, says Maness, who followed in her father’s footsteps and graduated from Campbell in 1986. Her son, Eli, earned two degrees from Campbell — a BBA and an MBA from the School of Business.

“He would always tell us how important Campbell was to him, and he would always talk about how he was the school’s first CPA,” Maness says. “He’d tell us about being

AT HOME

Homeschooled students share the benefits (and myths) of their high school experience and how it better prepared them for having to learn remotely during the pandemic

By Kate Stoneburner

Unsocialized. Unqualified. Sheltered. Aaron Schnoor has heard every stereotype there is about homeschool students. But in Aaron's case, 12 years of homeschool education was a springboard for undergraduate success. The junior from Apex is a J.A. Campbell Scholarship recipient on pace to graduate with two degrees in four years. He was vice president of the Student Government Association and a staff writer for the *Campbell Times*. And he credits his successes to the love of learning instilled in him through a homeschool education.

"It was not until college that I ever considered the uniqueness of my education," says Schnoor. "I was homeschooled from preschool until my senior year of high school, so it is only natural that I perceived homeschooling as 'normal.' I was surprised, then, when I began hearing questions from my peers during my freshman year at Campbell."

Did you actually learn anything? Do you have friends? Did you stay in your pajamas all day?

Brianna Fanning can relate.

"The question, 'How did you make friends?' is one of the most popular and frequently asked questions I receive," says the rising sophomore. "Most people struggle to comprehend how in the world kids make friends if they do not attend traditional school, and reasonably so."





So are the myths surrounding homeschoolers' socialization, academic rigor and lack of preparedness well-founded?

According to the National Home Education Research Institute, homeschooled children perform 15- to 30-percent better than public or private school students on standardized tests, regardless of whether or not their homeschooling parent is a certified teacher. Homeschooled children also generally score above the average student on the ACT and SAT.

There are around 2.2 million home-educated children in the United States, but the homeschooled population is growing at a rate of 8 percent each year. Over these last few months, homeschooling has been thrown into the national spotlight as millions of children are sequestered at home rather than learning in traditional classrooms as schools and college campuses around the world shut down from the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The homeschooling world is changing, and people are more receptive now," says Schnoor. "The myth is that homeschoolers never leave the house and are socially inadequate. That's how it's portrayed and that is unfortunately the case for some students."

That wasn't the case for Schnoor and Fanning. Fanning's mother proctored weekly tests and sent her to a testing center for a yearly exam to ensure no one could challenge

her ethics. In high school, she transitioned to Wake Technical Community College and used the college as the primary source for her courses and exams.

"In the world of social media and the internet, homeschoolers are far from living the sequestered and family-focused lifestyle they once endured," Fanning says. "We had access to co-ops, weekly classes with other students in the area, travel team sports, theater troupes and nearly any niche imaginable. I had friends from co-op, softball, volleyball, work, church and Wake Tech that I saw several times a week, many of whom I still see to this day."

Schnoor's parents also sent him to homeschooled co-ops, and he eventually began to travel the country doing speech and debate competitions through the National Christian Forensics Communication Association. He played on a traveling homeschool baseball team, the Wake Warriors, which competed against private and even some public schools in Wake County, and also swam against local students with the Raleigh Seahawks.

Senior admissions counselor Eli Maness has seen homeschooling become more prevalent in recent years. His recruiting "territory" includes all North Carolina private schools and the entire homeschool

Brianna Fanning and Aaron Schnoor both shared their homeschool experience in a *Campbell Times* feature last fall. "Overall, my time in high school was positive, fulfilling and a period of intellectual growth," Fanning wrote. "To some, this might come as a shock. The stereotype of the 'unsocialized homeschooler' is a bit outdated and inaccurate thanks to social media, increased community groups and sports teams, and ever-growing social networks."



Socializing with new friends on campus and getting involved wasn't a problem for Fanning and Schnoor, both of whom were members of the Student Government Association this past academic year (Schnoor was the student body vice president). Both say it's a myth that students who were homeschooled in high school are at an automatic disadvantage socially when they enter college. *Above photo by Bill Parish. Photo below by Jacqueline Reid.*



market—populations with similarities in terms of what their students are looking for in a higher education experience. Many of the students and parents that Maness works with prioritize schools that make space for religious beliefs and give a multitude of options for curriculum.

According to Maness, Campbell may appeal to homeschool students more than larger state schools. The smaller average class size of 20 students and easy access to professors makes for an easier transition. Many homeschoolers also hold faith beliefs that align with Campbell's Christian mission, he says, and the University is one of only five private schools in the state with Level 6 accreditation.

Plus, homeschool students are more likely to come into college with a career plan already formed, and Campbell's graduate schools allow them to pursue both undergraduate and graduate education in one location.

"For many homeschool students, as with traditional students, getting used to campus life is a big adjustment," says Maness. "Particularly if they are not used to sharing resources with others."

Maness can rattle off numerous resources in North Carolina for homeschool families

to give their students a rigorous and socially fulfilling education. Local co-ops like Colonial Homeschoolers in Wake County and national organizations like Classical Conversations provide community. Parents can share resources, rely on each others' degrees and fields of expertise and carpool to extracurricular events — or at least they could, before social distancing measures closed co-ops and gatherings.

With reports of nearly one billion students around the world missing school due to the COVID-19 pandemic, American schools have been shuttered indefinitely and districts are scrambling to offer online learning options. Many parents find themselves in the role of a reluctant homeschooler.

However, this experience differs greatly from typical homeschooling before the shelter-in-era. Many of the resources that families like Aaron's relied upon to homeschool are currently unavailable. Libraries and museums are closed, community classes are canceled, friends are distanced and there are no co-ops meeting to share resources. While far from ideal, this sudden, large-scale experiment in homeschooling and virtual learning may prompt more families to explore education alternatives.

Many who experienced learning at home in high school were quick to adapt the forced remote learning caused by the closure of college campuses across the world.

Michael Williams, a recent graduate of the charter class of the School of Engineering and a homeschool graduate in high school, says that while nobody anticipated the pandemic and the shutdown, he wasn't completely thrown for a loop when it happened.

"I had taken a couple online classes before college, including during my senior year of high school," he says. "And I was used to working on my own time and having regular check-ins with the teacher and fellow students as a homeschooled. Probably the thing that was the most difficult was trying to coordinate and organize my team meetings for differing projects. But Campbell did a good job preparing us for our many teams, and I was very appreciative of the teaming software that we had at our disposal to finish our projects well."

Schnoor says his experience working from home definitely made it easier to finish the last few months of the semester learning remotely.

"So much of homeschooling is learning independently and finding motivation to do well in classes even when a teacher isn't always guiding you," he says. "When Campbell classes went online for the remainder of the semester, I had to find some of that independence and motivation to succeed."

Even before the COVID-19 shutdowns, statewide figures released in July 2019 showed that 20 percent of North Carolina's students are not attending the state's traditional public schools. That percentage is expected to continue rising, as homeschools, private schools and charter schools all continued to add students during the 2018-19 school year while traditional public schools lost children for the fourth year in a row.

The number of North Carolina's 1.8 million K-12 students attending traditional public schools dropped to about 80 percent this year, with 142,000 students attending homeschools. And while 57 percent of homeschools have religious affiliation,

a growing 42 percent of North Carolina homeschools are now independent schools. Perhaps for some families, the growth in resources will change the way students engage in learning.

For Schnoor, the biggest adjustment from homeschool to college wasn't transitioning to larger class sizes or the myriad of extracurricular opportunities, but adjusting to the difference between his and his classmates' attitudes on education in general.

"When I came in as a freshman I assumed everyone would want to be here, to learn, and to go to class every day. To me, Campbell was a great opportunity as well as a natural next step, but I found out that many people have the mindset that college was something to check off a list— their parents were sending them here, so they had to go to classes and had to learn. I had never experienced that. I had never been around people who didn't want to learn."

Schnoor went on to find like-minded students and a friend group that became family. He began writing for the Campbell Times newspaper, and campaigned and won as freshman class president.

"I would definitely homeschool my kids in the future. I would make sure they got out of the house, met people and had social activities like I did, but I want the hands-on experience of sharing an eagerness to learn with them."

Michael Williams, a Class of 2020 engineering graduate, says being homeschooled was probably the best track for him in his early education. "I am typically identified as pretty introverted, so one-on-one education with either of my parents or small class settings was definitely ideal." Photo by Bill Parish





BOYS

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YouTube megastars Rhett & Link paid homage to their childhoods in Buies Creek with a bestselling novel and a three-part homecoming documentary viewed by millions

By Billy Liggett

This is the scene of the most scandalous thing we ever did as kids, Rhett McLaughlin says to the camera, the J.A. Campbell building framed behind him on a brutally hot morning in July.

As always, Rhett is standing next to Link Neal, his best friend since Sept. 4, 1984 — the day the two met on the first day of first grade at Buies Creek Elementary. It's nearly 35 years later, and the duo — known to the world as just *Rhett & Link* — are two of the most viewed and most celebrated YouTube “intertainers” out there. Their *Good Mythical Morning* channel has more than 16 million subscribers, and their videos have earned more than 6 billion views. Their two books have both appeared on the *New York Times* Bestsellers List.

