
Kenyon College Alumni Bulletin

Spring 2023

Kenyon Alumni Magazine - Spring 2023

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A black and white close-up portrait of Paul Newman, looking slightly off-camera with a serious expression. His hair is dark and styled, and his features are sharply defined by the lighting.

Kenyon Alumni Magazine

SPRING 2023

What Makes a Legend?

Kenyon Hollywood experts
weigh in on the latest
Paul Newman Renaissance.

Spring 2023

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On the covers:

Front: A publicity still of Paul Newman '49 H'61, from the film "Torn Curtain" in 1966, directed by Alfred Hitchcock. The spy film also starred Julie Andrews. Photo courtesy of UNIVERSAL PICTURES / Album. Back: Newman performed in numerous drama productions while a student at Kenyon. He's pictured here as Petruchio in Shakespeare's "The Taming of the Shrew," in 1948. Photo courtesy of the Kenyon College Archives and Special Collections.

A Monumental Gift

A new addition to Kenyon's public art collection is a commissioned sculpture by American artist Richard Serra, the result of a gift from Graham Gund '63 H'81 and his wife, Ann. Serra is one of the most celebrated American artists of his generation.

Created specifically in response to the architecture of the West Quad, "Pivot" is a counterpoint to the architecture of the surrounding buildings, and is meant to weather and rust and change through time. Serra's site-specific work served as a point of departure for the Gund Gallery's fall 2022 exhibition "Sculpture as a Verb."

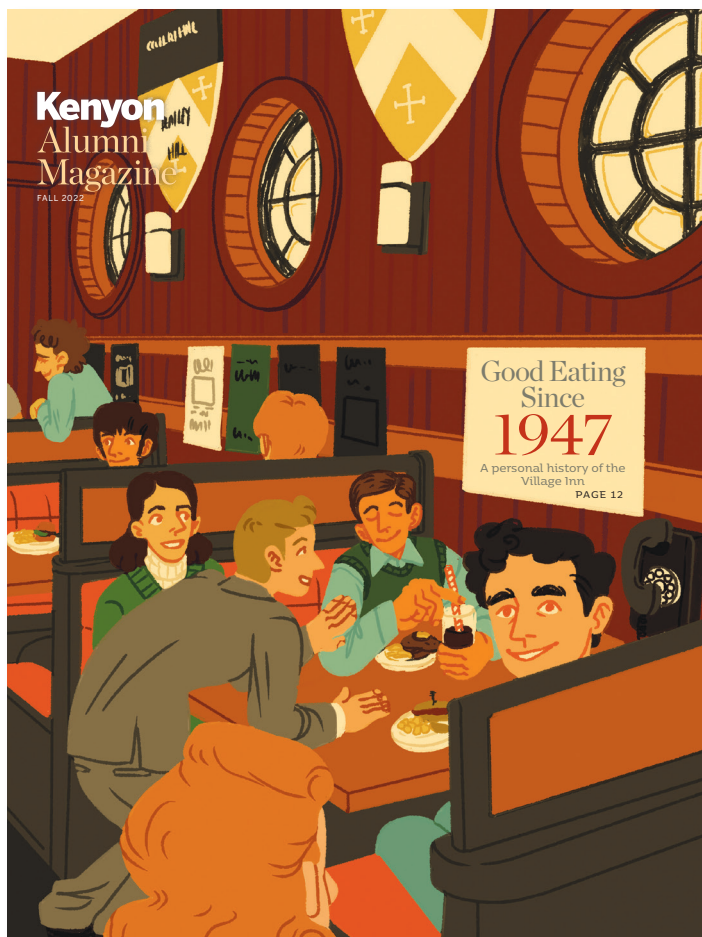
PHOTO BY MICHAEL REILLY + REMO REMOQUILLO





Richard Serra
"Pivot," 2021

Weatherproof steel, five plates: each approximately 60' x 10' x 3"
Gund Gallery Collection; purchased with funds given
for this commission by Mr. and Mrs. Graham Gund '63.



TO OUR LETTER WRITERS

We welcome letters of 300 or fewer words. Letters to the editor may be used for publication unless the author states the letter is not to be published. Letters may be edited for style, length, clarity, grammar and relevance to Kenyon issues.

PLEASE ADDRESS SUBMISSIONS TO:
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Letters may also be submitted to
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DIGITAL MAGAZINE
bulletin.kenyon.edu

CORRESPONDENCE | FALL 2022 ISSUE

Letters

Recipe please?

I loved that the Village Inn's celery seed dressing recipe was in "Good Eating" (Fall 2022). How about sharing the cheese soup recipe?

— Madia Clark Barber '77

(Editor's note: Please turn to page 41 and enjoy!)

VI for all

While I always enjoy your articles, the one on the Village Inn in the Fall 2022 issue sadly reminded me that, during my four years at Kenyon, I do not ever recall eating or drinking there due to lack of funds. I had a full tuition scholarship and \$12 a month for expenses like toothpaste. I hope the Village Inn is more accessible to all the students in Gambier today.

— Richard A Dickey '59

Origin stories

I haven't been able to sit down and read my alumni magazine in some time but decided to treat myself and open the Fall 2022 issue

tonight. Reading about the Village Inn reminds me that it was the site of my "origin story" for my now ubiquitous nickname. I stayed on to work a few years in the Office of Admissions after graduating. I recall being in the VI one evening and was introduced to an alumnus in town for a swimming reunion of some sort. Over the din of noise, he couldn't hear my name when it was said, so he took a guess: "Did you say ChaCha?" My co-worker and friend, Veronica Hauad '03, was nearby and would not let me live down the misunderstanding. She started referring to me by this name in the office and it stuck. My niece and nephew started calling me Aunt ChaCha because it was easier to pronounce as they were learning words. My stepson and in-laws call me ChaCha and, I'll admit, it's even my internal moniker when I sign in to work a shift in the emergency department, so every now and then I get an, "Are you Dr. ChaCha?" from staff. How fun to reminisce!

— Charmayne Cooley '06

If you like piña coladas

I enjoyed reading the piece on the VI. Back in the late '90s, the VI was either packed to the gills or completely empty. It was empty one cold February afternoon when Will Winnicki, Sam Hillier and I (all from the Class of 2000) saddled up to the bar after finishing econ comps. After a pitcher or two of the cheapest draft beer, we noticed a sign at the side of the bar advertising piña coladas. Being in a celebratory mood, why not? We drank piña coladas for several hours into the cold February night until the bartender informed us that they were out of mix. It was the first and last time we have ever drunk a bar out of piña colada mix. Whenever we get together (at weddings or funerals) we often get puzzled looks when we ask the bartender if they have any piña colada mix.

— **Andrew Rushing '00**

On tradition

I would like to offer Byron S. Dunham '62 another perspective on the decision to change Kenyon's moniker. Dunham indicated that "traditions — and these noble team monikers — should not be erased by this era's 'PC' crowd." Traditions are all well and good — Kenyon is known for having lots of them — and none of us are likely to forget the literal Lords and Ladies who were instrumental to Kenyon's founding. But "we've always done (x) that way" has never been a great justification to continue doing (x) that way, particularly when we learn that doing (x) that way doesn't represent everyone. Yes, Virginia, there are more than two genders. That's a fact, not an opinion. Furthermore, a community working together to acknowledge and celebrate that is simply doing the right thing, not "pandering to the woke" (replace "woke" with "empathetic," "compassionate" or "mindful," and you'll see what I mean).

Mr. Dunham, I highly encourage you to go back and read (or re-read) the rest of the issue in which your letter appeared. The "60-Second Syllabus" feature on Prof. Bender-Baird's class, "Gender, Sexuality and the Law," provides an excellent introduction to this topic. And "How to Have A Conversation" features as one of its experts an alum who uses they/them pronouns. Nonbinary people are part of our Kenyon family, and I applaud us all for ensuring that current and future students who identify as neither "Lord" nor "Lady" feel welcomed and included.

— **Sarah Meadow Walsh '04 (she/her)**

"I was here."

I saw the request in the Summer 2022 Kenyon Alumni Magazine for any stories about artifacts to prove you were there. I was an RA in McBride room 107 from 1989-90. In the desk drawer every RA who had been in that room put their name (and I think the class year). I can't remember how long it dated back to but there were quite a few names there. I don't know if that room is still used for RAs or if the same desk drawer is still there, but I know it was there during my first or second reunion (five-year and 10-year). I will try to check the next time I'm on campus. — **Alison Black '91**

(Editor's note: We will search for this desk drawer this summer and report back.)

The lives of swallows

In the Fall 2022 magazine, there is an article, "Saving the Swallows," by Bryn Savidge '24. I found it fascinating and have some follow-up questions about swallows that I'd like to ask: When the swallows migrate south, it seems that they travel a great distance. Do they make the entire migration without stopping? If yes, where do they stop — presumably to rest/eat? How long does it take them to make the trip? And at what speed would a swallow presumably travel? Thanks!

— **Richard J. Copits '62**

(Response from Assistant Professor of Biology and Environmental Studies Iris Levin: "Barn swallows are considered long-distance migrants who overwinter in Central and South America. They generally funnel through the Central American isthmus, but some do seem to fly across the Gulf of Mexico/Caribbean. They do not make this long trip in one go; instead, they take many weeks, stopping along the way to refuel on flying insects, the type of food they feed exclusively on. Ornithologists use radar to detect migrating birds and various types of geologging to follow migrating individuals. Barn swallow migration spans several months for migrations in both spring and fall; however, it can be difficult to pinpoint exactly how long this trip takes for any one bird. Geolocator tags worn by birds for the full annual cycle reveal that a one-way trip can take a barn swallow between 1.5 and 2.5 months. Someone has used a Doppler radar hand gun like those used to catch you driving too fast, and revealed that barn swallows have average flight speeds of 6.8-8.6 meters per second (they are capable of going much faster)."

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The 43022

A Kenyon Celebrity

In 2009, writer, actor and public radio broadcaster Murray Horwitz '70 shared a remembrance of Paul Newman '49 H'61 on NPR, in which he noted: "To attend Kenyon College was to have Paul Newman be a part of your life. He was by far the most famous alumnus ... and the fact that Kenyon was Paul Newman's school partly defined your undergraduate experience."

In many ways, it still does. I've lost count of the number of Newman-related class-note submissions I've received over the years for this magazine, but you'll find an excellent example on page 35 of this issue, courtesy of John F. Binder '62, who recalled working as an assistant on Robert Altman's 1975 film, "Buffalo Bill and the Indians," which starred Newman. Paul Newman was no spoiled movie star, he wrote: "He was decent to everybody. When someone showed up on set to interview him or talk other business, he would turn on 'Paul Newman' like a light switch."

A common theme I've observed in notes like this is the desire to reconcile Newman, the fun-loving, talented yet self-deprecating, and entrepreneurial Kenyon student they knew, or knew of, with "Paul Newman," the iconic and beloved movie star for the ages. Recently, several major retrospectives about the actor have offered fresh insights on his life and legacy, including "The Last Movie Stars," a six-part HBO documentary series, and "The Extraordinary Life of an Ordinary Man," a best-selling posthumous memoir published by Knopf.

We invited Eileen Cartter '16, a staff writer for GQ, to put our current "Newmanaissance," as actor Josh Radnor '96 labeled it, into perspective. In her story "What Makes a Legend" (on page 16), Cartter explores the idea that "that legacies are often shaped by the memories and stories that others share." Current students may not know as much about Newman's legacy as their parents (and grandparents), but it's impossible for them to leave the Hill without encountering some Newman lore or, perhaps, even benefiting from his philanthropic efforts. In May, the admissions office moved into Lowell House (named for poet Robert Lowell '40 H'58) on the new West Quad, and the first floor of that building is home to the Paul Newman Room, a multi-purpose space lined with Newman photography and quotes. It's the room where prospective students are first brought to learn more about Kenyon, further ensuring that Kenyon and Newman's legacies will be forever linked.

— Elizabeth Weinstein
EDITOR, KENYON ALUMNI MAGAZINE

THE VIEW

"Battlefield"

In February, the Kenyon College Dance, Drama and Cinema Club presented "Battlefield," directed by Kenyon's Thomas S. Turgeon Professor of Drama and Film Jonathan Tazewell '84. Reviewing the play, the Collegian's Leila Kohn '26 wrote: "As the lights went up in the Bolton Theater, I found myself uplifted by *Battlefield's* profound contemplations on the fated meaning of humanity's existence, especially when that existence seems pointless and cruel." Read more about Professor Tazewell on page 6.

PHOTO BY
PRINCE ADABLAH '23







60-SECOND SYLLABUS | FILM 243: BASIC CINEMATOGRAPHY

Behind the Camera

Students learn the secrets of visual storytelling

WEDNESDAY, 1:10 – 4 P.M., WRIGHT CENTER 203

TAUGHT BY JONATHAN TAZEWEILL '84,
THOMAS S. TURGEON PROFESSOR OF DRAMA AND FILM

Think, for a moment, about your favorite movie. Did it have a compelling storyline that stuck with you over the years? Did you love it because of the lead actor's stellar performance? Or maybe you just couldn't stop humming the tune that won an Oscar for best original song. What you might not have considered is the talent and skill it takes to make every single shot look just right. That's because when it comes to movies, the role of the cinematographer usually goes unnoticed — unless something goes wrong.

This less glamorous work, the hidden essence of movie magic, is what Jonathan Tazewell '84 (pictured above) teaches in FILM 243 (Basic Cinematography.) Through a series of group projects that require coordination with writing and directing classes, students learn to work closely with peers rather than focusing on themselves as dictatorial *auteurs*. "A big part is really teaching students how to create collaboratively," Tazewell said. "It's about listening. It's about giving up some of your own ego in order to allow

PHOTO BY REBECCA KIGER

Lost and Found

RECOMMENDED READING:

"Cinematography: Theory and Practice: Image Making for Cinematographers and Directors,"

by Blain Brown

"On Film-making"

by Alexander Mackendrick,
edited by Paul Cronin

for that listening, and then it's about engaging and being responsible for providing your part of whatever the job is to make the vision."

Just as a solid grasp of grammar is a prerequisite to tell a good story in words, a focus on the mechanics of lighting and lenses is critical to making a successful film. "The course is trying to get students to understand the process of telling visual stories from the viewpoint of the camera, rather than the viewpoint of the writer or director," Tazewell said. Using the online database ShotDeck, students can access still images from thousands of films to analyze how innumerable decisions about lighting, color, angles, depth of field and more influence the final product.

One of Tazewell's first assignments requires students to use their own cameras, smartphone or otherwise, to re-create an image of their choosing from a gallery Tazewell provides — which includes not just photographs, but paintings by artists including Edward Hopper. By figuring out how to use real-world locations and lighting to approximate the moodiness of Hopper's imagined worlds, students have to think more deeply. "So many wonderful cinematic things actually come out of painting," Tazewell said. We use *chiaroscuro* all the time in film noir and other gloomy, dark stories. But Caravaggio is painting this kind of stuff. You have artists who are able to see and recognize this style of lighting and then create it on the canvas, and now we're asking the students to recreate that again."

Later in the course, students borrow the state-of-the-art equipment housed at Kenyon's Wright Center in Mount Vernon, but Tazewell emphasizes that filmmaking is not ultimately about having the biggest budget or most advanced gadgets. "We have very fancy cameras and lights and things, and we have to teach students how to operate those things, but they're just really fancy pencils," Tazewell said. "It's not any more important than a pencil. It's really just the tool that you need to use."

— DAVID HOYT '14

On a college campus as lively as Kenyon's, it's only natural that some things should go missing — and on the flip side, be discovered in unexpected places. Here's a highlight reel of the season's lost and found, sourced from campus email lists.

— CAROLYN TEN EYCK '18



Two interlocking gold rings

found in Chalmers.
Said the finder: "XO + I like your style."



Paint.

Gund Gallery is no stranger to hosting a variety of this artistic supply within its walls, though it's typically seen rendered onto canvas rather than still in the container. The finder of this oil paint (a yellow ochre hue) dropped it off at the front desk, mercifully unopened.



A "magical device"

was left in the Student Accessibility and Support Services suite in Chalmers Library. The staff member who found the item asked the owner to reach out with a description to claim it. Whether it was an artifact imbued with rare mythic properties or merely a Magic 8 Ball, that's between the owner and the staff member.