It's the most recent book — *The Lost Causes of Bleak Creek*, a fictional adventure/thriller inspired by their childhoods in Buies Creek — that has brought them to their old stomping grounds (and the site of their “scandalous act”) on this day. Visits to the homes they grew up in, the Cape Fear River, Buies Creek Cemetery, what they think is their giant tree and, of course, Campbell University make up a three-part Youtube mini-documentary promoting Bleak Creek, which has been described as “*Stranger Things* meets the South.”

In the book, *Rex* and *Leif* — best friends entering their freshman year of high school in a rural North Carolina town (sound familiar?) — set off their own scandal while filming their low-budget horror masterpiece, “PolterDog.” In real life, back in 1992, it was bored teenage Rhett and Link discovering they could access the roof of the J.A. Campbell building and toss rocks from that roof onto cars passing by on Main Street.

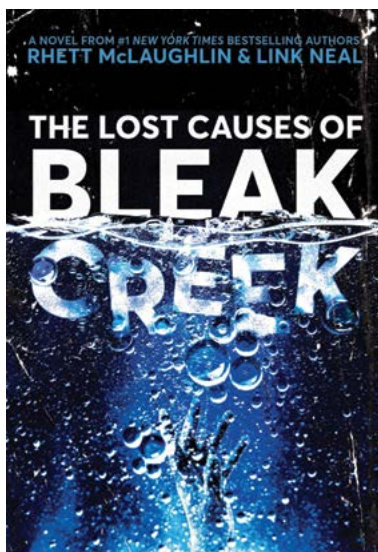
“We did not make contact with any of those cars,” Link recalls in the documentary.

“I mean, I was trying like crazy,” Rhett adds. “But I wasn’t able to make contact.”

The boys were caught and brought before then-Vice President for Business Leonard Johnson, who promptly called Rhett’s father, recently retired law professor James McLaughlin. Rhett’s parents grounded him. Link’s mother followed suit.

Back to July, and Rhett, Link and their Mythical camera crew are in the stairwell, looking up at the hatch they climbed through decades ago and giddy at the chance to do it again. Only, this time, there’s a padlock barring them from recreating the scene.

Link turns to the camera. “I’m going to take full credit for that lock being up there.”



PRAISE FOR 'BLEAK CREEK'

"I cannot think of a more exciting novel to read — and share with my sons. Thank you, Rhett & Link, for this gem about friendship, courage and adventure, which is touched by your humor, wit and intelligence with each twist and turn."

— **Mayim Bialik**, actress on *The Big Bang Theory* and *Blossom* and author of *Boying Up*

It's 1992 in Bleak Creek, North Carolina — a sleepy little place with all the trappings of an ordinary Southern town: two Baptist churches, friendly smiles coupled with silent judgments, and an unquenchable appetite for pork products.

This opening sentence from the book jacket description of *The Lost Causes of Bleak Creek* could also stand in for a description of Buies Creek, North Carolina (in fact, "Buies Creek" was the name of the fictional town, too, in the first transcript of the book). Of course, it's not by accident — the town has served as an inspiration for much of their body of work over the last 10-plus years. In 2009, they filmed an award-winning documentary, *Looking for Mrs. Locklear*, chronicling the search for their first-grade teacher (a film that unintentionally revealed the struggle of the Lumbee Indians). Their first book, *The Book of Mythicality*, shared the story of their childhood and the early friendship.

In *Bleak Creek*, the town acts as a supporting character. Its unspoken rules and strict moral code serve as the antagonists to Rex and Leif's curiosity and desire to break free from their small town shackles. For those familiar with Buies Creek and nearby Lillington, descriptions of the two Baptist churches, the pizza shop, the auto parts

store, the coin laundry business and even Cate's Christmas Cave (a "living testament to Bleak Creekians' year-round appetite for celebrating Jesus' birthday) all have a tongue-in-cheek familiar feel.

According to Link, the churches and stores, as well as the fabric of the "small-town South" they remembered growing up in Buies Creek, contributed significantly to the Bleak Creek described in the book. But he adds that Bleak Creek isn't exactly Buies Creek. For example, Buies Creek was never home to a Whitewood School — the book's mysterious boarding school where bad kids are sent and brainwashed to adhere to that moral code ... or else. And no, Whitewood wasn't based on Campbell University either (we asked).

"The reform school in our story was loosely inspired by what was called the 'Alternative School,' a day school for kids who had crossed one too many lines," Link says. "Of course, that school was nothing like the Whitewood School of Bleak Creek, which was more like a prison for kids. We wanted something to represent the lofty (and often unrealistic) standards that adults sometimes apply to kids, and an over-the-top reform school that strips kids of

their last vestiges of individuality seemed like the perfect solution. Thankfully, there was nothing like that in Buies Creek.”

Some locations in the book, however, *were* lifted straight from their childhoods. The pizza place where Rex and Leif frequent in Bleak Creek is based on the real L'il Dino's from Buies Creek lore. The Cape Fear River (name unchanged) plays an important role, as does a giant tree that served as their preferred meeting place as kids.

Rhett & Link revisited some of those places in their three-part YouTube documentary—the third video taking them to the Cape Fear to find their “conversation rocks” and the giant tree where the two of them and their childhood friend Ben (who died recently and has a character named after him in the book) would meet and attempt to touch hands while wrapping their arms around its giant trunk. While both have been home several times since moving to Burbank, California, to run their Mythical entertainment company and lifestyle brand, the videos marked the first time in over a decade the two returned together with “nostalgia” in mind.

Rhett says he was struck by how much Buies Creek had changed, yet remained the same, after all those years. The biggest change, he says, was Campbell University (they are



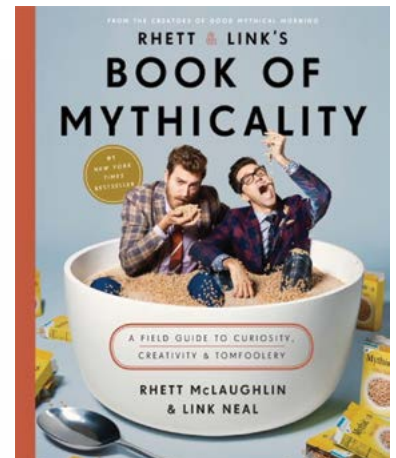
amazed by the construction of the student union and the campus’ two traffic circles in one video).

“However, as soon as you drive off campus onto a country road, it feels just like it did when we were kids riding our bikes past those endless fields,” Rhett says, adding that the trip made him think a lot about how much different his childhood was than his own kids.

“We tend to think that it’s actually less about where we live now and more about the time we live in,” he says. “In all our driving around Buies Creek for a week during the middle of summer, we saw almost no kids out playing, riding bikes, fishing, exploring or doing any of the stuff that used to keep us busy. Not to sound like a couple of old curmudgeons saying, ‘Now back in my day ...’ but we were surprised to see no kids creating their own fun outside.”

THE YOUTUBE DOC

Rhett McLaughlin and Link Neal returned to Buies Creek last summer to film a three-part YouTube docu-series on their hometown and how it inspired the setting for their novel, *The Lost Causes of Bleak Creek*, released last fall. All three videos can be found on their hit Good Mythical Morning YouTube channel, which has more than 16 million subscribers. Image: YouTube.com



THE FIRST BOOK

Rhett & Link's Book of Mythicality | A Field Guide to Curiosity, Creativity & Tomfoolery, can be found online where books are sold. Like *Bleak Creek*, the *Book of Mythicality* was a *New York Times* Bestseller.



Rhett & Link describe their book as a more mature Hardy Boys novel. There's humor in it. There's a bit of nostalgia and campiness to it. But there's also a dramatic, thrilling and even dark side to *The Lost Causes of Bleak Creek*.

"This isn't a children's book," Rhett said back in November during an episode of their popular Ear Biscuits podcast. "It's a lot like anything else we do. Can my [16-year-old] son read it? Yeah ... there's some stuff with a little color to it, but he can take it. Anybody in high school can read it. If you grew up in the 90s, there's stuff in it for you. We go way beyond Jean-Claude Van Damme *Kickboxer* and other 90s references."

The duo's reach helped boost the book to No. 13 on the *New York Times*' Bestseller List for combined print and e-book fiction in mid-November, just behind Stephen King's *Doctor Sleep*. The book — combined with the more than 6 million views their three-part YouTube series filmed locally produced — has given more exposure to their hometown (and to a smaller extent, Campbell University) than any marketing firm could dream up.

On top of that, it's positive exposure. Rhett & Link's affinity for their childhood and the town where it all happened comes through in their work. Even when strict moral codes and lack of good restaurants are tossed in as part of the story, their appreciation of Buies Creek shines through.

"We wanted to make something where the South was a character. We always assumed it would be a film, but our agent asked us to consider starting with a novel," Rhett added. "Rex and Leif are very much based on Rhett and Link, but they're also different in many ways. I think the most fun aspect about all of this, for me, was pulling on the things that are actually true about us and were true about us and taking them to completely crazy places, because it's a novel. It was a crazy exercise."

Standing in the woods amongst tall pine trees and fat oak trees in an undisclosed location near the Cape Fear River, Rhett & Link recalled a blood oath they signed near that same location when they were 15 (another childhood memory used in the book). Neither of them can find the red-stained document today, but they remember the gist of their promise.

"We found a sharp rock," Rhett said, "cut our palms and put it down on a sheet of paper that



we were going to do something great. And do it together."

"I think for many years, I was looking for an opportunity to come back here and do what we did," Link said, squinting up at the trees surrounding them. "Go swimming in the river. Go back to the rocks. I think I can continue now. I can move forward in our friendship. It's like a renewal of our vows."

TANDEM CAMEL RIDE

Rhett McLaughlin and Link Neal visited Campbell University's main campus last summer to reminisce about their old stomping grounds as children for their three-part YouTube documentary shared in November. What didn't make the video was a demonstration in how not to ride a camel in tandem on the bronze statue in front of the convocation center. Photo by Billy Liggett



THE STORY OF RHETT & LINK

First-grader Rhett McLaughlin met his classmate and to-be lifelong friend, Link Neal, in 1984 at Buies Creek Elementary School when the two were held in from recess for writing "hel" and "dam" on their desks, misspelled. They spent the time coloring pictures of mythical beasts. Little did they know that the incident would define the course of their lives. Even as children, they applied their creativity by performing skits and "interviewing" each other as different characters. At 14, they wrote a screenplay entitled *Gutless Wonders* and began its film production. However, they shot only a few scenes and the film was left unfinished. In 1999, Rhett wrote "The Tragedy," which recorded in detail the events surrounding a snowboarding accident that left Link with a broken pelvis and a month's worth of memory loss. They also started a band called "Wax Paper Dogz" in which they were both lead singers until Rhett learned to play the guitar. They have many shared experiences together throughout the years, including their "first job", camping trips, exploring the Cape Fear River, multiple near-death experiences, and having the same first and second girlfriends, Leslie and Amber. — *Rhett & Link Wiki*



Photo by Lissa Gotwals

JOHN ARROYO ('13)

Survival Story

John Arroyo was shot in the neck and left for dead in the 2014 mass shooting at Fort Hood Army Base. He details his experience, his recovery and his faith in a new book.

Standing by the front of my vehicle, I unexpectedly heard gunfire and instinctively ducked, thinking, "All of the Taliban and Al Qaeda fighters have been cleared from the base, and ISIS is nowhere near us. So who could be shooting?" Then I remembered that I was at Fort Hood, Texas, and no longer in Afghanistan or Iraq. It was April 2, 2014.

I noticed an enlisted soldier sitting in a parked car 15 feet away. I assumed he was trying to determine from which direction the gunshots were coming. Suddenly, he raised his .45 caliber Smith & Wesson M&P pistol and fired it point-blank into my face.

— Excerpt from Capt. John Arroyo's book, *'Attacked at Home'*

John Arroyo had escaped poverty as a child growing up outside of Los Angeles and gang life as a teenager when he enlisted in the U.S. Army after high school. He rebounded from initial rejection to become a member of the Army's Special Forces (the Green Berets) — his first assessment coming just a day before the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. He then made it through multiple deployments to Afghanistan and Iraq before returning home to earn a college degree and begin his military career in his homeland.

His life up to April 2, 2014, was about survival ... often in hostile environments. But on that day, in the safe confines of a military base in Texas, Arroyo was one of 16 men and women injured in a mass shooting by an Army specialist who then took his own life eight minutes later. Three others were killed in the shooting.

Arroyo was shot at point-blank range, the bullet hitting him in the neck at a 45-degree angle, missing his vocal chords by mere centimeters before ripping

through his right shoulder and stopping in his shoulder blade. While the shot miraculously missed every vital artery in his neck, it did considerable damage to his nerves in his right shoulder. Rehabilitation would take years, and to this day, Arroyo still doesn't have full use of his right arm, and his voice isn't as strong as it once was.

When Arroyo, today an Army captain living in San Antonio, sat down to begin chronicling his experience for a book, he couldn't shake the irony. Fort Hood, for him, marked a new beginning. Home with his family. For once, safety and certainty.

"When I was shot, every bit of that certainty went out the window," says Arroyo, who titled his book, *Attacked at Home*, to highlight the irony. "I was going to work for the next 25 years, retire and enjoy the rest of my life just like anybody else. Going from that to not knowing if you're going to make it another minute, it changes your perspective. It changes your life."

Attacked at Home — available on Amazon — dedicates an entire chapter to that fateful day in April 2014. But the heart of the book is what happened after it. Arroyo's relationship with his family grew stronger, as did his relationship with God.

"God is all through this book," he says. "He's on the cover — the gold writing represents the moment I saw the light — and ultimately, that's what I hope this book does ... draw people to the light."

Two voices are loudest in *Attacked at Home* — John Arroyo and his wife, Angel. He says the book is their effort to offer a shared experience. They both write about growing up. They both offer their point of view on John's deployments. He writes about returning home, and she writes about living with a Green Beret.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

UPDATE YOUR INFO

The Campbell University Alumni Association wants to keep you up-to-date on Campbell news, events and alumni programming. But information changes quickly — and we need your help! If your email address, mailing address or name has changed, please visit alumni.campbell.edu/update to submit your current information.

1970s

JACK TAYLOR ('70) was presented with the Department of Defense's 50-year Commemoration of the Vietnam War certificate by the Friends of Rocky Versace Vietnam Veterans organization in Alexandria, Virginia, in September. Taylor served in the Army's Military Police in Saigon and made sergeant in less than 12 months. He earned a Bronze Star for Meritorious Service in his 19 months in the military.



BARBARA FOXX ('78) was among eight people inducted into the North Carolina High School Athletic

Association's Hall of Fame in April. Foxx was an exceptional volleyball, women's basketball and softball coach at Pinecrest High School in Southern Pines from 1978 until her retirement in 2017. During 38 seasons as the head volleyball coach, Foxx's teams captured two state titles, one in 1988 and the other in 1992. She led the Patriots program to 726 wins in her tenure, putting her in the top 10 for head coaching wins in NCHSAA history. Foxx also led the women's basketball team from 1993 until 2002. She was selected as one of the NCHSAA's 100 Coaches to remember during the NCHSAA's Centennial Celebration in 2013. She was a three-time varsity letter winner at Campbell University. Upon her retirement from Pinecrest, the school named the auxiliary gymnasium in her honor in 2018.

ALUMNI NOTES

RONALD BROOKS ('81) was inducted into the 2019 class of the Northwood High School Athletics Hall of Fame in Pittsboro. Brooks graduated from Northwood in 1977 and finished his college baseball career at Campbell, where he hit .375 during his senior year.



JUDGE ROBERT RADER ('85 LAW) received the Patriot Award from the Office of the U.S. Secretary of

Defense's Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. Rader is the chief district court judge for the 10th Judicial District in Wake County. The Patriot Award was given to Rader for his contributions to national security and protecting liberty and freedom by supporting employee participation in the U.S. National Guard and Reserve force.



CHIEF DISTRICT COURT JUDGE ROBERT STIEHL ('85 LAW) retired in January after 30-plus years as a

district court judge and county prosecutor in Fayetteville.

LES ROBINSON ('86 LAW) of the Robinson Law Firm in Greenville was recognized as a 2020 Super Lawyer, the sixth consecutive year he has received the honor. With more than 32 years of experience and having taken more than 3,500 cases to trial, Robinson has established himself as a seasoned attorney.

HOYT TESSENER ('88 LAW), an attorney-shareholder at Law Offices of James Scott Farrin, was appointed by North Carolina Speaker of the House Tim Moore to serve on the Governor's Crime Commission — an honor entrusted only to a select handful of individuals. Tessener currently serves as chair of the Campbell Law Board of Visitors and is an adjunct professor who teaches jury selection at Campbell Law. One of Tessener's goals during his appointment on the GCC is to explore solutions other than incarceration.

"The two perspectives are important to this story," he says. "It's our shared journey. Not everything was perfect in our lives, but we know where to turn now when things are rocky, and for both of us, that bonding substance is Christ. This book is a resource people can read and see how we made it to the other side. How we made it to the light."

Arroyo doesn't pull any punches or spare any details when writing about the shooting.

In eight minutes, Ivan A. Lopez fired 35 rounds at his fellow troops on that day, killing three unarmed soldiers and wounding 16, Arroyo included. The 34-year-old Army specialist drove his car to three buildings that day — including his transportation unit's headquarters and another office where he worked — shooting in each building. He also fired at soldiers on the street, in passenger cars and in a parking lot. He put the gun to his head and took his life after a short confrontation with a military police officer while Arroyo was en route to the hospital in the back of a truck surrounded by his fellow soldiers grabbing at his throat to stop the bleeding.

His doctors would tell him that it was uncertain whether he'd ever speak again, much less come close where he's at today (Arroyo has spoken about his experience at many assemblies, including a Connections event at Campbell University in 2015).

He underwent five surgeries on his throat in the weeks following the shooting, and seven months later, doctors performed a 12-hour nerve graft surgery on his shoulder.

The scars on his neck, near where the top button on most shirts would sit, will always be there, and the way it has healed prevents him from completely looking up by bending his neck back. And to this day, he still does not have full use of his right arm. But overall, his healing baffled his doctors — "they told me it defied medical explanation," Arroyo said.