A library paper cutter (green).

Whoever "borrowed" the cutter for any mysterious slicing and dicing needs is encouraged to return it to the circulation desk at their earliest convenience.

A K-Card.

"I have managed to lose my K-Card on the first day of my last semester at Kenyon," said the owner, who later retraced their steps to successfully retrieve it.



A TI-89 calculator.

Mislaidd during finals week, with an exam the next day. Good enough incentive for anyone to offer a \$20 finder's fee.

A bike,

missing from the rack next to Hanna Hall. Said the owner: "please let me know if you see it anywhere. and if you took it that's not very nice." This plea must have had some effect on the culprit, as the bicycle was returned less than a day later.

Sibling Wisdom

The four McCune siblings impart advice onto one another.

The 43022

STUDENT VOICE | THE MCCUNE SIBLINGS

All in the Family

Four McCunes take on Kenyon ... at the same time

Kenyon siblings aren't exactly uncommon. But four siblings in four consecutive class years give new meaning to the phrase "bleeding purple." For Maximos "Maxi" '23, Makarios "Kod" '24, Kallinikos "Nike" '25, and Eleutheria "Elle" '26, children of Charissa McCune '92, college is a family affair.

The family legacy began with their aunt, Irene Katzan '89, who took some thought to decide on Kenyon for her undergraduate education. Despite growing up outside Cleveland, the school was something of an unknown entity. But her intuition told her to opt for the liberal arts school in Gambier.

Charissa, Irene's younger sister, recalls visiting her sibling at college. "I was sitting on the Bushnell steps at the end of the year waiting to move her out as she finished a paper. We were the last ones on campus. I remember going to the bookstore and buying my first classic Coke, sharing it with our dad, and waiting for her to finish typing so we could drive home." Though the two didn't overlap on campus (Charissa moved in the August after Irene's May graduation), their interests intersected. Both played in the Knox County Symphony, and both studied biology with then-Professors Dorothy and Thomas Jegla.

Ohio natives, the four younger McCunes grew up attending reunions, but a Kenyon education was by no means a familial requirement. "We took some trips the summer before Maxi started really getting into the college apps," said Charissa. "Irene and I went with him and we just walked around. It was low pressure, just something to do for the day. And I think that's when his mind started turning ... and now here we are."

Though the McCunes are a Kenyon rarity, the College has a strong history of sibling students. Notably, the Handels of Youngstown, Ohio, sent nine of their 12 children to Kenyon: Dan Handel '73, Karen Handel Walker '77, Bill Handel '80, Meg Handel Williams '81, Mike Handel '83, Nora

Handel Aton '85, Kevin Handel '89, Christine Handel Schmidt '91, and Mark Handel '95. (The other Handel siblings attended Harvard, Youngstown State and Yale.)

Once Maxi arrived on campus in 2019, Kod and Nike visited to get a feel for the College, shadowing their older brother and attending courses. "I introduced them to my chemistry professor, Dr. (John) Hofferberth," said Maxi. "And he said something along the lines of, 'Wouldn't it be funny if I had both of you the next coming years?'"

What he'd prophesied came to pass. Initially, it appeared that the youngest, Elle, might break the streak. "I think I was probably the most distant from Kenyon before deciding to come," she said. Eventually, though, with her interests in biology and writing, she decided to join her three brothers in Gambier.

All four siblings are on pre-health tracks, sharing a robust interest in the sciences. With overlapping academic interests and friend groups, the siblings often study together and congregate for meals. Though the siblings are a self-described pack, "they're very different," Irene said. "It's so neat. They do get along, but all four of them have different personalities."

"They're like a puzzle," added Charissa. "There are different shapes and roles, but they all fit together."

Three of those puzzle pieces added a new depth to Assistant Professor of Biology and Environmental Studies Iris Levin's Biology 261 course, "Animal Behaviors."

In the class, which focuses on behavioral ecology, she has a ready-made example of the topic of kin selection: three students who also happen to be siblings. "If you are related to individuals and you are behaving altruistically, then it actually increases your (evolutionary) fitness — it's this idea of inclusive fitness," says Levin. "And I had this built-in example of these siblings."

Maxi, Kod, Nike and Elle all planned to take the course together in the fall 2022 semester.

MAXI TO KOD

"I'd recommend getting involved in things that you don't necessarily think you'll enjoy, because you might just find something new. At Kenyon, there are so many things you can involve yourself in. Go play squash, go to a meeting of some random club that you might think is ridiculous."

KOD TO NIKE

"Leave it all out on the court. You only have four years here and they go by so quickly, so don't be afraid to make a fool of yourself or express yourself. Try experimenting with classes and things. As much as it's a lot of work and a lot of pressure to be here, embrace it."

NIKE TO ELLE

"If you see an email: 'Free hot chocolate mugs' or something — take it. Take the free things. Not just things you're handed out, but also activities. You like art, you like reading and writing, you like science. You have all these different avenues you can explore. Now's the time to experiment."

ELLE TO MAXI

"You'll be in your medical world. You'll be fully in that sphere, but don't forget goofy side projects. Remember that other spheres exist, and you can still go back to them even if it's not your main component to life. That you'll still play guitar and rock climb and talk to Sam about stupid nonsense."





Though Elle, a first-year, was turned away for not having the necessary prerequisite courses, Levin was impressed by her tenacity, no doubt informed by knowledge gleaned from her brothers' experience: "You can tell a first-year who knows the ropes."

The three brothers took the course together ("there's chalk flying everywhere," said Maxi of their exam study sessions), an elective for all of them.

"I've taught this class now four times at Kenyon, but every constellation of students brings a slightly different mood to the class," said Levin. "I think when you have three incredibly kind, earnest students — and I have more than those three — that is part of the magic sauce."

"They're delightful," she concluded. "Give me five more."

The special aspect of all four siblings being on campus at the same time is not lost on anyone (this year's Family Weekend doubled as a family reunion). In a few months, Maximos is set to receive his diploma and go on to pursue medical school. But the siblings are making the most of their remaining time together. "Because of the

size of the campus, one's always bumping into the other," said Charissa. "And it's not uncommon for one to be talking to me on the phone and they'll pass another one: *"Oh, that was just Makarios or that was just Maxi."*

Drawing from their own college experiences, the sisters have confidence that the younger generation will get a lot out of their time in Gambier. "I think that Kenyon is just unbelievable at making people change the way that they approach the world," said Irene. "Their inquisitiveness and the way that they think: that will impact the rest of their lives."

Even when not actively spending time with each other, the McCune students know their siblings are only so far away. "There's always that social safety net of each other," said Nike, going on to note: "We all have our own very different college experiences, despite all of us being here."

"Like Galapagos finches with different beaks, Darwin's birds from the Galapagos," added Elle. "Different beaks because they're from different niches, but all finches."

Said Maxi: "Someone's in intro bio."

— CAROLYN TEN EYCK '18

From left:
Charissa McCune '92
with her children,
Maximos "Maxi" '23,
Makarios "Kod" '24,
Kallinikos "Nike" '25,
and Eleutheria "Elle" '26
at Family Weekend 2022.

A Natural Evolution

A conversation with outgoing president Sean Decatur about science, higher education and his groundbreaking new role at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City

INTERVIEW BY ELIZABETH WEINSTEIN

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JORDAN HOLLENDER

WHEN SEAN DECATUR was growing up in Cleveland, one of his favorite things to do was visit the city's natural history museum.

He'll never forget the time his fifth-grade class took a field trip to the museum and met Donald Carl Johanson, a paleoanthropologist who studies human origins. Johanson was one of the lead researchers who literally uncovered the famous skeleton, Lucy, during a dig in Hadar, Ethiopia, in 1974. The discovery had been all over the news in what Decatur remembers as "a shared cultural moment of discussing human evolution and archaeology," so meeting the science-world equivalent of Stevie Wonder (Decatur's favorite musician) left a big imprint on him.

"The fact that I remember the name of the researcher that I met 40-something years ago has stuck with me," he said.





Giant Geodes

Geodes lined with quartz are amethyst.

Black Hills, South Dakota

About 100 million years ago, a geological disaster

sent the planet to space, creating a hole in the

earth's surface. As the hole began to fill, it carried

with it a large amount of quartz. The quartz

crystals, which were once part of the earth's

crust, were carried into space and then

fell back to earth. The quartz crystals

that fell to earth were carried into the

Black Hills, where they were carried

into the Black Hills. The quartz crystals

that fell to earth were carried into the

Black Hills, where they were carried

into the Black Hills. The quartz crystals

that fell to earth were carried into the



Throughout his life, Decatur experienced natural history museums and science centers as “places where I got to imagine myself as a scientist, not only seeing cool things but hearing stories about how those cool things were discovered,” he said. “Learning about (and sometimes even meeting) the people behind those discoveries gave me a sense of what it would mean to actually do science research myself.”

While in high school, he attended a summer program in New York City and visited the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH) for the first time. He remembers being amazed by the size and scale of the museum’s collection: The AMNH is the largest natural history museum in the world (spanning four city blocks and 25 interconnected buildings), and is home to more than 34 million specimens and artifacts, including elephant dioramas and giant dinosaur skeletons.

On Dec. 6, in what can best be described as a full-circle moment, Decatur announced that he was leaving Kenyon after nearly a decade as president. The reason: He was offered a new job as president of the AMNH.

“I have spent my career committed to access and opportunity for students and also to an understanding of science,” Decatur told the New York Times, which broke the story. “This feels like a natural evolution.”

Kenyon Alumni Magazine editor Elizabeth Weinstein spoke with Decatur as he prepared for this next stage of his career, and he talked about everything from his new commute (which takes him across Central Park, instead of Middle Path), to what he’s most looking forward to about living in New York City (the ability to walk to more than one late night dining option — “and by late night, I mean after 8 p.m.”), to his hopes for Kenyon’s future.

How does it feel to be on the verge of a big change — the kind of change that makes news headlines?

It still feels very odd. I’m excited about the work to come at the American Museum of Natural History. I’m dizzyingly immersing myself in understanding not only the AMNH world but the natural history museum world in general. And at the same time, Kenyon has been a special and important place to me for the past nine and a half years, so there’s a sadness about what it means to leave an institution that has been important to me.

In an interview with the Kenyon Collegian, you said the jump to museum work isn’t as big as it might initially appear. Can you talk about the parallels between leading a small liberal arts college (with a formidable science program) and leading a museum like the AMNH?

The museum is very much an active research institution, with a large staff of research scientists in fields ranging from astrophysics and invertebrate biology to paleontology and anthropology. There are faculty and students who are enrolled in master’s and doctoral degree programs. In December, the journal *Science* published a paper (by AMNH biologist Jesse Delia and collaborator Carlos Taboada) about the camouflaging abilities of glass frogs. Their skin is transparent, so under regular light, you can see their internal organs. There’s cool stuff like that happening at the museum all the time. So there are a lot of parallels between the work that happens in the museum and the work that happens at institutions like Kenyon.

Is there a room or area of the AMNH where, even if you spent most of your time there, it would never get old?

The area so far that has captured my attention is the Arthur Ross Hall of Meteorites, which includes not only artifacts from the Earth, but also a collection of meteorites and other planetary items. It’s a space where my interests in physical sciences and chemistry intersect with planetary science.

Have Kenyon students been knocking down your door asking about internships at the museum?

There have been a few, and there are already alumni who work at the museum. It’s a place where Kenyon folks have gone to do internships in a range of areas, and some folks have stayed on as research assistants.

At Kenyon and the AMNH, news headlines focused on your being the first African American person in the role. How does it feel to carry that title and responsibility from role to role?

This is an area where I have complex and mixed feelings. I take very seriously the idea that being the first African American president of Kenyon, and the first African American president of the AMNH, carries symbolic meaning



for a lot of people. African Americans and other minoritized groups are underrepresented among research scientists, and among students who study science. Studies have shown that an underlying reason is a sense of the sciences being not fully inclusive, and unwelcoming, to folks from some groups. At Kenyon, this is a topic we have been working to address, and part of that work is providing role models so that people — especially young people — can see what is possible, and can see themselves reflected in the institutions. It's not a sufficient step toward making these institutions inclusive, but it's an important step. From that perspective, there is a responsibility and an honor that comes with being part of that symbolic transformation. The mixed feeling part is that, just in the same way that Kenyon is an institution that is 200 years old, the museum is 153 years old. I long for the moment when I am not the first moving into a role like this because what's important isn't being the first who is able to break through or walk through an open door; it's being able to hold the door open for others to come through, as well.

In what ways is Kenyon different now from when you first arrived, and how are you different?

The demographics of our students have changed over the course of the last 10 years, and the physical campus has changed. The work that we

have done around emphasizing career development and internships has grown and evolved. But I think the more interesting changes are the places where Kenyon and the broader world have changed and evolved together. COVID was a disrupter in the ways in which we all operate and connect with one another as a community. There's the world before 2020 and the world after 2020, and the world after 2020 has some things that have fundamentally shifted. I think we, broadly as a culture, and Kenyon as an institution, are still grappling with what the resolution of some of those impacts will be. Putting COVID aside, the political culture and social discourse in the broader world is more polarized and harsher in tone. Social media 10 years ago felt primarily like a cute way to share information — and cat videos — and it is still that a little bit. But it also amplifies division and polarization, and has an impact on how we interact with each other and with the world.

All of those things have had an impact on Kenyon, as well, and I think there's a tension in the way it has impacted the institution. It has helped to reify the importance of establishing a community on campus that fights against the forces that pull people apart, to ensure that the campus remains a place where people can build personal relationships across points of difference. But it also has made that work more important — and more difficult.

The thing that is most constant over my time

Sean Decatur in his new workplace, the American Museum of Natural History, in New York City.

“My dream for higher education in general is that we get back to a sense of education being part of the solution to making the world a better place.”

— Sean Decatur

at Kenyon is that every fall you meet a new set of first-year students and they are energetic and curious, bright with lots of ideas, and a little clueless (but in the most charming way). I’ve had the chance to watch those students grow and develop and mature, and then they walk across the stage four years later, still curious, still bright, but you can see how their way of seeing the world has changed. You can see a deepening of their thought. A lot has happened to them because of the experience that they’ve had on campus. Being able to witness that process is just the coolest thing. It’s the thing I have enjoyed the most in my academic career, and it’s the thing I’m going to miss the most about Kenyon.

What do you hope for the Kenyon of the future? And for higher ed in general?

Kenyon is a strong institution with a unique commitment to the concept of education within a tight-knit community. That was something that was present before I arrived, and I hope that will continue to be part of the institution as it moves forward, while also expanding who is brought in to be a member of that community.

My dream for higher education in general is that we get back to a sense of education

being part of the solution to making the world a better place, as opposed to educational institutions being considered part of the problem. I do think these things come in cycles and are connected with a sense of broader social turbulence. Moments of social upheaval are moments where all institutions, including colleges and universities, begin to lose trust and confidence. Colleges and universities reflect the world around them. We are at a moment where there is low confidence in our institutions, and that has reduced broader confidence in higher education. My dream is that we will hit an upswing on that cycle and that we can maintain enough strength in our institutions to be able to keep things moving forward.

Any parting thoughts?

I feel a great deal of gratitude to the Kenyon community, broadly: to the students, staff and faculty who I’ve been able to work with over the past nine and a half years, and to the Board of Trustees, which decided to hire me, but also entrusted and supported me. Kenyon as an institution is in a strong position, which I think has very little to do with me, or whoever is the president, and has to do a lot with the people who have a longstanding interest and investment in keeping the institution a strong place. ❧



Decatur was a true (and much-loved) Kenyon fan, whether he was cheering on sports teams or celebrating alumni achievements.



FROM LEFT: PHOTOS BY MIKE MUNDEN; JAMES DECAMP



Left: Decatur catches up with a group of Kenyon students in 2015. Below: He embraces a new graduate after the 2016 Commencement ceremony.



The Decatur Decade

How our 19th president increased access and opportunity for students

When her bright son was young, Sean Decatur's mother, Doris, recognized that he needed to be challenged more. Financial aid helped allow the family to send him to a top private school. Later, as an undergraduate at Swarthmore, Decatur was in the first cohort of a program now known as the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship program, which encourages students of color and first-generation students to consider careers in academics.