"I've talked about that day countless times already, but the book goes beyond those speeches or interviews, because I had a lot more time to take the time and explain it," Arroyo said. "And the reason it's so detailed is because you need to read that to understand where I am today.

"It's also a part of my healing process. The more I share, the more I heal. It's like when you speak with a counselor ... verbalizing my experience has helped me. Sure, writing it down brought back some very scary, very vivid moments in my life — and I probably had anxiety in some instances about what I was sharing. But in the end, this is what I needed to do."



Capt. John Arroyo visited his alma mater back in 2015 to share his experience and his testimony at a Campbell Connections assembly in D. Rich. Above, Arroyo showed the scarring in his neck from the point-blank shot he took from a shooter in Fort Hood Texas just one year prior. Today, Arroyo continues to speak and minister to students, fellow soldiers and other wounded warriors throughout the country. Photo by Lissa Gotwals

Arroyo retired from the Army as a captain November 2018, and since that time, he's been working with the Dave Roeber Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to supporting public education, the military and assistance to wounded warriors. Roeber — a veteran of the Vietnam War who eight months into his tour of duty was burned beyond recognition after a phosphorus grenade he was poised to throw exploded in his hand — has served as a mentor for Arroyo, encouraging him to not only share his story, but share the Gospel as well.

"Dave was mentored by Billy Graham, and what Billy Graham did for him, Dave is doing for me," Arroyo said. "He's encouraged me to speak openly about what Christ has done in my life. People invite me to their venues and to their churches because of what happened to me, but then my message comes in like a Trojan horse. Ultimately, I'm coming with Christ, and I hope I can leave them with a message of encouragement and resiliency."



From left, Marsha McCoy, J. Bradley Creed, Thomas Keith, Heather Massengill, M. Dwaine Greene, William Franklin and Sarah Swain.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

Keith, Greene, Massengill have all given back to Campbell through leadership roles

Campbell University welcomed three new members to its exclusive group of Distinguished Alumni last fall, celebrating three alumni who exemplify Campbell's mission of outstanding leadership and service.

Thomas J. Keith ('64)

Thomas J. Keith's legacy as a leader within the realm of business is well earned. Keith, who has over 40 years of experience in real estate appraisal and business management, has created and maintained a family-owned business, Tom J. Keith & Associates, that has served individuals, companies and governments for decades. Keith is an active alumnus of Campbell University and has served in various leadership capacities since graduating, including the Presidential Board of Advisors and the Board of Trustees, the latter serving as chairman of the board.

M. Dwaine Greene ('79)

After graduating from Campbell, where he studied religion, M. Dwaine Greene received his Master of Arts in New Testament at Wake Forest University and a Ph.D in New Testament and early Christianity from the University of Virginia. Greene holds a

storied and successful career in higher education and has served in leadership roles at four different colleges and universities, including Campbell. Over the course of his career, Greene has held the titles of professor, department chair, provost and university president — most recently president of Georgetown College. Greene is also author of several scholarly publications and has maintained numerous professional involvements in higher education.

Heather S. Massengill ('99 MBA, '00 PharmD)

Heather S. Massengill serves as the director of external engagement at GlaxoSmithKline, where she helps develop medical strategies and supports change management, communications and business processes related to the execution of those initiatives. Massengill has also been an active part of the Campbell community in a variety of roles. From 2006 to 2013, she served on the School of Pharmacy Alumni Board of Directors, and in 2017, the Alumni Board of Directors. Massengill continues to show her love for Campbell in a variety of ways, such as hosting student dinners in her home, serving as a guest lecturer and participating in the pilot peer mentor program.

1990s



DARRIN JORDAN ('90 LAW) of Salisbury was sworn in as vice president of the North Carolina State

Bar in November, making him the first state bar officer from Rowan County. Jordan, a partner of Whitley Jordan & Inge PA, has served on the State Bar council as a representative of the Rowan County Bar for nine years. He moved up the ranks to serve as chairman of a few committees. "It's exciting because we do a lot toward trying to enhance the practice of law and a lot to make sure that we keep within our mission in protecting the general public so that they have attorneys who are qualified and ethical in handling their cases," Jordan told the *Salisbury Post*.



Photo by Bennett Scarborough

ALUMNI NETWORKS

Staying connected

New networks are popping up all over the region, allowing Campbell alums to stay in touch

Meredith Clark ('17) is quick to tell you that her love for Campbell University "runs deep."

When looking back over her on-campus involvement during her time as a student, it is no surprise that Clark feels so connected to her alma mater. Student Government, Alpha Delta Pi sorority, Marketing Club and the Student Alumni Association are just a few of the organizations Clark participated in as a student.

She also worked for the School of Business and the International Admissions office, providing her with work experience while also enabling her to show her passion for Campbell to incoming students.

Moreover, Campbell is a family affair for Clark — the daughter of two Campbell alumni and the sister of a current Campbell senior, Clark feels a connection to Campbell that she says informs much of who she is today. Now a resident of Wilmington, Clark joined BB&T Scott & Stringfellow in August. She says she's enjoying her new city and its proximity to the beach.

Starting her career in a new city was intimidating at first — "You're adjusting to your new life, your new job, and trying to find yourself," she says.

But she was able to bring a piece of Campbell with her by joining the newly launched Alumni Network in Wilmington, which started back in January. Clark says she thinks networks like hers will be beneficial, because they allow her to meet fellow Campbell alumni in the area and continue to keep in touch with the school that shaped so much of who she is.

"Campbell really connects you with people, no matter what part of the world you're in." Clark says, "and I'm so excited to meet new people in my area."



ALUMNI NETWORKS

Networks serve alumni by providing impactful opportunities to connect with each other through social, professional, service and sporting events in their local communities. Campbell currently has 11 chapters: Atlanta, Ga., Austin, Tx., Cape Fear, Central Virginia, Charlotte, Foothills, Harnett County, Johnston County, Rocky Mount/Wilson, Triangle and Washington, D.C.

ALUMNI.CAMPBELL.EDU

RICHARD CARDEN ('18)

When Richard Carden ('18) moved to Winston-Salem after graduation, he admits he did not know much about the city. While excited to accept a position as a fiduciary administrator at Wells Fargo, he says acclimating to the new city was a process, one that many new graduates encounter when transitioning from college to post-graduation life.



CHRIS MILLER ('97 LAW)

was named interim vice president for student affairs and dean of students

at Clemson University in October. Prior to joining Clemson, Miller served as vice president for student affairs at Marquette University in Milwaukee from 2008-2015. He also held leadership roles in student affairs at the University of Illinois-Springfield, Arizona State University and South Dakota State University.

ERIN TAYLOR ('99 LAW)

was appointed to the North Carolina Industrial Commission to be a deputy workers' compensation commissioner. Taylor is a partner at Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog in Charlotte.

2000s



ANNE MARIE BEATY ('00 PHARM)

was awarded the Meritorious Civilian Service Medal and was named

Fort Bragg's 2019 Supervisor of the Year.



BOBBI HARRIS ('00, '13 MBA)

founder and CEO of Smart Water Smart City LLC, was named to the National

Small Business Association Leadership Council in March. Harris is a globally recognized utility communications and smart city industry expert and a leader in the small-business community.

TINA STROUPE ('02) was named finance director for the Town of Siler City in November. Stroupe has more than nine years of professional experience in the public sector. Previously, she served as the accounting and finance manager for the Town of Holly Springs.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

ALUMNI NOTES

BILL PATE ('04 LAW, MBA) won his first election as the top vote-getter in the Southern Pines town council race in November. He is currently serving his second term on the town's Planning Board. Pate works in private legal practice in partnership with his father, serving clients with estate planning, trusts and administration.



WILBUR WELCOME ('07 MBA) was appointed to deputy chief officer with the responsibility

of agriculture, lands and administration, within the Ministry of Education, Youth, Sports, Agriculture and Lands in the Cayman Islands. A former senior policy analyst and expert in financial services, policymaking, legislation development and implementation; Welcome is an alumnus of the Chamber of Commerce Leadership Cayman program and is a 2018 Young Cayman Leadership Awards finalist.

2010s



BRYCE KENNY ('10) was named the *Gwinnett Daily Post's* Monster Jam Driver of the Week in February.

A former soccer player at Campbell University, the Kernersville native began competing in monster truck events in 2016, driving the Mohawk Warrior, one of the most accomplished trucks in the industry.



BRITTANY MIDYETTE ('10 MBA) was named to *Triad Business Journal's* 40 Under 40 Class of 2020

in February. Midyette is the vice president and portfolio manager at Bank of America Private Bank.



As an undergraduate student, Carden was heavily involved in the Campbell community, participating in the Camel Crazies, Phi Beta Sigma fraternity, the First Year Experience Peer Mentorship program, intramural sports and serving as an ambassador for Campbell's admissions office. His involvement and positive experiences at Campbell led to a desire to maintain his strong connection with his alma mater.

Carden has been able to maintain his connection due to his participation in alumni events and programs, including the recently launched alumni networks. In addition to maintaining his connection, Carden also says his involvement as an alumnus has made his personal transition to life in Winston-Salem significantly easier.

"Staying involved as an alumnus makes the transition to a new city more seamless" Carden says. "You are quickly connected with new friends that share a common love for their alma mater."

Carden also says Alumni Networks are important when it comes to professional endeavors.

"The Alumni Networks excite me because ... they can be an open place for discussion, networking and events," Carden says. "Having the network will allow new alumni to quickly meet people when they move to a new town, which will also help them acclimate to their new city."



RICHARD CARDEN ('18) and **MEGAN SABATINO ('19)** have both turned to alumni networks to connect with other Campbell University alumni since graduation. Carden works in Winston-Salem, and Sabatino earned her first job in Charlotte.

MEGAN SABATINO ('19)

When Megan Sabatino ('19) took a job in Charlotte, she knew the city would be full of new opportunities for the recent graduate. While she was excited to embrace fresh experiences in a new city, she also recognized the importance of staying connected to the relationships she had made during college.

Sabatino was also involved during her time at Campbell, working as a student worker for the offices of Annual Giving, Alumni Engagement and Admissions. In addition to her on campus jobs, she made lifelong friendships with her sisters in Sigma Alpha Omega and showed her school pride by attending football and basketball games, which she says were the backdrop for many of her fondest Campbell memories.

Even now, hours away from Campbell's main campus, Sabatino is looking forward to maintaining her connection to her alma mater through the newly introduced Alumni Networks.

"Charlotte is a huge city," Sabatino says. "I'm excited to be able to gather together at Campbell events and network with people I may not already know in the Charlotte area."

While Sabatino says that she believes networks are beneficial for all alumni, she underscores the importance of the networks for young alumni specifically, based on her own experiences.

"They are also beneficial from a professional standpoint," she says. "It's always important to make those connections to potentially utilize in the future."

LEAH TRIPP



PLAN TO GIVE

Join the Wiggins Society

Through the *Campbell Leads* campaign, we seek support to provide opportunities for students at Campbell University. Learn more about planned giving at campaign.campbell.edu/how-to-give/

Her life as a wife, mother, librarian and teacher took an abrupt turn when Bobbie Redding enrolled in Campbell Law School in her late 40s. The road there hadn't been easy, nor was the journey a solitary one as she often leaned on her classmates, professors and faculty to resume the role of "student" she had left behind some 25 years before.

Redding grew up on a small farm in rural North Carolina where she learned that people of all walks of life had value and purpose. Her curiosity and adventurous spirit led her to meet a variety of people and turned her curiosity about cultures all over the world into a life-long passion to travel. Mark Twain wrote: "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry and narrow-mindedness ... Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the earth all one's lifetime."

Redding exemplified this belief.

She graduated from Campbell Law at 50 and worked at Legal Aid in Fayetteville, helping those who couldn't afford to pay for legal assistance. Two years later, she moved to Cumberland County Department of Social Services and was the first full-time attorney in the state to provide legal representation to the social workers in the adult services area. Her role expanded to cover children and adults who were abused, neglected and exploited. She retired 30 years later in 2019 as the assistant director for legal services.

For many years, Redding was a member of and served on the Board of the N.C. Guardianship Association. She also taught legal aspects for adult service social workers across the state with the state program educator. Her dedication to the elderly was recognized in 2016 when Redding received the George L. Maddox Award for "Excelling in Creative Programming for Older North Carolinians." It was the first time the award had been given to a DSS employee.

Redding gives Campbell Law credit for much of her success. Being a "mature" student, she found the staff and faculty very supportive and helpful. Her Campbell peers have also supported her through her career — including Talmadge Baggett, who encouraged her to apply for the CCDSS position and was later a district court judge. She joined David Kennedy, another Campbell Law alumnus who was already at CCDSS.

As the demands on the legal unit at CCDSS increased significantly, another Campbell Law graduate, The Hon. Judge Robert J. Stiehl III (now retired) was helpful in meeting the court challenges. And when Redding retired, her successor was another Campbell Law graduate, Christopher Carr.

Redding has chosen to say "Thank you" to Campbell Law in a tangible way, by creating a scholarship. She hopes other Campbell Law graduates will find ways to help the underserved members of our communities.

After all, everyone has value and purpose.



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CAMPBELL
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RISING CREEK | VERTICAL ENTERTAINMENT

BETHANY ANNE LIND ('04)

Bethany Anne Lind as Leigh in the critically acclaimed "Blood on Her Name," the Campbell alumna's first leading role in a film.

In the lead

Actress shines in first leading role, a critically acclaimed thriller

She has that “wife of a preacher” look, but there’s a mystery about Bethany Anne Lind ('04) that keeps landing her darker roles in some of television’s biggest hits.

From brief appearances on “The Walking Dead” and “Stranger Things” to recurring roles in other hits like Netflix’s “Ozark,” Hulu’s “Reprisal,” and AMC’s “TURN: Washington’s Spies,” Lind has killed and been killed [on screen, of course] often in her young acting career.

That experience was put to good use in the Campbell grad’s first leading role — the critically acclaimed independent film, “Blood on Her Name,” which earned the coveted title of “Certified Fresh” on the film review site RottenTomatoes in February.

The film begins with Lind’s character (Leigh, a mechanic and daughter of the county’s sheriff) holding a bloody wrench and standing over the dead body of a man in



Bethany Anne Lind ('04) shown above in a scene from the Hulu series, *Reprisal*, joined Campbell University's *Rhymes With Orange* podcast recently to talk about her recent roles, including her starring role in the acclaimed independent film, *Blood on Her Name*.

her auto shop — and (no spoilers) it all goes terrifically downhill from there.

Lind, a native of High Point, said she was thrilled to take on the lead in the drama

after a career of supporting roles.

“A lot of us out here are regular working actors,” said Lind, who lives in Atlanta with husband, fellow actor and Campbell



A 2003 Pine Burr Yearbook photo shows Bethany Anne Lind (right) with future husband (and fellow actor) Eric Mendenhall in a scene from *Hamlet* on the Campbell University stage.

graduate Eric Mendenhall. “And it’s great to be one. But I think a lot of people think actors are always waiting to be ‘discovered,’ and once that happens, your life is smooth sailing. That’s not how it goes for most of us. It’s a role here and a role there, and hopefully that leads to something more exciting and more challenging.”

Lind got her start on the Campbell University stage, acting all four years during her time in Buies Creek, and went on to appear in regional theater productions in Fayetteville and Raleigh before heading south to Atlanta.

Her first film break came in 2011’s “Mean Girls 2,” and she appeared in several shows (including the aforementioned mega-hits “Stranger Things” and “The Walking Dead”) and independent films before landing the role of the pregnant preacher’s wife in the Jason Bateman hit “Ozark.”

More recently, she appeared as Violet’s mother in “Doctor Sleep,” the sequel to the Stephen King classic “The Shining.”

She credits her success to her education at Campbell, where for all four years she was able to take part in a variety of roles, from teenager to elderly woman. And it was advice she received from associate professor of theatre arts Georgia Martin about “digging deep” that she says helped her develop these “sweet, yet mysterious” characters she’s known for today.

“I remember her telling me, ‘Bethany, you have this strength underneath,’” Lind recalls. “She said I was ‘sweet looking,’ and my voice was much higher at the time. And she told me, ‘If you can find a way



Lind as a sophomore at Campbell University in 2002.

to dig into the underbelly of that strength you have, that’ll help you.’ So I always just try to find that — even if I’m playing a surface-level sweet character — I try to find something deeper, and that’s where some of these characters are coming from now.”

Her performance in “Blood on Her Name” has put Lind front and center in not only the poster and marketing for the film, but in the national reviews as well.

Variety said she played the lead role “with exceptionally compelling and emotionally precise skill,” while the *New York Times* said she delivered an “impressive, high-anxiety performance.”

The Los Angeles Times called her performance “excellent” and “terrific throughout,” and the *Hollywood Reporter* called Lind’s performance “compelling” as she “navigated the emotional minefield” of the lead character.

BILLY LIGGETT

“*Blood on Her Name*” is currently available to rent or buy on Amazon Prime Video and to rent on Google Play, Youtube and Vudu.

JUSTIN ALLRED ('11) was named head football coach at Jordan High School in Durham in March. He was previously the offensive coordinator at J.H. Rose High School in Greenville, where he helped lead the school to the NCHSAA 4A state championship game.

DAVID BISHOP ('12) launched the Christian Constitutional Society in Maryland in November.



SHELLEY HUSSELL ('13 TRUST) was named vice president and regional trust officer at City National Bank

in Charleston, West Virginia. Husnell spent 11 years in wealth management and business development roles at BB&T and United Bank. She serves on the Charleston Estate Planning Council and the West Virginia State Bar Probate Committee, and she is a volunteer classroom reader for Read Aloud West Virginia.

ANDREA MATT VAN TRIGT ('13 LAW) was named a partner of Murchison, Taylor & Gibson PLLC in February. Van Trigt, who joined the firm in 2015, focuses her practice on real estate matters, including sale, acquisition, financing and real estate-related litigation.



BRITTANY NEWSOME ('14 LAW) joined San Diego-based TerraPro Solutions as in-house title counsel

in February. Newsome was previously vice president and state underwriting counsel for the Chicago Title Insurance Company. TerraPro is a leading renewable energy project development consultancy.

JOE STRECKFUS ('14) and **BRITTAINY (SURACE) STRECKFUS ('14)** are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Vivian Grace born October 8, 2019. Joe was an athletic trainer from 2010-2015 and Brittainy was an athletic trainer from 2012-2015.