Decatur brought these lessons of educational opportunity with him to Kenyon. In 2017, Kenyon was one of only two liberal arts colleges to receive a 2017 Howard Hughes Medical Institute Inclusive Excellence grant to increase inclusion of all students who study science at Kenyon. Decatur emphasized the importance of "a learning environment supportive of all students that reduces barriers to success."

He also remained focused on the ambitious goal of lowering financial barriers to Kenyon. This work took many forms, most recently as the Kenyon Access Initiative (KAI), a \$50 million grant partnership with the Schuler Education Foundation to create a new scholarship for high-achieving students whose families have limited resources and those who are ineligible for government aid. Decatur called the initiative "the most important work that I've been part of at Kenyon," because of its ability to accelerate Kenyon's broader goal of increasing diversity of all kinds.

KAI builds on the goal of the President's Fund, a scholarship created in 2015 with the leadership of Barry F. Schwartz '70 H'15, former chair of the Board of Trustees, to allow for the admission of top-tier qualified students, regard-

less of their family's ability to pay. In January, the fund was renamed the Sean M. Decatur Endowed Scholarship Fund, "a permanent reminder of his legacy," as Schwartz put it.

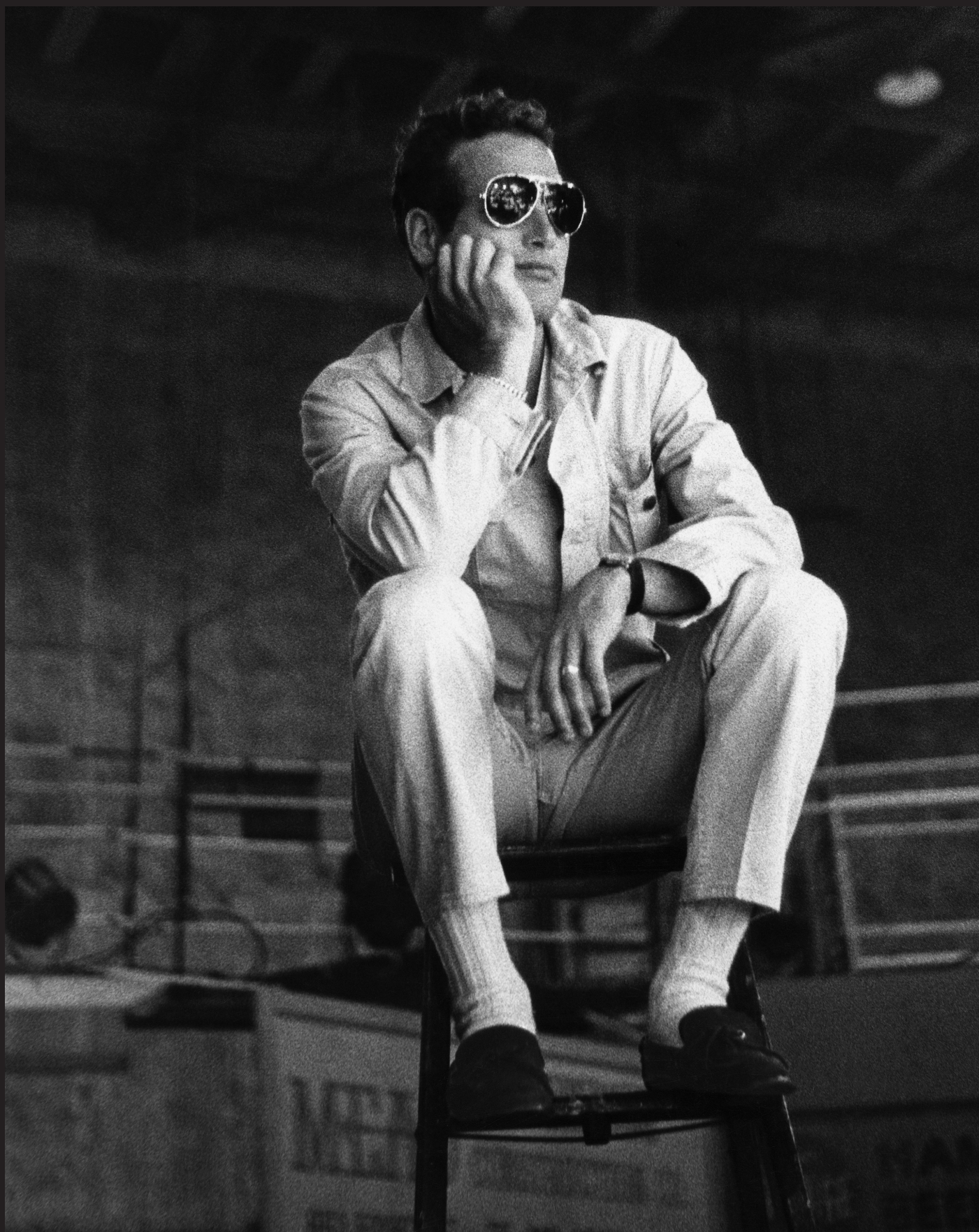
William E. Lowry Jr. '56 H'99, a longtime member of the Board for whom Kenyon's athletic center was renamed in 2021, served on the three previous presidential search committees, including the one that brought Decatur to Kenyon. "He was almost perfect to work with," said Lowry, who was active on the board from 1988 to 2012 and remains in an emeritus capacity. "I saw in Sean a balance ... meaning his scientific background produced a methodology many of us don't have because he was extremely thoughtful, concise and clear."

"He'll have a legacy of being a doer, accomplishing things that might never have been accomplished."

Decatur was at the helm for much of the Our Path Forward to the Bicentennial campaign to grow Kenyon's endowment. Two record-setting anonymous gifts — of \$75 million and \$100 million — were powerful catalysts, allowing for the construction of the West Quad and in-progress South Campus residences.

The campaign will conclude in June 2024, the year of the College's 200th birthday, as the most successful in Kenyon's history, powered by the momentum of nearly a decade of Decatur's visionary leadership. Its impact and Decatur's are inseparable, two sides of the same story about inspiring the Kenyon community to be part of a future for Kenyon in which all students who could thrive here have the opportunity to do just that.

— MOLLY VOGEL '00



Paul Newman visiting the set of "The Stripper" in 1963, a film that starred his wife, Joanne Woodward.



What Makes a Legend?

*Why Paul Newman
is having a moment.
Again.*

BY EILEEN CARTTER '16

In the opening moments

of “The Last Movie Stars” — a six-part HBO documentary series profiling the lives and legacies of Hollywood greats Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward — the project’s director, actor Ethan Hawke, recalls his first memory of Newman: Hawke was a 10-year-old kid growing up in Fort Worth, Texas, when, on one hot summer Sunday, his dad suggested they play hooky from church to catch a matinee revival of a cowboy picture called “Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid.”

“And from that day forward,” Hawke narrates, “the movies have been the church of my choice.”

“The Last Movie Stars” is one of two major retrospective works about Paul Newman ’49 H’61 to emerge in the past year, the other being a posthumous memoir, poignantly called “The Extraordinary Life of an Ordinary Man,” published by Knopf. Both projects were gleaned from hundreds of hours of recorded interviews that the actor and his friend, “Rebel Without a

The docuseries, which examines Newman and Woodward’s enviable, complicated 50-year marriage amidst their dovetailing careers, was a project Hawke took on at the request of the couple’s youngest daughter, Clea Newman, who also had a hand in the memoir’s publication. (Woodward, now 92, has been living with Alzheimer’s disease since 2007.)

Both stem from the notion that, at one point in his life, Newman wanted, in his words, “to leave some kind of record that sets things straight, pokes holes in the mythology that’s sprung up around me, destroys some of the legends, and keeps the piranhas off, (because) what exists on the record now has no bearing at all on the truth.”

It’s an interesting time to look back on a classical industry legend like Newman, a person of a time and place we most certainly hail from but can never return to again.

What, then, to make of this “Newmanaisance,” as actor Josh Radnor ’96 terms it? Here is a beloved man who was, in some sense, interested in demolishing his own mythology. Who, at least at one moment in time, urged us to reconsider who he was and how we saw him. In any case, Newman probably understood that legacies are often shaped by the memories and stories that others share — and that the reasons for which we attach meaning to someone else’s legacy are constantly changing. All of which is to say, we probably ought to re-examine how we regard legends in the first place.

“The myth overtook the man.”

“If you go to Kenyon and you become an actor or go into the arts, the Newman lore and mystique is unavoidable,” Radnor told me by phone. Like Newman, Radnor’s parents are from Cleveland, and his father, Alan Radnor ’67 P’96, ’00, also went to Kenyon. He remembers seeing a framed photo of Newman in the Shaffer Speech Building, home of the Hill Theater, and feeling a connection across space and time, comforted by the idea “that he performed on the stage of the Hill where I performed so many times, that he probably had classes in Ascension Hall, that we



Robert Redford (left) as Sundance Kid and Paul Newman as Butch Cassidy in the 1969 Western “Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid.”

Cause” screenwriter Stewart Stern, conducted among key players in Newman’s life between 1986 and 1991, ostensibly for a future autobiography. (There also is a striking, though unrelated, new photobook of Newman, called “Blue-Eyed Cool.”) As the story goes, Newman himself set fire to the audiotapes in the late ’90s — but not before Stern had transcribed them all. In 2019, nearly a decade after Newman died of cancer at age 83, a friend of the family found the transcripts locked away in filing cabinets in an old storage unit — the place where all lost things go.



Newman, center, performing in the 1920 science-fiction play, "R.U.R." by Czech writer Karel Čapek, at Kenyon in 1948.

walked the same Middle Path."

"I took some comfort in the fact that he went there and I went there," said Radnor, who starred in the CBS sitcom "How I Met Your Mother" and later returned to Gambier to direct his 2012 film "Liberal Arts." "Even if the actual person felt very far away, and the myth overtook the man in some ways."

In his memoir, Newman's mythical Kenyon days read more like a bawdy parable.

"The incredibly stupid mistake I made coming out of the war, having not been shot down in the Pacific, was signing up for a non-coed school like Kenyon College," Newman regaled in the memoir. "I thought what I wanted, even more than women, was a good education." He turned to theater after getting kicked off the football team; his directors had a hard time not casting him as the lead. He received this with his usual self-deprecation: "I never regarded my (undergraduate) performances as real successes; they were just something that was done, nothing more important than someone working hard and getting an A in political science."

One year, he founded a clothes-washing service called Newman's Laundry and Dry Cleaning Service out of an empty storefront on Main Street in Gambier; to promote it, he offered customers a free beer with each load. His senior yearbook blurb in the 1949 Reveille read: "Prone to getting out of hand on long and trying evenings."

On campus, Newman's legacy is all around. It fills the rafters of the Hill, where he starred in nine theater productions, but it also at times persists in the clandestine celebration of Newman Day, during which a quote is often

attributed to him — "Twenty-four beers in a case, 24 hours in a day. Coincidence? I think not" — though Newman himself repeatedly disavowed both the practice and the attribution. (He purportedly addressed the student body in a 2005 email to President S. Georgia Nugent that included the line: "I lost a son to alcohol/plus other stuff. The thing is — he started out just as harmless as any of you.") In 1978, Newman returned to Gambier to christen the new Bolton Theater with its inaugural production of "C.C. Pyle and the Bunion Derby," whose cast featured then-student Allison Janney '82; the following year, he and Woodward came back to help establish a summer-stock theater company. For decades now, every year during Honors Day, the drama department has awarded its top actors — including Radnor and Janney — trophies named in Newman and Woodward's honor, creating a daunting lineage of legacy characters.

By all accounts, in theater and certainly otherwise, their generosity was boundless. Paul and Joanne nurtured fellow actors all their lives. After "C.C. Pyle," Newman saw something in Janney: "I must have done something that impressed Paul," Janney previously told the Kenyon Alumni Magazine, "because he told me: 'If you ever need a favor, you can ask me for it — it has to be specific, so don't waste it!' I actually never asked him for anything, but it gave me confidence knowing he believed in me."

What's more amazing, in the nearly 75 years since Newman attended Kenyon, is that so many people in the Kenyon orbit still seem to have a Newman story: some instance of seeing him around, or knowing someone who did, "even if it was second- or third-hand," laughed College



Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward at their Beverly Hills home in 1958.

historian Tom Stamp '73. There always seems to be “some reference to having had a sighting or sitting at the table next to his in a restaurant, or at the stool next to his at a bar,” said Stamp. Last July, I went with two fellow Kenyon alumni to a screening of “The Last Movie Stars” at Film Forum in New York City, which was followed by a Q and A with Hawke. Unsurprisingly, there was another alum in the audience — I wish I’d gotten his name — who shared a story about his mother feeling completely over the moon to see Newman walking across campus at an alumni event.

“There’s no denying that he was remarkably handsome,” Stamp said. “I mean, you would stop dead when you saw those eyes, especially.”

Perhaps saying you once saw Paul Newman is like saying you went to Woodstock in '69; it hardly matters if it's actually true. But for a small village in central Ohio, the quantity of stories alone helps Newman seem, as Stamp put it, “life-size and larger than life at the same time.” Newman was a real-life celebrity — but he was also a *Kenyon celebrity*.

Chris Eigeman '87, a director and actor best known for performances in Whit Stillman's “Metropolitan,” “Barcelona” and “The Last Days of Disco,” as well as Noah Baumbach's “Kicking and Screaming,” and a recurring role on the TV show “Gilmore Girls,” described meeting Newman in person before he passed away, saying that

his presence felt both enormous and gracious. “It’s not lost on anybody that he was a huge movie star and that just makes its own weather,” said Eigeman — who, like Radnor, was a Mr. Paul Newman Trophy winner at Kenyon.

“He always stopped traffic — but to help people cross the road.”

Time, however, remains the only constant: Stamp, as well as College archivist Abigail Tayse, who frequently fields media requests for Newman-related materials from Chalmers Library's digital archive, say they've observed fewer and fewer current Kenyon students each year who seem to have a concrete sense of who Newman is. Or, if they are familiar with Newman, it's not because they know his filmography. It's because they know his salad dressing.

Among all his other qualities, Newman was also, apparently, a stickler about homemade vinaigrette. He was known to gift friends and neighbors with his own proprietary brew that would become the cornerstone product of his charitable food company, Newman's Own, which

PHOTO © 1978 SID AVERY

he founded in 1982 with his friend, writer A. E. Hotchner. What began as a simple if chaotic enterprise (as the story goes, Newman and Hotchner first set up shop in the barn at Newman's house in Westport, Connecticut, and mixed up a vat of the stuff using an old canoe paddle) grew into a multimillion-dollar non-profit empire of jarred pasta sauce, frozen pizza and microwave popcorn, among other things. Newman donated the net proceeds to various organizations benefiting children. In 1988, Newman founded the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp as a getaway for children with serious illnesses and their families.

In his memoir, Newman determined that “the most barometric incident in my college life was entrepreneurial, not theatrical: it was my laundry business.” Later in his life, he shifted the course of his own legacy, refashioning himself from actor to entrepreneur once again — though this time, Newman's success as a salesman was buoyed not by free cans of beer but, in part, by the warmly rendered illustrations of his famous face on its packaging. “The younger generation doesn't buy the stuff because of me,” a then-78-year-old Newman told the New York Times in 2003. “They don't even know me. I think they buy it because of the charity.”

Miriam E. Nelson, former president and CEO of Newman's Own Foundation, hopes the world remembers Newman for being “radically good” well ahead of his time. For the ways in which he worked “to make the world better, to use the influence that he had to show up and support people and organizations,” she told me. “And I do hope that, you know, people remember that he was absolutely stunning, and that he channeled that. He used it all. He used every one of his assets for good.”

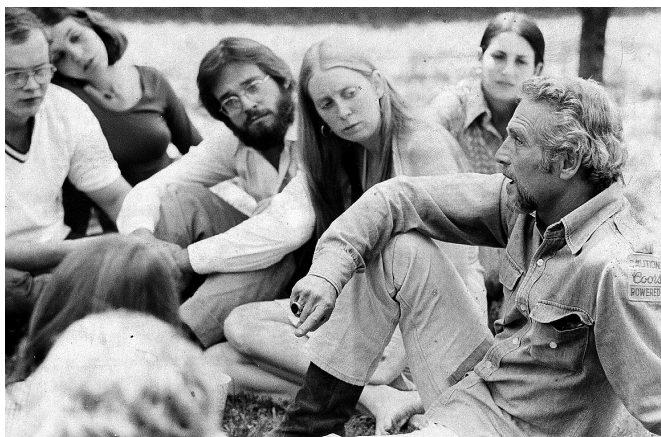
Of all the times Nelson has found herself in Westport, where the foundation is headquartered, there hasn't been one when somebody didn't share with her a Newman anecdote. “He stopped traffic — well, he always stopped traffic — but to help people cross the road,” she said. The owner of a local house Nelson rented in town shared his story that, as a young kid, he used to indulge in some stealthy trout fishing in a stream on the Woodward-Newman property. Once, a gleeful Newman spotted him, and then promptly invited him inside the house to fry them up.

“It was Philander Chase and Paul Newman, and then everyone else.”

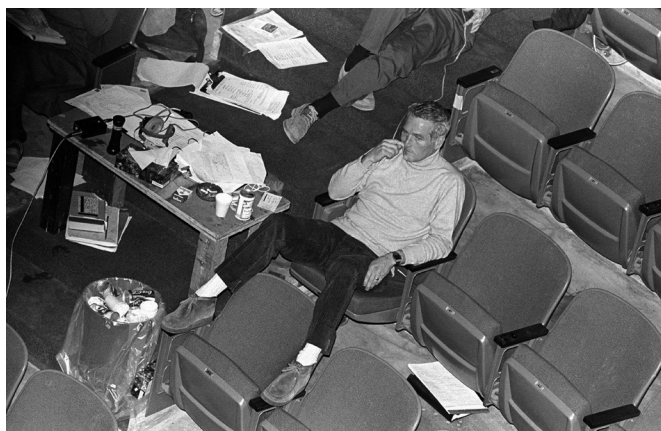
Whether or not “The Extraordinary Life of an Ordinary Man,” or its source material that animates Hawke's documentary, lays bare those things in the way Newman himself would have wanted is itself a complication, or a function, of legacy. Lest we forget, Newman himself *burned* the tapes, perhaps having grown resentful or ambivalent to the whole idea of revisionist



On June 3, 1961, Kenyon awarded Newman an Honorary Doctor of Letters degree at Commencement. He felt a “debt of gratitude” to Kenyon and stayed closely connected throughout his career. He and his wife, actor Joanne Woodward, donated generously to the College. A room in the new admissions building, Lowell House, is dedicated to Newman.



Newman returned to Kenyon in 1978 to direct the world debut of “C.C. Pyle and the Bunion Derby” in the new Bolton Theater. He spent two months on campus.



Newman directing “C.C. Pyle” at Kenyon.

history. And yet our stories find ways of getting told, even when we're not around to supervise.

There's a cosmic equilibrium to this. "The years go by, and we're all going to be misremembered and then forgotten. And I take some comfort in that, in a weird way," Radnor told me. "I feel like part of the beauty of life is that it's lived in the present, and we flicker as bright as we can or are meant to, and then we make way for other generations. But I do think, if you're interested in acting and you're interested in film and you want to see it done at some of the very highest levels, there are these movies that this guy Paul Newman made that are worth checking out."

As far as reasons go for a Newman cultural resurgence, Eigeman admitted he "(doesn't)



Newman was known for having "vibrant, eye-catching hobbies" including racing cars. He's pictured here during a 1979 car race in France.

know what gave rise to this. I'm certainly grateful for it. I'm always happy to hear about Paul Newman. You could try to make an argument that there was a deep sense of decency about the man, and that has been in short supply at times." It helps, he added, that Newman had "such vibrant, eye-catching hobbies. I like to cook, but I've never been behind the wheel of an F1 sports car." Eigeman recalled once sitting at the Kenyon Bookstore when he was a student, reading a magazine article about Newman in which he mentioned having a sauna in his house, and a ritual and a ritual of going down to said sauna in a pair of cutoffs with a can of beer and the New York Times; eventually, he'd emerge from the sauna with an empty beer, covered in newsprint.

"And I was like, 'That's something I can emulate,'" Eigeman laughed. "I want to get to a point in my life where I have a sauna and can go down with a can of Budweiser and a newspaper and be left alone and come out looking like a ragamuffin." Eigeman paused for a moment: "I guess he actually did loom slightly larger than I thought he did."

It's stories like that, about legacies like Newman's, that coalesce into a broader public discourse about the death of the monoculture: the aching sense that we've lost all previous notion of a unified mass audience, fractured

by the internet's burden of choice. Hawke's documentary title is a reference to a characterization about Newman and Woodward from their friend, writer Gore Vidal, who said they were the last to come up in the classical way that the Golden Age stars did: taking classes at the Actors Studio, working within the confines of the old studio system.

Kathryn VanArendonk '07, a Vulture television critic who reviewed "The Last Movie Stars" for New York magazine, briefly worked in the library archives during her senior year at Kenyon. There, digitizing the College's historical ephemera, she got a solid sense of the key figures in Kenyon lore: "It was Philander Chase and Paul Newman, and then everyone else."

Nowadays, that sort of rarefied ground feels like a relic in itself.

"In spite of how remarkably prolific he and Joanne were, the fact of his stardom, and the intensity of the myth around him meant that he was not a person (you) felt like you knew. They were not a friendly constant presence in your home in the way that a TV star was at the time," said VanArendonk, though she noted they had both acted in television roles. That mythological "separateness, between who they are and the work that they do, and the person that their audiences see and don't have access to," can be mighty useful to a movie star's career. "At the same time, it can be so corrosive, this knowledge that this viewing audience sees you one way and (you) need to maintain that wall of who you are." Whatever spiritual membrane that once shrouded celebrity as "untouchable" has long since worn out.

Last summer, in the aftermath of the ultimate Tom Cruise victory lap that was "Top Gun: Maverick," the Times critic Wesley Morris considered the end of movie stardom. He pointed out that Cruise, who turned 60 this past July, is now one year younger than Newman was when they acted together in "The Color of Money" (1986), the performance for which Newman finally won his Oscar — the eighth nomination of his career.

"Newman was 61, which is nothing like Cruise's extraterrestrial 60. (Newman) is gray, with wrinkles and some creaks," Morris wrote. "There's history in those creases: reserves of sadness, loss, disappointment, shame, hurt, loneliness, eased along by cigarettes and booze. For a veteran star, these are virtues. Currency. And the movie compels you to appreciate the accrual of time — the decades he's lived, the decades we've lived alongside a version of him. How much had he changed? How much had we?"

Hawke, speaking on an episode of the "Talk Easy with Sam Fragoso" podcast that Radnor had recommended, recalled a favorite memory during the making of "The Last Movie Stars." Actor Sam Rockwell, who voices frequent Newman director Stuart Rosenberg in the HBO doc, hadn't seen 1973's "The Sting" in years but suddenly remembered a hyper-specific Newman moment from it: Newman's character, Henry Gondorff, wipes his mouth with his necktie after a sneeze. A brief gesture, sure — but are those gestures, these bits and bites of performed personhood, not a reason to love movies in the first place?



In his memoir, published posthumously in 2022, Newman urges readers to reconsider who he was and how they saw him.

“These things are a part of us. They live inside of us,” Hawke emphasized. “We are carrying on these torches and fires that are lit from generations before, and if that’s true, then what we do today matters to the future. And not just to your kids—(to) your friends, your people, the people you see tonight at dinner. All of it is happening in the present tense.”

Newman was always highly critical of his own talent, the choices he made and the advantages he had along the way. (His self-criticism is not always unmerited, but it is quite harsh.) He, a self-described “emotional Republican,” was a generational success as an actor, director, race car driver and philanthropist, but self-doubt

followed him always. In the black-and-white photograph that covers the memoir, Newman gazes out from behind the palm of his hand, obscuring most of his famous face and one of his famous blue eyeballs. “I picture my epitaph,” he once said. “Here lies Paul Newman, who died a failure because his eyes turned brown.” Wildly enough, Newman himself was color-blind. κ

Eileen Cartter '16 lives in Brooklyn, New York, and is a staff writer at GQ. At Kenyon she was a member of the Gund Gallery-partnered, extracurricular film club Cinearts, and the first movie they screened during her senior year was “Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid.”

Bulletin

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The Comeback

The men's swimming and diving team celebrates its recent victory in the North Coast Athletic Conference championship meet. It was the 25th NCAC crown in 38 seasons for Kenyon, which last won it in 2020.

PHOTO BY GRAHAM STOKES





The Long (Book) Goodbye

The art (and math) of building
a bookshelf bucket list

BY ANDREW WELSH-HUGGINS '83 P'17

PHOTOGRAPHED BY REBECCA TIEN

RECENTLY, A BIT OUT OF CHARACTER, I stopped reading a book. The volume in question, the American classic “Dog Soldiers,” by Robert Stone, is a gritty 1960s novel about Vietnam and the drug-running culture it abetted back home. No offense to Stone or the book’s place in U.S. letters; with its themes and prose, I can understand why its reputation preceded it. But for better or worse, it just didn’t hold my attention. So I moved on.



My decision had less to do with literary critique than with necessity. There's a reason I have to be judicious in my reading these days. Having now turned 60, I recently realized I only have about 1,800 books left to read.

Growing up, I was the kid who always had his nose in a book — a back of the cereal box reader, my mom called me — and not much changed through my life. Even at Kenyon, I occasionally snuck a “pleasure” book or two in between all the required course reading. During that time, though, I couldn't have told you how many books I read each year. Then, after moving to Youngstown in the mid-1990s to take a job at *The Vindicator* (the family newspaper of Mark Brown '81), I met Morris Slavin. The retired Youngstown State University professor — he and his wife, Sophie, were our next-door neighbors — explained how he'd kept a book journal since age 13. Given that he was over 80 then, that meant he had a record of every book he'd read for well over six decades. I didn't need further convincing, and started my own book journal in 1998.

My first entry, from May 30 of that year, was “Hotel du Lac,” by Anita Brookner, a Booker Prize-winning novel about a romance novelist staying at a Lake Geneva resort. Among the 14 other books I recorded that year: Roald Dahl's “Matilda,” Michael Shaara's Gettysburg Civil War novel “The Killer Angels,” Richard Ford's “The Sportswriter” and — this was a fun discovery, looking back — P.F. Kluge's Kenyon memoir, “Alma Mater,” recorded in my journal on Nov. 21, 1998.

We had young children then and my reading was somewhat limited given the obligations of parenthood (though the arrival of the “Harry Potter” series helped keep my quota afloat). My records from the first decade of my journal tally an average of about 30 books a year. Gradually, that number crept up, and now, a certified empty nester, I average around 55 books a year, give or take.

Looking ahead to retirement, I'm confident that number will rise to about 60, which is how I arrived at my back-of-the-envelope calculation of 1,800, assuming I breathe my last around age 90. (It's not lost on me that among many reasons to hope for a longer life is the chance of pushing my book totals higher.) Naturally, this realization begs the obvious question: how ruthless should I be with a finite number of titles left? Is it time to spend our children's inheritance on the Library of America collection? Should I make one last attempt to finish “Ulysses” or “Gravity's Rainbow”?

The short answer is that my reading habits are unlikely to change, with apologies to James Joyce and Thomas Pynchon, respectively. I'm a journalist by trade and a crime fiction writer by avocation, and my book choices reflect those inclinations. Among recent titles I recorded in my book journal: Sue Grafton's private eye classic



“B is for Burglar,” the Akashic Books crime anthology “San Juan Noir;” journalist Brian Alexander's nonfiction book “The Hospital;” Don Winslow's drug war thriller “The Power of the Dog;” and Kathryn Miles' true crime narrative “Trailed,” about the search for answers in the 1996 slayings of two women in the Shenandoah National Forest. A nearly perfect reflection of my taste in titles.

Still, my reading habits aren't completely set in stone. I often think of the response of crime novelist Walter Mosley to the question of his next read: “I find books the way a cow finds a new pasture, by looking to see where the other cows are headed.” Mining the literary zeitgeist is what led me to discoveries like Emily St. John's eerily prescient pandemic novel “Station Eleven”; Christopher McDougal's insightful nonfiction book about the sport of burro racing, “Running With Sherman”; and James McBride's witty 1960s-set New York novel “Deacon King Kong.” The last was also a selection for my book club, which often exposes me to reads I can't put down — everything from Kazuo Ishiguro's “Klara and the Sun” to Willa Cather's 1922 classic “One of Our Own” — but which I probably wouldn't have come to on my own.

So there you have it — the bucket list approach I've chosen for the books left remaining to me. A continued embrace of my love of reading, heavy on mysteries and nonfiction, with a nod to mortality. And now, if you'll excuse me, it's time for my daily crossword. I estimate I only have 10,795 left to do. ❧

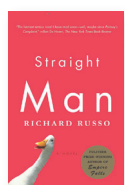
Recommended books for your reading bucket list

When I polled the Kenyon community for “bookshelf bucket list” books — that is, lifetime must-read titles — the response was heartening, especially in an age when so many conversations start with, “What are you streaming right now?” From fiction to nonfiction, from literary novels to memoirs, the recommendations shared with me spanned the spectrum of reading. Best of all, I have several new titles for my personal TBR pile. Here are some of the many suggestions I received. — Andrew Welsh-Huggins '83 P'17



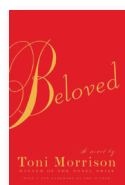
We Measure the Earth With Our Bodies
by Tsering Yangzom Lama

RECOMMENDED BY
Ira Sukrungruang,
the Richard L.
Thomas Professor
of Creative Writing
“The novel speaks to the often-forgotten tragedy of Tibet and focuses on individual and cultural trauma that follows over an ocean and into the lives of people who know only of loss.”



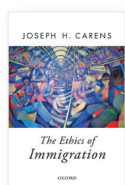
Straight Man
by Richard Russo

RECOMMENDED BY
Jeff Kallet '90,
English major
“Straight Man is hilarious, includes great characterization and wonderful observations.”



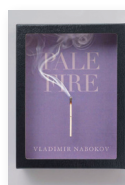
Beloved
by Toni Morrison

RECOMMENDED BY
Mark Tuel, Kenyon
College Book-
store associate
“I often describe her prose as the closest thing a reader can get to poetry that is not actually written in poetic form.”



The Ethics of Immigration
by Joseph Carens

RECOMMENDED BY
Nancy Powers '83
(like me),
professor of
political science
“It makes a strong case for immigration policies that put individual human rights above sovereign claims to control territory and it does so in clear prose, honest consideration of alternative arguments and memorable examples.”



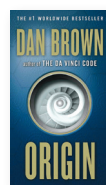
Pale Fire
by Vladimir Nabokov

RECOMMENDED BY
Adam Samet '22,
a history and
political science
double major
“Both through the sheer complexity of its structure and its existential theming, ‘Pale Fire’ caused me an almost-overwhelming amount of introspection upon first reading.”



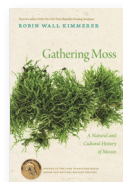
Albion's Seed: Four British Folkways in America
by David Hackett Fischer

RECOMMENDED BY
Jeff Webster '84,
political science
major
“Transformed how I understand American history and its regional differences.”



Origin
by Dan Brown

RECOMMENDED BY
Amanda Kurlee
'01, political sci-
ence major
“Brown researches scientific theories and unveils them in a fascinating and thought-provoking way. And you really just don't want to put the book down, which makes for a fun read.”



Gathering Moss: A Natural and Cultural History of Mosses
by Robin Wall Kimmerer

RECOMMENDED BY
Becky Sicking '89,
English major
“Looking deeply into a small but vast world of interconnected beings and making connections from micro to macro I found especially meaningful and reflective.”



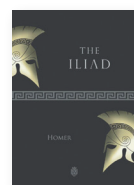
The Secret Lives of Color
by Kassia St. Clair

RECOMMENDED BY
Charlotte Woolf,
visiting assistant
professor of
studio art
“The history of specific colors is unexpectedly vast. Enjoy vignettes about colors from Dragon's Blood to Tyrian Purple.”



Living a Feminist Life
by Sara Ahmed

RECOMMENDED BY
Gilda Rodriguez,
visiting instructor
of women and
gender studies
“First in my own feminist survival toolkit. Although I assign it in one of my courses, I also recommend it to pretty much everyone I come across.”