ELIZABETH MCBRIDE ('16) and Corey McBride were married on Oct. 12, 2019, at the Cape Fear Botanical Gardens.

JO JONES ('16) was one of 41 high school advisers chosen to participate in the Virginia College Advising Corps — a year-long program helping low-income, underrepresented and first-generation high school students navigate the college admissions process. Jones is a second-year adviser at Northumberland and Lancaster high schools in Virginia.



CARLOS MERRITT ('17), a former standout safety at Campbell University, was drafted in the

ninth round of the inaugural XFL Draft by the D.C. Defenders. Merritt had six tackles in five games with the Defenders in the short-lived inaugural season that ended in March. He totaled 168 tackles in three seasons for the Camels after transferring from South Carolina State, seeing action in 31 Campbell games.



ERIN SCOTT ('18) was named an assistant coach for the Marquette University women's

soccer team. Scott was a goalkeeper during her four years as an undergrad at Campbell. Her 157 career saves ranks seventh all-time at Campbell.

TAYLOR GALLYON ('19) was named event coordinator for the Downtown Statesville Development Corp. in March. In her role, Gallyon is responsible for event planning, management, marketing and executing the promotional events and activities for DSDC. She works closely with downtown businesses, partners, sponsors, and committees to develop events and marketing projects.

LEAH REED ('08, '11) & DAVID WITH ('04)

Right on 'Cue

Duo partners with Raleigh church to create city's first mission-focused 'give back' food truck

The words “church” and “business” are not typically associated with one another; but for Leah Reed ('08, '11) and David With ('04), the marriage of these two concepts has created an opportunity to serve, connect and contribute to the community of downtown Raleigh.

Reed and With are the co-creators of *And Also With Cue*, Raleigh's first “give back” food truck.

In partnership with First Baptist Church of Raleigh, *And Also With Cue* sells barbecue and sides to residents and employees in the downtown area. Of the profits the truck makes, a portion of the proceeds go toward feeding those in need for free. The truck opened last October and was the product of individual dreams that both Reed and With had for combining faith and business in a meaningful way. For Reed, it all started when she learned of a ministry in New York City that served soup and bread out of a school bus across neighborhoods in the city. While meeting the physical needs of residents was important, Reed was also inspired by the community the venture built.

“It was about inviting the community to come, to sit across the table and say ‘how is your day going?’”

Meanwhile, With was exploring a different side of the issue through his doctoral dissertation at Boston University, which focused on how churches could start and maintain for profit businesses. As a side business, he was also providing barbecue catering. It was not long before a mutual friend of With and Reed decided to connect the two of them in hopes of merging their two ideas together. During a lunch meeting in downtown Raleigh, after discussing their respective passions for community, business, and barbecue, With and Reed came up with the idea for *And Also With Cue*.

“It was just instinctual,” Reed says of that initial conversation. “I felt like we really had something that we could make work.”

Armed with a church grant to accomplish “a big, missional idea,” the two embarked on their journey to merge the worlds of faith and business. FBC Raleigh covered the cost of the truck, while With took ownership of the business itself. Once the idea was in place, Reed says it was important to identify who the truck was going to serve.

“We started with the question, ‘Who are our neighbors?’” Reed says. The answer was somewhat complex.

“On one hand, our neighbors are the people who live and work downtown; people who live in high rise buildings and work in the legislature,” Reed says. “But on the other hand, FBC Raleigh has a clothing ministry that has been working for 30 years in this area. Those people are our neighbors, too.”

The wide variety of downtown Raleigh residents forced Reed and With to find a business model that would meet the needs of all of *And Also With Cue*'s potential customers.

The solution was multi-faceted. In terms of engaging downtown Raleigh employees, With says 85 percent of their customers are state employees. “There is not much food within a couple blocks of here,” he says, “so we’re attracting people we wouldn’t normally engage with if it weren’t for the truck.”

In addition the basic draw of a quick lunch break, With adds that there is something important about advertising to customers that “they are participating in something bigger than just their meal.” The “give-back” portion of the business model rests on the FBC Raleigh's long-running clothing ministry, which serves nearly 150 people a week, many of whom are experiencing homelessness.

After guests of the clothing ministry are finished shopping, they are given a lunch token, which they turn in at the truck for a free meal. Reed adds that she hopes as the business continues to grow, the method of meal delivery will expand into other parts of the downtown area, growing to include all residents.



"We try to do the whole thing with dignity," Reed says. "We don't want people to feel like they're less than because they are getting a lunch token...you should have dignity through the whole process."

Though *And Also With Cue* has only been open since the fall of last year, the model has been performing well. Between the opening day and the end of December, the truck fed close to 475 people for free; a monetary value of over \$3,000. Both With and Reed are expecting even higher results once the weather is warmer.

In terms of long-term vision, Reed says she hopes *And Also With Cue* will be a ministry that goes on for many years, reaching parts and people in downtown Raleigh that are often overlooked.

With echoes Reed's statement, adding that he hopes their business model can one day be something other churches can learn from.

"My motivation is to help the church fulfill their mission, and I would love to see other churches be able to use this experiment and replicate it to reach out to their own communities," With says.

Both With and Reed attribute much of their calling and commitment to servant leadership to their foundation at Campbell University. For Reed, service at Campbell centered around her involvement with the Baptist Student Union, of which she was president for two years.

"That's where I found community, support, and my passion for ministry" Reed explains, adding that to her, servant leadership is "trying to see Christ in every person... it's a daily task, and we get up every day and do the best we can with what God gives us."

Similarly, With sees servant leadership as "an occasion for grace to experience, and providing an occasion for other people to share in that opportunity to provide grace." His view of servant leadership was largely influenced by his role as men's campus president during his time at Campbell, which he says allowed him to create spaces and opportunities for people to connect meaningfully.

Though both With and Reed admit that *And Also With Cue* was a leap of faith, they both emphasize how much the project has been teaching them already. With says the process has given him hope for the possibility of merging the worlds of faith and business together in a way that helps others, explaining that the church's willingness to "step into the broader world can help change communities."

Reed agrees, stating that above all else, *And Also With Cue* has been a lesson on courage.

"It's taught me to step out boldly in faith. To take action when you feel like you have a calling."

To learn more about *And Also With Cue*, visit cueyall.com

LEAH TRIPP



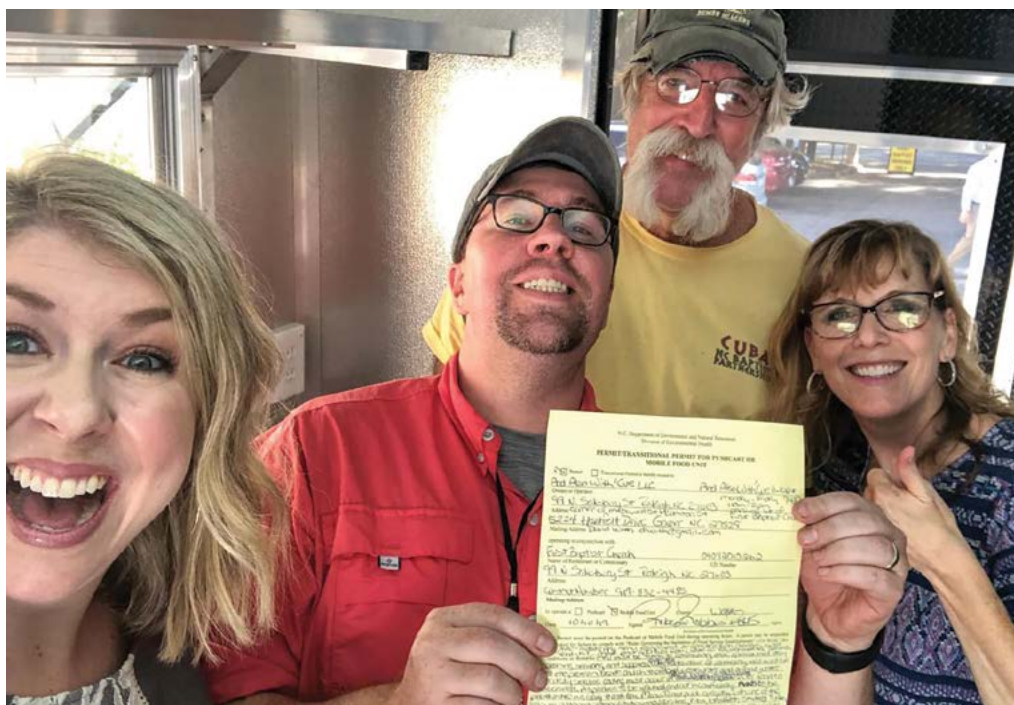
"Do good first. Do well as a result." For **STEVEN WALTHER ('15 MBA)**, this is more than a motto for his business, Continuous Precision Medicine. It's the mission.

CPM's beginnings are rooted in the concepts of innovation and service. While discussing treatment for a patient, Walther's co-founders Dr. Barry Jenkins and Dr. Robert Zimmerman began to recognize the need for a better way to prescribe pain medication. Their goal was to utilize modern technology to manage prescription medications and, thus, combat the nation's opioid epidemic.