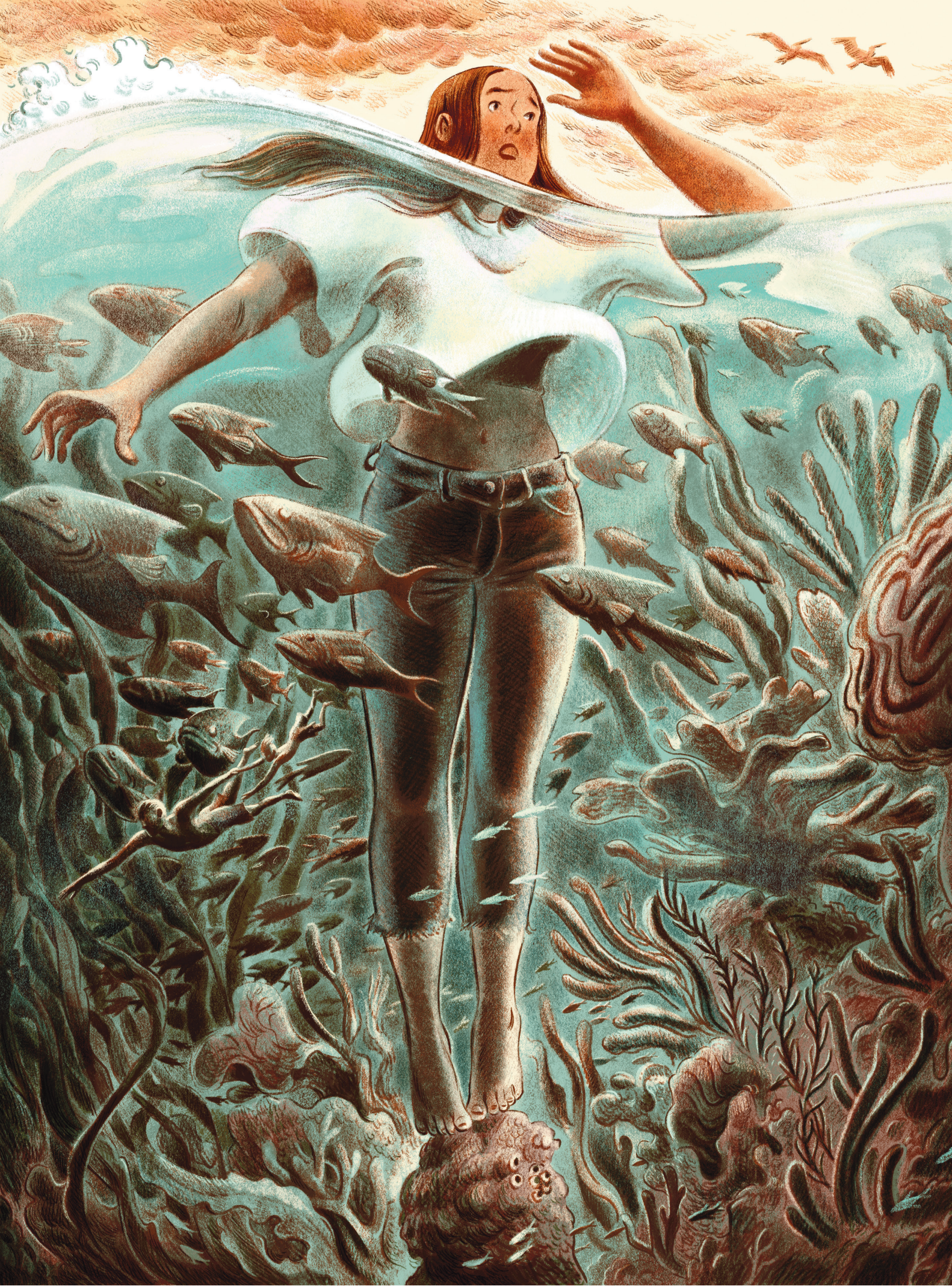
Homer's Iliad and Plato's Symposium

RECOMMENDED BY
William McCulloh,
classics professor
emeritus (and one
of my professors)
“Plato's Crito, though brief, is a gem. I should not fail to cite Vergil's ‘Aeneid’ on the Latin side!”



The Seven Moons of Maali Almeida
by Shehan Karunatilaka

RECOMMENDED BY
Pashmina Murthy,
associate profes-
sor of English. One
of a trio of titles
recommended by
Murthy, including
“The God of Small
Things” by Arund-
hati Roy and “But-
terfly Burning” by
Yvonne Vera, that,
as Murthy says,
“pries open repressed pasts (whether of the individual's or the nation's) in a way that is simultaneously haunting and deeply humane.”



“AT SEA” | FEATURED BOOK

How to Breathe Underwater

Emma Fedor '09, author of “At Sea,” on writing inspiration, Kenyon family connections and legendary professors

HOW FAR WOULD YOU GO TO FIND YOUR MISSING child and the troubled father, your first love, who took him?

Emma (Mueller) Fedor’s debut novel “At Sea” (Gallery Books) hinges on that question. The novel follows Cara, who’s newly graduated from college and spending time with her aunt and uncle on Martha’s Vineyard while grieving her mother’s death and figuring out what she wants to do next.

There she meets the charming, charismatic Brendan, a captain in Army Special Forces who, due to experimental surgery, claims he can breathe underwater. They fall in love and must quickly build a life together when Cara discovers she’s pregnant. However, spending more time with Brendan exposes Cara to a darker side of him: violent mood swings, paranoid delusions and disappearances for days on end. One night, the baby has disappeared from his crib and Brendan is nowhere to be found.

Five years later, Cara is married to someone else and working to heal, but when a rumor of a man and a boy swimming far into the ocean makes it to her ears, her hope that her son is alive thrusts her back to the old haunts of her first love to find him.

In a starred review, Publishers Weekly called the book a “mesmerizing fantastical debut ... that will hook readers,” and Goodreads included “At Sea” in a list of the “105 of the Buzziest Debut Novels of the New Year.”

Fedor ’09 spoke with Kenyon Alumni Magazine writer Mandy Shunnarah about “At Sea,” Kenyon meet-cutes and more. Their conversation has been lightly edited for length and clarity.

I loved “At Sea.” I read it in two days because I couldn’t put it down. How did the novel come to be?

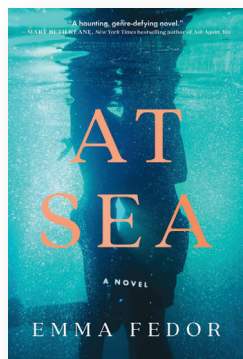
After I graduated from Kenyon I lived abroad for a little while, then I came home and was living

with my parents and I had all this time on my hands. I’d always wanted to write a novel, so I thought, why not now? Every night when my parents went to bed I’d get on my laptop and start typing. It was pre-smartphone and my parents didn’t have Wi-Fi in the house, so it was distraction-free.

I spent a year working on this one manuscript and I finished it at 90,000 words. I worked on that first book for five years after that, tweaking it and trying to adjust my query letters to agents. I’d promised myself I’d never give up on it, but the day finally came when I was ready to move on, put that book in the proverbial drawer and start from scratch. Using what I’d learned from writing and pitching that book, I was able to start “At Sea.”

What was the inspiration behind it?

I had just been reading “State of Wonder” by Ann Patchett, which tells the story of a researcher who finds a tribe in the Amazon, who discover this tree bark that enables the women to conceive and bear children well past the typical child-bearing age — like into their 60s and 70s. It had this fascinating sci-fi hook to it, but the book itself was more character-driven, and more about the personal journey of the protagonist. I loved this concept, and a few days later, the idea for “At Sea” came to me while I was snorkeling. I was underwater and had this moment where I thought, “It’s a



"I've never had a professor spend so much time and attention on my written work. He gave me the most thorough feedback I've ever received and he'd do it that night and would have it back to you the next day."

—Emma Fedor '09
on Professor Perry
Lentz '64 P'88

whole other world under here. What if I could spend hours underwater without a snorkel or any breathing equipment?"

You captured the head rush of first love especially well. What was it like putting yourself in the head space of this young woman who is so overcome by this man?

I love writing stories about those early days of a relationship because there's no feeling like it. Some of my favorite scenes to write were the banter between Cara and Brendan. I'm such a sucker for the kinds of books where you follow a relationship from the beginning and see how it evolves over time. When Cara meets Brendan, she doesn't know what she's going to do post-college, and she's still mourning the death of her mother, so she's in this really vulnerable state. Then Brendan comes in and loves her with no questions asked. For her, it's comforting because she doesn't have to try. It's refreshing and it's just what she needs — to find this person who is so into her so unconditionally that she falls really hard really fast — which sets the stage for the push-and-pull dynamic of their relationship.

And they're having this tumultuous relationship on Martha's Vineyard with its gorgeous summers and brutal winters. When did you fall in love with the island?

I actually grew up going to Cape Cod. My extended family has had a house in the Falmouth area since around 1912. We were so close to where the ferry leaves for Martha's Vineyard, but we never went. It wasn't until I met my husband — we met at Kenyon — that I started going. He's from Cleveland, but his family has always gone to Martha's Vineyard. It's been 15 years now that I go for a few weeks every summer with them.

Having gone to Cape Cod my whole life I thought, how different could it be? I had this vision of it being overrun with tourists and kind of kitschy, and of course it does get crowded in the summer and areas where it's touristy, sure. But I was blown away at how it had its own personality and vibe compared to where I'd always summered. Part of that was where his family goes, which is where the book takes place, on the southwest end of the island. It feels much more remote. There are artists everywhere, and there's this laid-back vibe.

I have to hear the Kenyon meet-cute!

Before I tell you how I met my husband, I have to tell you my whole Kenyon connection. My grandfather graduated from Kenyon in 1936, and while he was there he met my grandmother. It was all men at the time but she was working as the president's secretary. Then my parents also met at Kenyon. My dad, Eric Mueller, was class of '75 and my mom, Jan Lenkoski-Mueller, was class of '77. Plus, both of my dad's brothers went

to Kenyon. One of them ended up marrying his Kenyon sweetheart as well. My mom's sister went there, too. We're a Kenyon family.

During the first week of Orientation I met my husband, Nate Fedor '09. He made friends with some other people on my hall, and we were going to an a cappella concert. The first night we made it official was at a sorority highlighter party. It's a party where there's a blacklight and you draw on each other's T-shirts in highlighter. It was very classy and romantic. I was 18 then, and I'm 35 now. We've been married for eight years and recently welcomed our first child.

I'd love to hear about some of your favorite Kenyon professors.

No surprise, my favorite classes I took were the creative writing seminars. I took "Introduction to Fiction" with P. F. Kluge '64 — you had to apply to get in and I was so excited when I was accepted. The class was in the old Sunset Cottage around a seminar table at night. I was excited to do the homework, excited to go to class. I'd never felt that feeling before where things click and you think, "Oh my gosh, this is what I'm supposed to be doing. I love this." I'll always remember that. Then I took an advanced fiction writing seminar with David Lynn '76 and loved that. I got in as a junior and felt so cool.

There's a legendary Kenyon professor, Perry Lentz '64 P'88, who was there when my parents were students. He was just about to retire so I wanted to take a class with him. But the only class he was teaching was Shakespeare's "Henriad," which I'd read in high school and hated, but I signed up because it felt like a rite of passage. Sign of a good professor: I came to love Shakespeare's "Henriad" through taking his class. He was really tough. He'd give reading quizzes every day, and you constantly had to do written responses to the work, but I've never had a professor spend so much time and attention on my written work. He gave me the most thorough feedback I've ever received and he'd do it that night and would have it back to you the next day. I remember being really inspired by that. I wanted to do well because I thought, "He's going all in, so I'm going to go all in."

What are you working on now?

My next novel is totally different. It follows a group of rock climbers in the American West and you learn at the beginning of the novel that this up-and-coming rising star rock climber has fallen to his death, and it's a little suspicious. The book starts a few months before his death and it's multi-POV, so it's told through the perspectives of four people who were close to him. It's similar to "At Sea" in that I wouldn't necessarily call it a thriller or a mystery, but it has suspenseful elements.

—MANDY SHUNNARAH

NEW RELEASES



Editor's Note:

Have you published a book in the past year? Email editor@kenyon.edu and tell us about it.

I Never Liked You Anyway and When I Was Lost

BY JORDAN KURELLA '99

I Could Live Here Forever

BY HANNA HALPERIN '12

Some people are so magnetic that you can't help but be drawn to them, even when the red flags accumulate. In Halperin's second novel, the protagonist Leah is charmed by Charlie: older, handsome, charismatic, funny and quick to fall in love. When he confesses he's recovering from heroin addiction and swears to never use again, Leah commits to falling as in love with him as he is with her, even when that means ignoring his self-destructive tendencies. "I Could Live Here Forever" is an emotionally intelligent novel about the desire to find love, and the human cost of addiction. (Viking)

Infertility in a Crowded Country:

Hiding Reproduction in India
BY HOLLY DONAHUE SINGH '00

When it comes to the global politics of reproduction, Singh has zeroed in on a particularly fascinating area of study: how impoverished Muslim women in Lucknow, India's most heavily populated state, cope with infertility. Exploring the stigmas, social mores and colonial vestiges of reproduction and sexual propriety, Singh finds these women are willing to do whatever they need — even if that means abandoning social and religious expectations — to have the families they desire. (Indiana University Press)

A Signal for Redemption

BY A. C. MEEHAN '94

Winner of the National Indie Excellence Award, "A Signal for Redemption" is the first in the New Foundation Project sci-fi series. When the spaceship Redemption is a thousand years late to dock on the planet its hull full of settlers hope to call home, the ship is overcrowded and no longer able to sustain the life of its interplanetary settlers. Expecting their new home planet to be technologically advanced, they're surprised to find horse-drawn carriages, blacksmiths and other vestiges of what the settlers assumed was a bygone way of life. With lives on the line, Piers Haldon must figure out a way to land safely against all odds. (Self-Published)

Long Voyage Gathering Light

BY JOHN E. KOOISTRA '65

Winner of the Vern Rutsala Poetry Prize, the poems of "Long Voyage Gathering Light" travels deftly between Alaska and Ohio, zooming in on a particularly beautiful track in the snow and panning out to articulate epiphanies about the world. Kooistra captures both the human and the nature in human nature in a poignant, eloquent way that demands the readers stop and pay attention to their own landscape. (Cloudbank Books)

Steeped in Greek mythology, "I Never Liked You Anyway" follows newly dead Euridyce as she struggles to learn all she needs to know in the afterlife. She's failing her Haunting and Threads of Fate classes, and is even struggling in Baking Disasters. What's a soul to do? She hopes against hope that her new husband, Orpheus, and their polyamorous family will rescue her from the land of the dead. Following the theme of mythology and otherworldly settings populated by spectacular beings, Kurella's short-story collection "When I Was Lost" has everything from werewolves, mermaids and fairies to scorpion people and living ships. (Vernacular Books/Trepidatio Publishing)

Bulletin | Class Notes

Share what's happening in your life. We want to hear from you! Submit your note at kenyon.edu/class-note-form.

1950s

1950

Philippe A. Plouvier, Germigny, France, writes, "Born close to the Wall Street Crash of 1929, another doomsday, still pacing in French northern Burgundy. My optimistic medic is changing next week my pacemaker."

1951

David A. Keyt, Tucson, Arizona, updates, "One knows one has entered the stage of life called 'extreme' old age when the daily obituaries, with rare exceptions, are all of persons younger than oneself. How does it feel to be

Epicurus, honoring the distinguished philosophical career of one of my dissertation students, Fred D. Miller. My own paper in this collection will surely be my swan song. Living into a 10th decade seems to require dumb luck as much as anything else, beginning with the luck of being born with good genes to attentive parents. Another bit of my dumb luck was joining the Archon Society and moving from Old Kenyon into the army barracks that initially housed the Society, thus avoiding the terrible fire that destroyed Old Kenyon in the winter of 1949. A good

good, long shower while listening to folk songs like "Annie Laurie," learned long ago in elementary school; a short half-mile outing on my walker under clear blue skies on a cool summer morning; and, now and then, a surprise call from an old high school, Kenyon or Army buddy. And to top it off, a sound, mostly pain-free night's sleep. Take care, old friends, and good health to you one and all!"

1954

John T. Seaman Jr., Barrington, Illinois, writes, "It has been a good year. In June, Barbara and I celebrated our 67th anniversary. In July, the clan gathered to celebrate my 90th birthday. In September, our first great-grandchild was born. Life is good!"

1956

John G. Hartong, Crystal River, Florida, reminisced about a Spanish professor, Dr. "Fauncie" Ashford: "Psi Upsilon finally initiated him, so he gave B's to pledges and A's to initiated members!"

1959

Raymond L. Brown, Hadley, Massachusetts, enjoyed the fall soccer season, doing the rankings for the boys' prep soccer league (50 teams) and the girls' prep soccer league (42 teams). Ray is also an observer of officials for the local soccer officials organization. "The two-acre lawn also must also be mowed," he noted. "No Florida anymore during the winter — so snow shoveling will be fun?"

Robert J. Clawson, Acton, Massachusetts,

described his September poetry reading, Bob's first in public since July 2019. "At a Boston art gallery, I encountered a surprisingly large and intensely engaged audience of mixed ages whose enthusiasm reaffirmed my hope for the Kenyon-inspired love of the genre I've fostered for the past 65 years." **Richard A. Dickey**, Hickory, North Carolina, ponders, "Now some years past usefulness to my fellow man as a physician and limited from most close physical contacts by a terminal disease, I still have a strong desire to do something useful and helpful to others other than being a good husband, brother, father, grandfather and friend. Perhaps I am being too ambitious here. It just occurred to me that these thoughts might not be unique to me, so I am sharing them with you. What else can or should one do near the end of one's useful life, I am wondering? Or is it enough for one to simply say, 'Thanks for the memories?'" **Alan S. Loxterman**, Richmond, Virginia, remembers Kenyon professors whose varied teaching styles influenced his own. "Also lingering in memory are conversations about literature and life with Kenyon graduate John Clarke, an older returning veteran (and poet). My master's during the notoriety of '(University of) Chicago critics' began a particular interest in literary criticism. After a doctorate in English and undergraduate teaching at the Ohio State University, I attracted English majors using multiple cultural theories applicable to

"What else can or should one do near the end of one's useful life, I am wondering? Or is it enough for one to simply say, 'Thanks for the memories?'"

— **Richard A. Dickey '59**, wondering aloud if his thoughts on the meaning of life resonate with Kenyon classmates

so old? It feels as if the mass of the earth and with it the pull of gravity were gently but inexorably increasing. In spite of age, however, I'm still exercising the intellectual skills acquired at Kenyon more than 70 years ago, especially the ability, picked up from professors Philip Blair Rice and Virgil C. Aldrich, to analyze a philosophical argument and the ability, acquired in three years of study and practice, to read Greek. Specifically, I'm currently co-editing a Festschrift of papers on Plato, Aristotle and

friend, Ernest Ahwajee, remained in Old Kenyon and never woke up the morning of the fire. In thinking of Kenyon I always think of the luck that allowed me to have a long and productive life and cut short the life of my friend."

1952

Allen B. Ballard Jr., Clifton Park, New York, writes, "All's quiet on the home front. Just satisfied with enjoying such luxuries as a steaming hot cup of morning coffee while reading the Times on my Apple phone; a

science fiction." This year, Alan will self-publish "Frankenstein's Children," a book for an online audience of current students and the Kenyon-curious. "After 38 years of teaching at the University of Richmond, Virginia, I still profit from deep friendship: contact with former students who continue to challenge and confirm that someone still listens!" **Fred C. Mench**, Murfreesboro, Tennessee, updates, "After 10 years teaching Latin as an adjunct at Middle Tennessee State University — preceded by 34 years as a classics professor in New Jersey — I have a young colleague who could take over next fall. I would just reappear if he needed a hand or if I was teaching something not on the regular schedule. Almost time to hang it up." **Roger C. Smith**, Moneta, Virginia, writes, "Our Proud Patriots Political Action Committee continues to gain more and more members. I'm proud to say, as vice president for membership. Virginia politics seems to take up more of my time, cutting into our enjoyment on the lake with our antique boats. Still grateful for all Kenyon did for me in fostering clear thinking and commitment to excellence."

1960s

1960

George Grella, Rochester, New York, updates, "I remain happily retired after many years as a professor of English and film studies at the University of Rochester. I am a widower with three children and six grandchildren. I am, so far at least, still vertical, more or

less compos mentis, reasonably presentable, spend most of my time reading, writing, gardening, going to movies, playing tennis when I can. For more than 35 years I was the film critic for a local weekly alternative newspaper here in Rochester, as well as serving the same role for our local NPR station. I continue to write about film and other subjects, and now and then contribute to a blog I have maintained for several years."

Brent E. Scudder, New London, New Hampshire, describes storm-chasing in Tornado Alley for the last five years. "Last spring, I was staying at a motel in the eastern part of Wichita, Kansas. All indicators for a tornado that day lay in southeastern Nebraska. I raced up there only to find that a large tornado hit Andover, Kansas, which was only six miles from my morning motel in Wichita."

1961

Robert D. Hoge, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, updates, "Our big news is that we are moving to Prince Edward Island to be closer to Lynda's family. It is quite a transition after living in Ottawa for over 50 years. Moving is a nuisance. However, there are benefits, such as getting rid of piles of useless junk. As well, Charlottetown is a lovely small town with good bookstores, pubs and seafood restaurants. I'll survive."

1962

John F. Binder, Los Angeles, published "Who Needs Heaven?" (available on Amazon), a memoir that includes stories of working

closely with Paul Newman. "Newman's work on his lines was surprising," John remembers. "He didn't act much. He would just sort of feel out his lines. He'd take them apart. He'd read or recite a few words, then fall silent and move his head a bit or look up and smile, maybe. He broke the lines into pieces. He'd mutter about what he might do here or there. He'd ask me to read a line again for him, so he could hear it. I was fascinated, but I must confess, the first day we did this, after half an hour's halting work, I thought to myself, 'Can this guy act? Where's Paul Newman? Where's

since 1945. We've spent a lot of time maintaining it and recently renovating it after a devastating windstorm last May. I've maintained ties with my former place of residence in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, by taking part in concert choirs and entering oil paintings in local art shows." **Byron S. Dunham**, Savannah, Georgia, shares sad news: "Several of you guys from the Class of 1962 have met my life partner, Dick Hanna, at Kenyon events, the last being our 60th. On July 1, Dick passed away unexpectedly in Chicago at our summer condo. Dick fully appre-

sculptures in the hayloft of our old Dutch barn into a 'forest' in which my neighbors could reflect on what had happened to them and others in this time of sorrow." **Richard A. Rubin**, Mill Valley, California, shares, "Marcia and I took a long-deferred car trip up the East Coast from Miami to Boston. Stops included St. Augustine, our nation's oldest city — 1565 — where the Alligator Farm is a must; Charleston, bustling with Gen-Zers and top-notch restaurants; St. James, North Carolina, where golfers are only outnumbered by loblolly pines; and Washington, D.C., for a

"Paul Newman was no spoiled movie star. He was decent to everybody."

— **John F. Binder '62**, author of "Who Needs Heaven?" on working closely with the actor. Read more about Newman on page 16.

"Fast Eddie" Felson, my favorite. Where's Hud? Where's Cool Hand Luke? Of course, that was silly. When he reassembled all those bits and pieces, pauses and looks at the camera, 'Paul Newman' materialized." Newman was no spoiled movie star, John recalls. "He was decent to everybody. When someone showed up on set to interview him or talk other business, he would turn on 'Paul Newman' like a light switch." **Samuel W. Corbin** updates, "I'm back in my house in Plevna, Ontario. It's just a 15-minute drive to the family cottage on a lake which we've owned

ciated my devotion to Kenyon, visiting with me several times." **Patrick Eggena**, Carmel, New York, updates, "When COVID first came to our hamlet in 2020, I volunteered as a retired physician to help out at the local hospital. But they didn't want me — said I was too old and not healthy enough. So instead, I made a memorial for our neighbors who had been emotionally and physically affected by this horrible pandemic by carving sculptures from old black walnut and cherry trees that had fallen on our farm in the tornado of 2018. I arranged 35 of these

brief visit with **Richard D. "Dick" Spero**, my freshman roomie, and his wife, Irene. On this dazzlingly scenic route we felt welcome everywhere by townspeople, but it felt like a political jigsaw journey, with deeply conflicting partisan views that from region to region mirror a very divided nation. The solutions will have to come from the hopefully patient and enlightened generations of Kenyon Owls who follow us." A 45-year resident of California, Richard just completed a two-year term as California Gov. Gavin Newsom's appointee to the state's Law Revision

1960s



1964 On Nov. 6, 23-year-old **folk singer Bob Dylan** performs a concert in Rosse Hall. Jay Cocks '66 spends a day with the rising star and writes about it in a Nov. 20 *Collegian* article. "We talked a bit more then about Kenyon," Cocks writes. "They really have to wear ties and stuff to the concert." Dylan asked, 'ties? Well, I'm gonna tell them they can take them off. That's what I'm gonna do. **Rules — man, that's why I never lasted long in college. Too many rules.**"



Jeffrey C. Breaks '64

< "In 1960, I and about a dozen others were housed on the third floor of Bexley as an overflow dorm. Maids made our beds and tidied up — the last year for that! — and plenty of study rooms were on the floors below. There were bats in the attic. Ledges outside the windows provided a convenient way to get from room to room if you didn't want to use the hall."

— Read more recollections from Jeffrey's class note on page 37.

Highlights from on and off the Hill

1960s

The 1960s are a decade of new buildings at Kenyon, including Phillip Mather Science Hall, Dempsey Hall, Chalmers Memorial Library, Gund Hall, Farr Hall, Bushnell Hall and Manning Hall.

1963

President John Fitzgerald Kennedy is assassinated on Nov. 22, in Dallas.

1965

President Lyndon B. Johnson sends U.S. combat forces to Vietnam.

1967



Kenyon hosts a civil rights conference, and the Rev. Jesse Jackson attends.

1968

F. Edward Lund, Kenyon's 16th president (1957-68), retires. A story in the *Collegian* summarizes his presidency: "If the Lund administration is to be characterized in its effect on the Kenyon community, it was a time of putting a firm financial and economic foundation under the already well-established academic tradition."

PHOTOS CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: JOHN "JAY" COCKS '66 KENYON COLLEGE ARCHIVES(2)

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1969

On Sept. 8, Kenyon marks the official opening of the **Coordinate College for Women** and the unofficial end of single-sex education on the Hill. The Collegian notes that although “many Kenyon men welcomed the presence of girls on Middle Path, the majority still viewed the addition with clearly mixed feelings.”



Harlene Marley, a new assistant professor of drama, is the second woman (after Sylvia Barnard) to be hired into a tenure-track position at Kenyon.

The first Black women to study at Kenyon — **Barbara (Lee) Johnson '73**, **Doretha (Smallwood) Leftwood '73** and **Glory (Wolfe) Schuler '73** — arrive on campus.

The Woodstock Music Festival

takes place in Bethel, New York, and features performances from 32 bands and musicians, including Richie Havens, Janis Joplin, the Grateful Dead, Jefferson Airplane and Jimi Hendrix.

Commission. **Robert K. “Kim” Stevens**, San Pedro, California, shared an amazing tale of his days working in the U.S. Embassy in Rome during a hunt for an American general kidnapped by Italian terrorists. Kim writes that he met “the Pentagon Psychic,” a so-called clairvoyant the Defense Department hired to locate hostages. The psychic failed to locate the general, who was later rescued by more ordinary means: “When the Italian police, who had wasted millions of lire acting in good faith on this ‘intelligence,’ found out that that source was now standing in front of them, we can say that their anger was expressed in extraordinary ways. The psychic was taken by the shoulders, driven to the airport and placed on the next plane out of Italy. I read months later in the Washington Post that the Pentagon had decided to desist from its ‘experimental use’ of ‘psychic intelligence.’ At the time, this was all very hush-hush. After more than 40 years, I think the story can be told, even though I have no official license to do so. All the principal actors in this scene are now dead, except for me.”

Joseph B. Wharton, Mount Vernon, Ohio, says his update is as exciting as watching paint dry: “Quite literally the main event of the past year, as well as a once-in-a-lifetime event on the farm. Had the big hay barn painted red — first paint in about 55 years. Writing the check was the exciting part!” Joe compared his stewardship of a historic structure to being a Boy Scout helping an old

lady across the road. “Hate to see the grand old barns go down,” he added. “As some sage said, ‘Barns build houses, houses don’t build barns.’”

1963

Lester D. Alford, Fontana, California, writes, “Our first full year in SoCal has introduced us to many differences from our 35 years in central Oregon. We are learning to say, ‘Hey, how ‘bout them Rams and Dodgers?’ in nine different languages. (Seriously, our utility bill is printed in nine languages.) Driving 80–85 mph keeps us up with the flow of traffic on ‘the Five,’ which is the SoCal pronunciation for I-5. Except for during rush hour, when 5 mph is a good day. This year we plan to take up surfing.” **Calvin S. Frost**, Lake Forest, Illinois, notes, “Professionally

my golf game. See many Kenyon friends, particularly **David D. Taft ‘60!’** **Richard F. Spinner**, Sarasota, Florida, updates, “While fighting off cancer over the last year — so far, successfully — I decided age 80 was the perfect time to earn a pilot’s license and buy a plane. Joy and I, along with canine Lola, now spend time with our amphibious ICON A5 aircraft brunching at remote airports, splashing in Florida lakes, and beaching on sugar-soft beaches. It’s cut into the glamping trips we take with our Airstream, but it certainly keeps us busy and active.”

1964

Jeffrey C. Breaks, Gloucester Point, Virginia, appreciated the Bexley Hall article in the fall Bulletin. “It brought back memories. In September of 1960, I and about a dozen

took physics at Kenyon (before semiconductor chips), worked for 41 years in the aerospace and defense industries, and retired 17 years ago. I began volunteering at the Mariners’ Museum in Newport News, Virginia, going through old documents and doing other people’s taxes for free with the AARP Tax-Aide Program. I have also done four books on family ancestors and have three more to go.” **Michael E. Reed**, Chicago, reports that he has left the practice of law after a 52-year career and is attempting to follow the admonition of **John M. Capron** to not “fail at retirement.” Mike resides in the Lincoln Park neighborhood close to the DePaul University campus, participates in several Chicago charitable organizations, and currently serves as board chair of a 200-bed hospital

“I decided age 80 was the perfect time to earn a pilot’s license and buy a plane.”

— **Richard F. Spinner ‘63**

it has been a very busy year. Our coating and laminating business has been very robust with substantial growth because of our Kenyon family, anchored by daughter **Cynthia Frost ‘84**, son-in-law **Richard C. Hoffman ‘89** and most recently **Alexander B. Hoffman ‘20**. My wife, Anne, continues to battle MS, and this occupies our time along with our beautiful gardens and my efforts to improve

others were housed on the third floor of Bexley as an overflow dorm. Maids made our beds and tidied up — the last year for that! — and plenty of study rooms were on the floors below. The walk down Middle Path, even in the snow, was not bad at all! There were bats in the attic. Ledges outside the windows provided a convenient way to get from room to room if you didn’t want to use the hall. I

foundation. **Lloyd Saltus II**, Sudbury, Massachusetts, writes, “In going through family records, I discovered that I am related to Rutherford B. Hays. His great-great-grandfather was Timothy Phelps, born about 1705, from whom I am directly descended.”

1965

Robin F. Goldsmith, Needham, Massachusetts, presented a keynote

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address titled “Beat Quality Backlash” at ASQ Boston’s Annual Quality Conference, BOSCON 2022, in November. Two decades ago, Robin chaired back-to-back record-attendance BOSCONs. **Richard E. Passoth**, Denver, updates, “I’m now in a very nice retirement community. I teach classes and take classes with an older adult education program connected to the

and tennis when able. I miss old-fashioned Kenyon life, where everything was so totally different than today. Current students would not understand.”