The company is still relatively new; an aspect of CPM that Walther says is a bit of a double-edged sword. "The problem solving related to seeing our young company grow and succeed ... is both the most challenging and the most rewarding."

Walther says his time at Campbell University very much influenced both his career and his identity as a leader. "It was instrumental in my journey as a person," he says, adding that the instruction and guidance of many professors helped him hone his communication, leadership and time-management skills. Campbell's prioritization of servant leadership, Walther says, is a value that CPM "wholeheartedly embraces."

"It has been exciting to watch Campbell expand into areas of health, science and medicine," Walther says. "It would be wonderful to contribute to Campbell becoming a national leader in research."



LEAH REED ('08, '11) and **DAVID WITH ('04)** (first two from left) hold up their first permit to operate their new food truck, *And Also With 'Cue*, back in October. In conjunction with First Baptist Church of Raleigh, *And Also With 'Cue* is Raleigh's first "give back" food truck.

MELANIE HUFFINES ('19 LAW) joined the Wilmington office of Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP. Huffines is an associate attorney with the firm. She focuses her practice in civil and criminal defense. In her time at Campbell, Huffines clerked with CSH Law, the N.C. Court of Appeals and Toshiba Corp. She was a member of Campbell University's National Moot Court team, an editor on the Campbell Law Review, a teaching scholar for a professor and president of the Public Interest Law Student Association.

HALEY HUTCHINS ('19) was enshrined into the Washington (N.C.) High School Walk of Fame in October. Hutchins was a four-year starter in softball in high school and twice won Pitcher of the Year. She was also Conference Player of the Year and Conference MVP during her time at Washington. She played collegiately at Radford before finishing her last two years of eligibility at Campbell University. She won 19 games in her two years at Campbell and was named to the All Big South Conference Tournament team in 2018.

AMY LUCAS ('19 MED) was a finalist for the annual "Student Teacher of the Year" award by the North Carolina Association of Colleges and Teacher Educators at its 2019 Fall Forum Conference in October. She was the only student from a private university among the top five for this award. Lucas is originally from Sanford and now teaches music there at Tramway Elementary School.

ELIZABETH "BROOKS" BARRETT SAVAGE ('19 LAW, MSPH) received the 2019 North Carolina State Bar Pro Bono Award for Campbell Law School in October. Following her first year at Campbell Law, she began working as a Martin Luther King Jr. intern with Legal Aid of North Carolina, where she assisted with advocating for victims of domestic violence, as well as landlord-tenant, expunction, social security administration, disability, will and power of attorney matters.

MARY JANE THOMAS ('75)

Student unions, stairwells and the Campbell connection

In the middle of Campbell's 1974 *Pine Burr* yearbook, there is a photo of a student sitting at the patio of Kivett Hall. She is thoughtfully looking toward something out of frame, and beneath her picture, a caption speaks to the dedication of young women at Campbell to pursuing higher education and worthwhile careers:

Chaucer and Keats are the men of their life, the blurb declares.

The young woman pictured is Mary Jane Thomas ('75), and she explains with a laugh today that though the yearbook does not give her name under the photo, the caption accompanying the image very much described her work ethic and dedication during her time at Campbell.

Despite her dedication to her business education studies and student teaching during her time at Campbell, she did have time to meet more people than antiquated British poets.

One of those people was her late husband, Keith Thomas. Though they met in an English class early in her sophomore year, it took a while for Mary Jane to agree to go out with him.

"My senior year, Keith came over to Strickland and asked me about going out again," Thomas says. "But I was getting ready to student-teach, and I told him, 'I'm not gonna date while I'm teaching. I'm just too busy.'"

The following semester, the two had a chance encounter in the very building Thomas was photographed outside in that 1974 yearbook. At the time, Kivett served as Campbell's student union.

"People were always in and out of there, getting food, sitting at tables, watching the *Young and the Restless*," Thomas said. "But my fondest memory of the student union took place in the stairwell."

Thomas hadn't seen Keith since starting her final semester, but one day, on her way up the stairs in Kivett, the two bumped into each other.

"I looked at him and said, 'Well look who it is,'" Thomas says. "And then he looked right at me and said, 'How would you like to go out Friday night?'"

The two went to a movie that Friday, where Thomas met Keith's sister and brother. They began dating seriously, and by September, they were married.

Many of Thomas's cherished memories and connections are products of her time at Campbell,



MARY JANE THOMAS ('75) from the 1974 *Pine Burr* yearbook.

and she remains connected today, serving as a member of the university Alumni Board of Directors and helping with many on-campus events, such as Campbell Giving Day, which took place on Feb. 5.

She loves to connect with current students to encourage them and hear their stories, and is very excited about what the upcoming student union will bring to future generations.

"Kivett was such a small student union," she says, "but this [new] space will allow people to study, go to the gym, eat together... they'll get to make memories there."

Thomas continues to make memories through her involvement as an alumna. In addition to Campbell Giving Day and Homecoming and Family Weekend, Thomas participated in the Campbell Passport trip in 2018, which gave way to many Campbell friendships that she would have missed out on otherwise.

She encourages fellow alumni to get involved and connect with past and present students.

"That Campbell connection is so important, and I have loved experiencing it."

LEAH TRIPP

HOMECOMING '20

11-7

SAVE THE DATE

Details coming soon to
alumni.campbell.edu





RANDY HOOD ('90, '99 MEd) was named head coach of UNC Wilmington's baseball program in 2019 and led the Seahawks to an 11-5 record in the shortened 2020 season.

Wood, a baseball standout at Campbell in the early '90s, was also a teammate of Michael Jordan during the NBA legend's short Minor League Baseball stint with the Birmingham Barons in 1994. He shared his experience with WTVD in Raleigh in May, as Jordan-mania returned with the ESPN documentary, "The Last Dance."

"[Playing with Jordan] was so cool during the time, I didn't ask him for an autograph until the last day of the baseball season," Hood told the station. "It was neat and weird. It was just a whole different scenario that you couldn't even imagine at the time."



JOE STRECKFUS ('14) and **BRITAINY (SURACE) STRECKFUS ('14)** are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Vivian Grace born October 8, 2019. Joe was an athletic trainer from 2010-2015 and Brittainy was an athletic trainer from 2012-2015.



Jill Kinney (center) with friends at a dance on the steps of the science building at then Campbell College in the late 1960s.

JILL KINNEY ('69)

Society of Stranders

A shy young woman found lifelong friends at Campbell through a shared love of shag dancing; they gather and dance to this day

In the mid-1960s, the choices for a senior in high school in Burlington, North Carolina, were work at the local mill or try your hand at college. Jill Kinney decided to give higher education her best shot. Even though no one else in her hometown was heading to Campbell College, Kinney was optimistic about college life and making new friends.

After a summer of employment at a Girl Scout camp, Kinney was able to pay for her books and was soon packing to depart for Buies Creek. Her parents dropped her off on a Sunday morning—their only day off—after helping her find her room and make her bed. She was further from home than she had ever been and determined to befriend her new roommates. This turned out to be more of a challenge than she had anticipated.

"What do you say to two strangers that you've been assigned to live with for a year and didn't know the first thing about?" she remembered. "I asked the only question I could think of — 'do either of you shag dance?' I was met with blank stares. I thought I was done for after that."

Kinney retreated further and further into her shell as the first week of college progressed. She met classmates from schools in Fayetteville, Roxboro,



and Clinton — no one from any of the schools that her Burlington high school had competed against in sports, and no one who shared her love of music or dancing. What could they possibly have in common?

That all changed when she overheard a group of girls planning an after-dinner trip to Williams Lake to hear Gene Barbour and the Cavaliers play. Kinney was overjoyed. She recognized those bands. There were shag dancers at Campbell after all.

Soon she and the girls were comparing dance shoes (Weejuns or Papagallos) and practicing their best moves to the radio. Typically, they'd practice holding onto a door knob as a substitute dance partner, but when the girls found out Kinney could dance the boy's lead, she became a hero. Kinney never missed a concert in the auditorium or a dance

Spiritual journeys shared through ink

MARIANNE ('16) and **BLAKE ('16) SOUTHERLAND** are in the business of breaking stigmas and opening doors.

They are the founders of Inked Ministry, a nonprofit business that shares the testimonies and stories behind faith-based tattoos. Inked Ministry is driven via social media and website engagement and encourages transparent conversations that the Southerlands feel are often lacking in Christian communities; conversations centered on topics such as health, addiction, loss, relationships and self esteem.

Inked Ministry began when the Southerlands moved to Georgia a little over two years ago. While the two had secular jobs in the area, they both felt as though there was something more God was calling them to do. That "something more" ended up hinging on the experiences Marianne had regarding her own tattoos.

"I understand the judgment felt when you walk into a room and see stares from across a restaurant," she admits. "But I cannot even count the amount of times my tattoos have allowed me to be a witness to the most unexpected people in the most unexpected places."

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



gathering outside the science building— she had found her niche.

"All of my friends and I were right in the middle of it all, moving and swaying to the fabulous songs that we knew every step to," she said.

There was one slight problem— Campbell College did not allow men and women to dance together on campus in the 1960s. But that never stopped Kinney or her cohort. They would encircle any couple that was brazen enough to try dancing and make sure the campus police were none the wiser. The surrounding crowd of single dancers would jump up and down, clapping in time with the music to conceal the lucky couple's wrongdoing.