1966

Frank B. “Burt” Dibble updates, “I have fully retired from family medicine. Mae continues to practice law from home, office and condo, and we now are officially snowbirds. Mae’s firm has an office

from a week of boating, hiking and kayaking the San Juan Islands near Bellingham, Washington. Then Lareto, Mexico, for two weeks, followed by four nights at Yellowstone’s Old Faithful snow lodge at the end of January.” **Gerald E. Reynolds**, Fairfax, Virginia, notes, “My wife, Claudia, and I returned to Ohio for a weekend in September to attend the 60th reunion of my Parma Senior High School

to Cleveland. We are thrilled that our grandchildren will be 12 minutes away. We are lucky to have a kid magnet in our 1-year-old black lab, Bubbles. All is well.” **Peter A. White** spends the warmer months of the year in his Montana mountain cabin and the others in his Gambier home. “I appreciate both for many reasons,” he explains, “not least because of the College. My father’s family was from Mount Vernon, where I had good times as a kid and an endless supply of brownies from my grandmother when I was a Kenyon student. I also enjoy returning to Cleveland to enjoy the Art Museum and the Cleveland Orchestra, remnants of a lost prosperity but both thriving because they are very good.”

1968

Richard H. Levey, Detroit, notes, “I was honored to join **Brackett B. Denniston ’69** and **Stuart Viscount Revo** in saying a last and very affectionate farewell to **Geoffrey R. Enck**, the ‘Fat Fury.’ Lots of memories were shared — Fury would have denied all (with a smile!). The south end of the campus looks beautiful. Old Kenyon, Ascension, Hanna, et al. seem to have been sand-blasted ... but it might have been my bad vision.” **William M. Northway**, Frankfort, Michigan, explains how he and **Paul H. Rigali Jr.** first met in August 1964, both heading off early to their freshman year in hopes of making the varsity soccer team. “We both played soccer and lacrosse, both majored in biology, joined ADPhi and went into dentistry, specializing in orthodontics. We both became members of the E.H. Angle Society of Orthodontists and have made considerable contributions to the orthodontic literature. In September, Paul and I met at his incredible home in Vermont, where he hosted a gathering of fellow senior members of the Angle Society. We had as our special agenda scramble golf and the betterment of mankind. Even though we live 977 miles apart, it’s hard to have a much better friend; we thank Kenyon for that.” **Mark E. Sullivan**, Raleigh, North Carolina, updates, “In the last six months, my wife, Teri, and I have vacationed in Asheville and Charlottesville, both about four hours from home. The home

“I enjoy returning to Cleveland to enjoy the art museum and the Cleveland Orchestra, remnants of a lost prosperity but both thriving because they are very good.”

— **Peter A. White ’66**, who spends the warmer months of the year in his Montana mountain cabin and the others in Ohio

University of Denver. I teach a class called ‘Is America in Decline? Scholarship on the Rise and Fall of Civilizations and the Modern State.’ My history major returns with a vengeance. Yes, I think America is in decline — democracies don’t last much over 200 years. I still hike in the Colorado mountains and snowshoe in the winter.” **Robert M. Vockrodt**, Chandler, Arizona, notes, “After retiring from a long legal career, most recently as a consumer bankruptcy attorney, I am enjoying retirement in the over-55 community of Sun Lakes, where every amenity is covered. Life is good: playing bridge, swimming, water aerobics

in Cape Coral, Florida, the location of our condo, so she takes her work with her. I like to say I am fully retired and my partner is fully employed! We both continue activity in the not-for-profit sector. I am getting over a total hip replacement and she a double meniscectomy — successfully, if slowly.” **Richard T. Nolan**, Red Lodge, Montana, picturesquely described his fall surroundings: “Hay has been cut and bailed, temps are dropping, summer birds have left, and snow has already fallen in the mountains. While I continue to recover from cancer surgery a year ago, Gretchen and I are enjoying low-impact travel. We just returned

Class of 1962. We represented our good friend, the best man at our wedding. **James W. Jarrett**, now deceased. Jim and I were well-remembered for our many contributions to Parma High. It was a delight returning to the Buckeye State through the scenic mountains of Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia and Pennsylvania. Claudia and I are doing well in retirement, enjoying gardening, National Theater productions, European river cruises and our annual retreat to Sint Maarten.” **John A. Rutter Jr.**, Pepper Pike, Ohio, writes, “On Mother’s Day our son, Johnny, told us that he, his wife, Liz, and their children Morgan and Jack were moving

1967

Stephen W. Carmichael, Rochester, Minnesota, updates, “Susan and I have started traveling again. In June we took a cruise of the Baltic Sea.” Stephen photographed a plaque in Stockholm marking the spot where the Swedish Prime Minister, **Olof Sven J. Palme ’48** was assassinated in 1986. “His assassin was never identified.” **Stephen G. Stonehouse**, Redondo Beach, California, is “back to the classroom with Naturalist Program and Reading Partners, so, busy with that. Spent 10 days in Ireland, which was terrific and included **Olivia S. Stonehouse ’15**, who finished her equine breeding program at Penn and heads to central New Jersey to work at a private equine hospital there.”

at present is in a high state of disrepair — we're adding a first-floor bedroom for what they call 'aging in place.' I'm still practicing law (military divorce issues), including teaching other lawyers and testifying as an expert witness. In September, I presented a three-hour program through Microsoft Teams to 80 military lawyers in Europe, including attorneys from Poland, the Netherlands and Italy. Our son and daughter are doing well, and we love seeing our 11-year-old granddaughter, Layla."

1969

Steven C. Althoen, Dexter, Michigan, describes life at Kenyon in the fall of 1964. "Things went well for a time, with a room at 27 Lewis Hall and dinners served family-style at Peirce. Personal issues caused me to withdraw in October, and I still appreciate Dean Thomas J. Edwards and Acting Chaplain W. Hayden McCallum's help with my crisis. Two years later, I returned to Kenyon. My weekends were spent alternately in Mount Vernon and (via bus) in Columbus, since I had just reunited with the love of my life, whom I first met in middle school. Marcia attended Ohio State but was expelled for being caught with me in a Franklin County Holiday Inn; in December we married. We lived in a 50-foot trailer at Humphrey's, just west of Mount Vernon. In the fall of 1967, we arrived at apartment D2 in McIlvaine Place. Our two years there were the happiest of our lives." Marcia taught

special education at Wiggin Street School, graduating from OSU in 1969 with her expulsion expunged, he sums up. "I must always acknowledge Professor Robert M. McLeod's generosity and kindness, without which I would not have graduated. As a full professor of mathematics at the University of Michigan-Flint, I was pleased to contribute to his case for promotion to full professor at Kenyon, which should have happened many years before mine." **James B. Irwin**, Covington, Louisiana, notes, "Stephanie and I are enjoying retirement from law life, but not our back surgeries this past year, which we have called 'The Year of the Knife.' Thankfully, we are doing better and able to spend more time in North Carolina. As for the four sons, Jimmy and Chris are practicing law at our old firm in New Orleans, and each has given us two grandchildren. **Burke S. Irwin '19** is pursuing his doctorate in particle physics at the University of Minnesota. Cullen will graduate from Wake Forest this spring and plans to go to law school. Just what the world needs — another lawyer. But Stephanie and I do like having another lawyer in our family." **Henry B. Vess III**, Pinehurst, North Carolina, retired in 2016 after 44 years as a trial lawyer in the Chicago area, he updates. "My wife and I had semi-retired in 2013 and moved to Pinehurst, where we spend substantial time volunteering. We have four sons, and by year end were expecting a seventh grandchild and a second great-grandchild. We see frat

"Even though we live 977 miles apart, it's hard to have a much better friend; we thank Kenyon for that."

— **William M. Northway '68**, on his decades-long friendship with **Paul H. Rigali Jr. '68**, which began their first year at Kenyon

brother **John M. Smyth Jr.** and his family when we can."

1970s

1970

Saul H. Benjamin, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, informs the class, "With the death of Queen Elizabeth II ... you may now claim to be only two degrees of separation from the British throne." He recalls sharing a bench and conversation with then-Prince Charles in Oxford in 1983. "I was waiting to meet my supervisor for lunch. Charles had some sort of equey standing

nearby who suggested that he cross the green-sward in the Front Quad — something I believe only fellows or other dignitaries are permitted to do — and take a seat on the available bench at the diagonal corner. It happened that I was already walking to that very bench. What else to do but offer greetings and a question? I said I was writing a thesis. He said that he never dared to do such a thing. One question led to another, and hence the discovery of our birthdays being a day apart. 'How very intriguing,' he remarked. I wish I

NEW RELEASES

More recently published books by members of the Kenyon family

Phil Cerny '67, Editor, "Heterarchy in World Politics"

David Culp '75, "The Book of Matthew L." and "Carrie: An American Classic"

Charles L. Leary '88, "Leary's Global Wineology: A Guide to Wine Education, Mentorships, and Scholarships"

>Discover more featured books on pages 30–33.

Eric Lehman '94, "9 Lupine Road"

Thomas D. LaBough '64, "How to Make a Powerful, Positive Impact: On Relationships, Profits, Productivity, Retention, Customer Service, and Job Security. It Works. It Costs You Nothing!"

James R. "Jim" Pierce '78, "Treachery: A Story of Deception Behind Union Lines"

Katherine H. Terrell '95, "Scripting the Nation: Court Poetry and the Authority of History in Late Medieval Scotland"

Brett M. Pierce '81, "Expanding Literacy: Bringing Digital Storytelling into Your Classroom"

Esmeralda Mora Román '08, "Los quince de Raquel"

Katie Weber '10, "Living in the Gray"

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can report that I had the gumption back then to say "Ah, yes. 'The Prince and The Pauper!'" Saul's first book of poetry, "Late to Fatherhood," arrives in 2023. **Robert C. Boruchowitz**, Seattle, has been co-teaching in the Defender Clinic at Seattle University School of Law. Bob remains active with state and national committees on public defense and is assessor for public defense services with the city of Edmonds, Washington. **Daniel M. Epstein**, Gambier, Ohio, and partner Sarah Longaker joined **Randolph St. John Jr.** and his wife, Cindy, in August for a view of Niagara Falls. Daniel has donated his literary archives to Kenyon. **Douglas M. Fleming**, Rumson, New Jersey, notes, "Still at J.P. Morgan Asset Management after 42 years. How did that happen? Am also a senior advisor to the Davis United World College Scholars program, the largest scholarship program for international students to attend U.S. colleges and universities. Staying in touch with **Edward L. 'Ned' Smyth, J.D. Pell Osborn, Stephen S. Davis** and a few others." **The Rev. John K. Morrell** described his late September experience with Hurricane Fiona, "the worst on record" to hit Nova Scotia, he writes. "My home is on a beach between Brule and River John. My wife and I slept through Friday night. Mid-morning we heard what sounded like a two-by-four hitting our front wall. A mobile home overturned in our lane and a flooded marsh was 50 feet from

my shed, with high tide still three hours away. We packed two suitcases, a number of bags and boxes, and our two cats in carriers. Dodging trees on the highway, we came upon the fire department clearing trees off the road. We stayed with a 90-year-old friend for 24 hours before returning to our beach home Sunday morning. In daylight, a nightmare. Of three cottages near the beach, two were destroyed and one was pushed into the marsh. Three other cottages back from the beach were pushed into the marsh, along with two trailers." Lacking power and internet, John relied on a freshwater hand pump and wood stove while readying for an October train vacation through Calgary, Banff and Vancouver on the Rocky Mountaineer.

1971

Sante Matteo, Oxford, Ohio, shared some charming lines of poetry "composed for the 2022 combined 50th reunion of the 1970, '71 and '72 classes," which begin, "The first of Kenyon's female Owls / Were met with hoots and cheers and howls." **William J. Williams**, Laurel, Maryland, writes, "May was a special month. After 47 years, I retired from service in the Department of Defense — 30 years in the Air Force and 17 as a civilian — and 10 days later welcomed the birth of our first granddaughter."

1973

Wallace L.M. "Lee" Alward, Iowa City, Iowa, has volunteered for more than 20 years with Orbis, a flying eye hospital that travels the world teaching eye surgery

to ophthalmologists in areas with minimal resources. "During the pandemic, the plane was grounded," he notes. "To keep the mission moving forward, we began giving lectures by Zoom. I taught courses on glaucoma management in Mongolia and Zambia. I gave more Zoom lectures than any other volunteer faculty member, which led to my designation as a Hero of Orbis." **Andrew M. Brilliant**, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, started a master's in creative writing at University of Massachusetts-Boston. "Going from being a Lord to an Owl, and now becoming a Beacon — is that like being both a wave and a particle?" he asks. **J. Scott Douglas** celebrated a move to Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. "After 40-plus years of battling Greater Atlanta traffic, Debra and I have moved and are enjoying semi-retirement. We were delighted when **David J. Snell** and his wife, Kathy, moved here from southern California and are sad about their move to the Pacific Northwest. We recently had a delightful visit from **Andrew M. Bourland** and his wife, Karan, during which we were able to refresh many of the bad habits we so enjoyed as undergraduates. I am trying to stiff-arm reality by working out part-time in a gym. Debra is active in local charities and in retrofitting every room in our home. Most days I wake up and think: Who ever dreamed we would live this long?" **Cathi (Sonneborn) Gilmore**, Waban, Massachusetts, shares, "My heart is repeatedly warmed by my new, and renewed,

Kenyon connections. I have gotten to know **Ingrid P. Goff-Maidoff '85**, whose most recent book of poetry, "Wild Songs," speaks to our connection with the natural world and with each other. Tending Joy, in West Tisbury, Massachusetts, is Ingrid's delightful, colorful shop, full of poetry, inspiring cards and international wares. I am also delighted by regular dinners with **Kaj Wilson '72, Laurie B. Sherwood, Joan G. Silverman** and **Gail P. Woodhouse '74**. Kaj gets credit for bringing us together for evenings full of laughter and Kenyon memories." **Bonnie Levinson**, Delray Beach, Florida, updates, "Enjoying living near the beach and working in my studio in the arts district of Delray Beach. Looking forward to exploring the beauty of the natural habitats in Florida and discovering how it affects my artwork." **James F. Loomis**, Cincinnati, updates, "I'm beginning my 42nd year with Cincinnati Public Schools in one capacity or another. I see the irony that someone who was such a mediocre student should spend so long in education. Perhaps I'm striving to atone for all my shortcomings. I know I've learned a lot as an adult working in high schools. I feel so privileged to go to school each day and contribute to the well-being of our community." **Edward J. "Mel" Otten**, Cincinnati, updates, "It has been 49 years since graduation, and I have been working in the Emergency Department at the University of Cincinnati for 49 years. I would retire, but I don't know

BEHIND THE RECIPE

The Original VI Cheese Soup

STORY BY CALLY ROBINSON HOYT '76 H'95
RECIPE PROVIDED BY POLLY GROSSMAN

The feature article on the Village Inn and its history in the Fall 2022 Kenyon Alumni Magazine was interesting to read, but I was particularly struck by the hue and cry to get the recipe for the famous cheese soup that so many of us remember. I was surprised that no one seems to have the recipe. But fortunately, I do.

HOW I CAME TO HAVE IT

I was offered the recipe by my mother-in-law's mother, Pauline Grossman, back in the 1980s when it became obvious her grandson and I were staying close. Polly, as I knew her, was a lifelong resident of Gambier and owned the house next to Peirce Hall now known as the Edelstein House. She was the oldest of four sisters (one of her sisters, Edith Horn, is who the Horn Gallery is named after) and three of the four sisters worked for Kenyon in some capacity over the years. Polly also was a cook at the VI.

After WWII, many servicemen went to college on the GI Bill, and one of those was a marine by the name of Bernard S. Hoyt '49. During his time at Kenyon, Bernie met Polly's daughter, Jane Grossman. Jane and Bernie married in the summer of 1949, and he whisked her off to other parts of the country in pursuit of his medical degree and training. They eventually settled in Grove City, Pennsylvania. Their youngest son, Doug Hoyt '81, followed in his father's footsteps and went to Kenyon, after taking time to sail about the European coast and other places. Doug was a good friend and roommate with my brother, Tom Robinson ('81), which is how we met. And the rest, as they say, is history. It's also how I got the VI Cheese Soup recipe from Polly without even knowing she had it.

During my last year-and-a-half as a Kenyon student, I worked at the VI as a server and barkeep. I knew enough of the soup-making process to know the recipe Polly shared was valid. Over the years, I've changed a thing or two, and I will explain why as you read further.