By the time she graduated in 1969, Kinney couldn't count the friendships she had made at Campbell College. Many of her girlfriends lived in Eastern North Carolina, less than an hour from Myrtle Beach. She recalls spending weekends with her friend Betty's family in Fair Bluff, speeding through supper, dressing up in their preppiest outfits and heading to the beach to hear the latest jukebox music.

Fifty years after her graduation, Kinney has kept in touch with many of those women, not only through Christmas and birthday cards, but through shag dance reunions. A North Myrtle Beach gathering draws crowds of dancers who worked as lifeguards

or summer beach vendors in the 1950s and 1960s. Kinney began making the drive from Charlotte to Myrtle Beach each spring and fall to dance and reminisce, occasionally running into old friends from her Campbell days.

This past spring, Kinney and her friends made the Campbell reunion official. Her suitemate from 1966 invited friends from Powell dormitory to stay at her condo for the weekend's "Society of Stranders" gathering.

"As each of us walked through the door, there was that instant connection, just as though we'd seen each other only days ago. We picked up where we left off as though it were still 1967. For many of us, it had been at least 30 years."

The Campbell women cooked, danced and laughed together with old dance tunes playing from an iPad. They attended the Society of Stranders parade and showed off their moves on a wooden floor laid out on the beach, meeting more friends from Campbell as the weekend progressed.

"I know I'm not as smooth on the dance floor as I was 50 years ago, but in our minds at least, we looked great! I loved being together with my Campbell buddies and we'll still try to meet where we can to listen to those tunes of the 1960s."

KATE STONEBURNER

As Blake and Marianne began planning for the start of the business, they knew they wanted to accomplish three main goals.

First, they wanted to create a space that would allow people to freely share their testimonies and be encouraged in their spiritual journey. Second, they hoped that those hearing the stories via social media or the Inked Ministry website would be comforted by connection with others or hear the gospel, perhaps, for the first time. Finally, the Southerlands hoped that Inked Ministry would expose people to the beauty of tattoos and combat stereotypes in a way that helped people break free of what Marianne calls "unhealthy religion."

While Marianne's education at Campbell's business school prepared her in a practical way to start and manage Inked Ministry, she says that the benefit of her Campbell education reaches far beyond logistics. "The most valuable thing I learned from Campbell is the ability to lead with a servant's heart."

Now, just months after Inked Ministry's official launch, she hopes that the Southerlands had for the impact of Inked Ministry are already being realized. "It moves you to tears," she says, "and it confirms for us that everything God has called us to do for His kingdom is real, and it changes lives."

To learn more, find them on Instagram @inkedministry, on Facebook and YouTube at Inked Ministry, or visit inkedministry.com.

LEAH TRIPP

SHARE YOUR NEWS

Weddings, engagements, new bundles of joy or a reconnection with old Campbell friends. Send us your photos (good quality, high resolution images, please) to be included in our next publication. Email us at alumni@campbell.edu.

ORANGE OWNED | FIVE TREE CREATIONS

Mother, daughter entrepreneurs use unique skills to launch business

Like many mothers and daughters, Shannon and Alex Burch enjoy spending time together. However, what began as a mutual interest in wax melts, candles, and crafting has turned into a full-fledged, family owned business: Five Tree Creations.

The idea for the Burch's business began after Shannon ('17) had a casual conversation with a friend about candle making. After learning about the process, Shannon says that she thought about how much she and her daughter, Alex, both enjoyed candles and wax melts and thought "this is something we can do."

In 2017, Five Tree Creations began.

Shannon, a graduate of Campbell's Business Administration program, handles the business aspects of Five Tree Creations: production, inventory and bills. Alex, who studied social work and Spanish at Campbell, is what Shannon calls the businesses' "creative genius." She designs the candle fragrances, names the products and handles logos and branding. Both women say that working together was a process of "finding what we each did well and letting go of other things."

At first, Shannon and Alex kept things small; they sold at local vendor fairs and markets, content with making "a little extra money for vacations and Christmas." Soon, though, repeat customers began reaching out to the Burch's, asking if Five Tree Creations sold their candles in retail stores.

This proved to Alex and Shannon that their business had much greater potential than garnering some spare change.

In 2018, Simply NC in Clinton began selling their products. Business picked up even more, and in 2019, Shannon and Alex launched their online store and website to allow customers another way to purchase products. Five Tree Creations has continued to expand over the years, and this month, their candles will receive shelf space at an up and coming juice shop in Fuquay-Varina. While



Shannon and Alex Burch run Five Tree Creations, makes of hand-poured soy candles. Submitted photo

Five Tree Creations has experienced quite a bit of success over the past few years, Shannon admits that it has not been a challenge-free journey.

"There are so many challenges to beginning a business," she says. "Finding the right branding to relay your vision of your product and then determining the price of the product has been difficult."

Despite the difficulties of starting a business, Shannon says she felt her education in business from Campbell helped to give her a foundation of knowledge that she did not have previously. In the early 2000s, Shannon owned a coffee shop in Angier. She admits that while she did not understand how to make a business work then, her experiences at Campbell gave her "the knowledge and skills needed to make Five Tree a success."

Alex reiterates the importance of her Campbell education, explaining that the mentorship of several professors, such as Rene Ibarra and Eugene Sumner taught her the importance of getting outside of her comfort zone and giving her best, no matter the circumstances.

The Burches' connection to Campbell continues



For more information about the Orange Owned program visit alumni.campbell.edu/orange-owned

to serve them through the networking program, Orange Owned. Started by Campbell's Alumni Engagement office, Orange Owned seeks to connect alumni business owners with one another, while also creating an easy way for potential customers to find businesses that stemmed from the education they received at Campbell.

Shannon speaks to the value of the Orange Owned program, explaining that the network allows "small businesses to encourage and support other small businesses." In addition to providing readily available support and recognition, both Alex and Shannon hope that Orange Owned will allow them to grow their business even further by introducing them to new customers.

As Five Tree Creations continues to expand, both Alex and Shannon express gratitude for the customers and mentors that have influenced the business's success. Though their reach has grown since its early days, Shannon and Alex's focus remains the same: to produce a high-quality, unique product that values the importance of home, connection and memory.

LEAH TRIPP



Learn more about Five Tree Creations on the business' Facebook page or visit their website at fivetreecreations.com



MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Alumni give back by guiding students through school and into their careers

Though Ashlyn Johnson ('19) and Christie Stafford ('06) graduated from Campbell more than a decade apart, their love for their alma mater has connected them in ways both cite as an immense blessing.

Stafford and Johnson were originally connected through the Office of Alumni Engagement's Student-Alumni Mentor Program, which pairs students with Campbell graduates to guide them through college, graduation and the beginning of their career.

Stafford, who is entering her 14th year of teaching, was excited to mentor Johnson, an education major who is beginning her first year of teaching at Buies Creek Elementary School, right across from Campbell's main campus.

"Starting off as a beginning teacher, there is so much that you don't know," Stafford says. "I wanted to be able to help her think through those things and take some of that stress off."

The two women started their relationship with a meeting at Creek Coffee, a popular coffee shop among the Campbell and Buies Creek communities. While both Johnson and Stafford were anxious for their first conversation, they quickly found their shared passion for education and love for Campbell made the mentorship a great fit.

Johnson says Stafford's guidance and advice about entering the classroom helped ease some of her stress leading up to graduation and the start of her teaching career. Additionally, Johnson found one of

the most helpful things about having a mentor was Stafford's ability to simply listen.

"She allowed me to voice my excitements, worries, and everything in between. She honestly helped me with so many things," Johnson says.

While Johnson was thankful for guidance and a listening ear, she was not the only one to benefit from the partnership. Stafford shared that meeting with Johnson reminded her of the excitement of the first year of teaching and was a helpful reminder of her own passion for the profession.

They share a favorite memory from their time in the mentorship program: going shopping for Johnson's first classroom. While Stafford was able to gift several items to Johnson's class, the outing was also a doorway to more helpful conversations. "As we went to each store she would ask me questions and I was able to gift some stuff for her classroom... I was able to mentor her in a less formal way."

Stafford plans on signing up again to be an alumni mentor through Campbell's program, hosted by the Office of Alumni Engagement.

Johnson says in Stafford she found not only a mentor, but also a lifelong friend. Moreover, Johnson's experience with the Student-Alumni Mentor Program has inspired her to guide others in the same way Stafford advised and encouraged her. When the opportunity arises, Johnson hopes to pay-it-forward and share her own passions and love for Campbell with a current student.

LEAH TRIPP

FROM THE VAULT





1985: Long before Campbell University's School of Osteopathic Medicine was even a thought, Campbell undergrads formed the Pre-Med Alliance Health Honor Society. A group of students from 1985 are shown here practicing on "patient" Javier Correa. Also pictured, Dr. Larry Cockerham, Paula Thompson, Barbara Turbeville, Fernando Torres, Mukesh Ramchandani, Andrea Sywanyk, Tommy Alexander and Kerry McKenzie.



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Campbell students missed out on two months their college experience with the closing of campus this spring. We pay tribute to their sacrifice with this mosaic of the iconic Kivett Hall made from the images of our undergraduate student body.