THE BROTH AND VEGETABLES

The recipe calls for parboiling vegetables in chicken broth. The broth and veggies are not a big deal unless you are a vegetarian, as I uncomfortably found out. During one of my waitress shifts, a couple of classmates came in who I knew were vegetarians, but I wasn't clear at the time how restrictive (or not) their diets

were. They always came in for the cheese soup. On this occasion, they said they were so pleased there was something on the menu they loved that wasn't tied to meat. I naively informed them chicken broth was used to cook the vegetables. They looked at me with horror on their faces and I looked back similarly horrified! "Oh no! What have I done?" I thought. But they graciously thanked me for letting them know and immediately left. I'm not aware that they ever went back to the VI.

I have since played around with broths, and a vegetable broth can certainly be substituted for the chicken broth. I don't taste much of a difference. However, what my family really loves is the homemade turkey broth I make from the Thanksgiving carcass. It provides a richer base that comes through nicely, and is now a post-Thanksgiving staple; cheese soup with a turkey broth base. Lastly, I don't hold to the ¼ cup amounts of vegetables. I put as much in as I want.

CREAM SAUCE

This is pretty basic, and there are only a couple caveats to add here. Use whole milk, nothing less. The cream sauce comes out best this way, and besides, you're making cheese soup. This is not the time to care about calories. I prefer unsalted butter but you can use either. However, and here is where I deviate from the original recipe, I've markedly cut back on the salt added. Anyone who's read older recipes from the '60s or earlier can't help but notice the amount of salt used. Modern-day palates don't care for it, and that includes me. I have taken the amount added from the original one tablespoon to a teaspoon. I'll also note that when I double the recipe, I don't add more. You can always adjust to your preference.

VELVEETA?! NEVER!

The original recipe called for half cheddar cheese and half Old English. Around the late '80s/early '90s, the Old English bricks disappeared. No Old English to

The Village Inn Cheese Soup

MAKES 8 CUPS

¼ cup each of onion, green pepper, carrot and celery

2 cups of chicken stock

1 stick of butter (¼ pound)

¼ cup of flour

1½ cups of milk

1 teaspoon of salt

A dash of white pepper

8 ounces of extra sharp cheddar cheese

Dice vegetables.

Add to chicken stock and simmer for 20 minutes or until tender.

Melt butter, then whisk in flour.

Increase heat, add milk and whisk until thickened.

Add salt and a dash of white pepper once thickened.

Combine the vegetables and broth with the cream sauce.

Grate in cheese and allow to melt completely, stirring often. (Best not to use pre-grated cheese.)

Garnish with paprika and serve. Enjoy!

be found anywhere except on a Velveeta processed cheese label. Well, that just wasn't going anywhere near my soup! But I now wonder: If it ever did find its way into the soup served at the VI, was it because Velveeta's Old English was the only thusly titled cheese in stores, and so became the go-to product? Pure speculation if it did happen.

When the Old English cheese bricks disappeared, I discovered the other name for Old English is Extra Sharp Cheddar, and thankfully, bricks of extra sharp cheddar are everywhere. For a while, I split the two cheeses as called for in the recipe. Today, I just use the extra sharp for all of it because that's how I prefer it. Your choice.

FINAL NOTE

As is true for so many dishes, letting something sit allows the flavors to meld. It's no different with this soup. When freshly made, one can taste some of the separate parts. But if stored and reheated the next day, all of the flavors have melded and that's when it tastes most closely to what I remember. Polly also told me you could make the soup up to the point of adding the cheese and then stop and store. Reheat when ready and then add the cheese. I saw that happen more than a few times in the VI kitchen.

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“Aging outside the box is the best!”

— **Jean M. Amabile '75**, who resides in Chiang Mai, Thailand, and visits her kids (and grandkids) in Canada and the U.S.

how to do anything else. Besides, teaching a whole new generation of emergency physicians is quite fun.” **Kerry H. Pechter**, Emmaus, Pennsylvania, notes, “I paused my weekly newsletter, Retirement Income Journal, and celebrated with trout fishing near Akureyri, Iceland. I’ve started some new writing projects on retirement finance, including a monograph on Iceland’s pension system. Back to 80 percent self-employed workaholic mode. A hip issue eliminated running, but I can hike and wade. Since cataract removal, I can see the dry fly on the fishing line. It’s all good ... or at least not too bad.” **Mary (Wampler) Rhodes**, Northfield, Illinois, writes, “I’m busy making up for lost time since we didn’t have a women’s swim team at Kenyon in the early ’70s. With my son this summer, swam a mile across the Hudson River — the Great Newburgh to Beacon Hudson River Swim — which I can’t wait to do again. Won a bronze medal in the Illinois Senior Olympics for the 500 freestyle. Does anybody remember the old pool in the dilapidated airplane hangar? Kenyon has come a long way!” **Robin W. Rockhold**, Canton, Mississippi, retired in June as deputy chief academic officer at the University of Mississippi Medical Center after 39 years

as a researcher and administrator. Last fall was Robin’s first term as emeritus professor of pharmacology and toxicology. “Currently enjoying rural Southern life with wife of 43 years, who also recently retired from her rheumatology practice.” **David J. Snell** and his wife left South Carolina for Seattle, where he serves as deputy regional flight surgeon for the FAA Northwest and Mountain Region, covering seven states, 90,000 pilots and 1,500 air traffic controllers. “Not much in the way of flying — only a desk,” David observes, “but more than enough angst from controllers and pilots. Now in the position to certify senior airline pilots that I flew with in the USAF, back in the day when we both had the rank of captain. We’ll miss the ongoing company and tales from **J. Scott Douglas** and Debra, permanent residents of Hilton Head Island.” **Douglas B. Thomson** continues to practice medicine in Bowling Green, Kentucky, now as a part-time hospice physician and health department tuberculosis physician. He “still enjoys being married to **Lucinda Neff Thomson**,” he submits. “We stopped by Gambier this summer en route to the Finger Lakes and enjoyed seeing the campus and new construction. We escaped the tornado that hit Bowling Green

this past December. Total devastation just a few miles from our home, but somehow we managed to sleep through the whole thing.”

1974

Rob Kolson, Los Angeles, is still producing. “About three years ago I made what some may consider an insane decision at my age: to produce a daughter, through surrogacy. Opening Night was May 3, 2020. It is undoubtedly the most spectacular production I’ve ever developed, and will almost certainly remain so, even though I’m a producer on another stellar show that opened on Broadway in December: ‘A Beautiful Noise: The Neil Diamond Musical.’” **Timothy J. Newcomb**, Worcester, Vermont, shares that for the fourth year running he won top honors for political cartooning at the annual Association of Alternative Newsmedia convention, this year again taking first place. “Baffling,” he characterizes his win, too modestly. “In spite of the fact the AAN represents newspapers across the U.S. and Canada, it proves there is no accounting for taste.” Tim’s happy his daughter **Lydia VanDorn Newcomb '08** is back in Vermont and practicing as a criminal defense attorney.

1975

Jean M. Amabile has lived overseas for over

a decade after retiring from the “high stress life of a public defender,” she writes. “Living in China and now Chiang Mai, Thailand, for the past 13 years, has expanded my world view immeasurably. The learning curve is constant. By contrast, safety and security here are the norm. I still get back to the U.S. and Canada where my two kids and two grandkids live. So I have the best of both worlds. Aging outside the box is the best!” **Elise L. Cagan**, Highland Mills, New York, updates, “Being back in contact with **Steven C. Durning** brought home the accordion-like feature of time and my difficulties in making sense of its passing, especially during COVID, where time felt both frozen and lost. How better to connect than with a novel, “Fellowship Point,” that celebrates and explores time and relationships written by my close, best personal friend and sophomore-year roommate, **Alice Elliott (Kirby) Dark**. So, hello again, and you’ll thank me. Her, actually.” **Sara Anne “Sally” Cody**, Portland, Maine, retired after teaching Latin for 45 years at Thornton Academy in Saco, Maine. “Cutbacks were being made, and the timing seemed right,” she notes. “We have an exuberant 7-month-old German shorthaired pointer puppy named Duke who is challenging my aging infrastructure (right knee and hip). Husband **Robert J. Cody** had a moose permit for the North Maine Woods in October. I was delighted to receive my yearly birthday greeting from **Donna**

Bertolet Poseidon and learn of her upcoming travels and adventures.” **Leonard C. Felder**, Los Angeles, is still taking daily walks, writing and talking on the phone to **Peter R. Reiss** and his wife, Carol, several times a week, he informs. **Michael R. Halleran**, Williamsburg, Virginia, shares two “totally disparate” recent highlights: “Our older son, Tom, was married in April on the beach in south Florida. The setting was perfect and the occasion most wonderful. And in the last year or so, I’ve taken up golf; this summer I got a hole-in-one. Never before, and I’m pretty certain never again. As the Lefty Gomez adage has it, ‘I’d rather be lucky than good.’” **Charlotte J. “Shami” McCormick**, Geneseo, New York, shares her glee in seeing Paul McCartney in concert: “He was fabulous ... never took a break, not even a sip of water. Completely charming, in great voice and amazing musicianship. Totally smitten all over again.” **Arthur S. Milnor**, Woodbury, Connecticut, muses, “As I settle myself into retirement and reflect back over several wonderful careers in the world of nonprofit management, I can’t help but think of ‘becoming the captain of my ship and master of my fate.’ It’s in no small measure to the foundation of a Kenyon education I received nearly 50 years ago.” Aboard a watercraft on what he calls a PDW — a “Perfect Day on Winnepesaukee” — he writes, “I find during these voyages I am taking long deep breaths ... inhaling the smells, sights and

sounds that surround me. It's a time of reflection and contemplation, of feeling good about myself and my chosen lot in life. Being this close with nature, I am at peace with the world and at ease with myself. For you see, out alone on the lake, I am the captain of this ship and the master of my fate." **Pamela Cole Schneider** resides in Altoona, Florida, with her husband. "Tim and I have 19 acres of peace and quiet bordering the Ocala National Forest north of Orlando. I continue to focus on horses and dressage as my main post-retirement hobby — my new guy is an 8-year-old Lusitano gelding originally imported from Brazil." Pam and Tim went hiking in Ireland last May and enjoyed a two-week trip to the Canadian Rockies last fall. "We also enjoyed a Schneider family gathering in western New York on Keuka Lake back in July — ages from 90 (my mother) to 3 (cute as a button granddaughter). And no one got COVID!"

1976

David E. Griffith, New Hope, Pennsylvania, updates, "After 47 years and five different careers, I am stepping down as the executive director of Episcopal Community Services in October 2023. Looking forward to travel, fly-fishing and time with **Jacqueline McEwen-Griffith '77** and our grandchildren. Also some community and board work so I am not home for lunch too often. I am told that is best practice." **Robin E. Osler**, New York City, started a new position after putting her own

firm, EOA/Elmslie Osler Architect, "into sleep mode," she updates. "I am a principal and creative director at CallisonRTKL, a global architecture and design firm with offices in Seattle, New York, Miami, Dallas, L.A., Chicago, London and China. The New York office is in the Woolworth Tower, so I work in a completely different part of the city from where I have always been. I continue to teach at the Spitzer

of pickleball, spending time with my two grandsons, traveling with my husband, Mike Rubin, and generally just enjoying life in Rhode Island. A shout-out to the 1976–77 women's basketball team and our perfect record (all in the loss column! But we had a lot of fun.)" **Rabbi Steven J. Lebow** and his Atlanta congregation celebrated his 40 years of service in the rabbinate. He is now "semi-retired" and

along contiguous U.S. and Canadian waterways. "Traveling in seven separate segments spread out over three years, we passed through 151 locks, changing elevation a total of 3,224 feet. We crossed through 19 states, four Great Lakes and the Canadian provinces of Quebec and Ontario. Along the way, we toured countless museums and historical sites, Civil War battlefields and Civil Rights Trail des-

"Out alone on the lake, I am the captain of this ship and the master of my fate."

— **Arthur S. Milnor '75**, on finding peace behind the wheel of a watercraft

School of Architecture at CCNY, so I have a full plate. My husband and I also purchased land in mid-coast Maine, where we will be building a house in the next year or two."

1977

John J. Bogasky, Silver Spring, Maryland, and his wife, Shelly, went "over the edge" on Sept. 17, he informs: They rappelled down a 12-story building to raise money for their local Special Olympics program. "We raised over \$15,000, thanks in part to donations from many classmates," he notes. **Janette Thomas Greenwood**, Pawtucket, Rhode Island, retired last spring after 31 years as a history professor at Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts. "Now enjoying the usual retirement activities," she writes. "Playing lots

still serves a number of Jewish congregations in north Georgia. **Jerome Mindes**, Rockville, Maryland, stays busy "globally as an advocate for inclusive education and inclusive development assistance, and locally by encouraging neighbors to lower their carbon footprint by composting food waste," Jerry shares. **Michael Schmidtman**, Warrenton, Virginia, was emcee and head of speaker curation at a TEDx conference in northern Virginia in September. "We had speakers from all over the U.S. give short talks on science, community and human potential."

1978

Lee Peterson Baker, Afton, Minnesota, and her husband recently completed the Great Loop aboard their Grand Banks trawler, navigating 7,661 miles

tinations. We are just beginning to process this exhilarating experience." **The Rev. James H. Logan Jr.**, Concord, North Carolina, teaches at a Bible college in Charlotte and serves as a pastor of a congregation and as a bishop covering churches in the U.S., Africa, Europe and the UAE. "I'm proud to enjoy seven grandchildren," Jim adds. **Samuel T. Marcus**, Frankfort, Kentucky, writes, "A few years ago (at age 60) I apparently decided to try and outrun my mortality — literally — by beginning road and trail running. Actually, I stumbled into it (pun intended) through a 5K trail run benefiting the Franklin County Humane Society, for which I was board president. Jump forward to 2022, age 65 and of (reasonably) sound body — but obviously *not* sound mind — I ran my first

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full marathon. My time was ridiculously slow, but I completed the course without much ill effect, including the ability to get out of bed the next day without assistance and walk almost normally." Since submitting that note, Sam has already run another full marathon. "I need to improve my time, after all!"

Kate A. Stephenson retired in 2022 after 35 years practicing law in Nashville. "Now filling time with the usual retirement things," she writes. "Traveling — just returned from a spectacular hiking trip in the Alps. Volunteering. Children (two) and grandchild (so far only one). Keeping up with friends. Studying Spanish. Pretending to write the great American memoir. Also flagging down young people on the street who happen to be wearing Kenyon T-shirts or sweatshirts."

1979

John F. Cluff, Ocean Gate, New Jersey, fondly remembers going to Greece five times. Currently semi-retired, John recommends going to Canada as well. "Currently involved with a Christian Bible group." **Jeffrey S. Day**, Kensington, Maryland, learned recently about some recordings of the 1977 Little Feat tour with the Tower of Power horn section. "Now on the market in a nine-CD set," he notes. "Their show in the Wertheimer Fieldhouse was phenomenal — classmate **Robert B. Slattery III** recalls that steel guitarist Lowell George was 'on fire.' The YouTube video of what might have been their show in Carnegie

Hall was no comparison to their performance at Kenyon." **Robin L. Inboden**, Springfield, Ohio, writes, "After several years of a COVID-induced break, **Brenda K. Shaver**, **Sondra Swartz Kasshana**, **Sarah 'Sally' Bates Goodroe** and I gathered once again this past summer at the Maine home of **LeAnne Grillo**. This fall marked 43 years since we all met on the first floor of Mather Hall. Gorgeous scenery, luscious food, laughter — for a few days, we almost felt 20 again. We were joined for dinner — and paddleboarding by the adventurous few on the mighty north Atlantic! — by **Leslie J. Ballin**, and for dinner one evening by **Dwight Atkinson**. Kenyon friendships last!" **Robert B. O'Connor**, Germantown, Tennessee, is writing a novel. "Prepare to be amazed, Kenyon Review! My oldest son, Jack, whom we called a rocket scientist, now is an actual rocket scientist, at SpaceX. Out of family loyalty, I will sell my deeply cratered Tesla short positions," he kids. **David M. Switzer**, Lake Worth, Florida, informs, "After a fulfilling career in social work and health care, I am very happily retired in south Florida. My wife is a retired teacher. We have spent our working lives in service to others and will continue that in retirement. Our son and his wife in Nashville have the most beautiful 2-year-old ever, not that I am biased! Our daughter enjoys life in Miami, working as a preschool teacher. We love our church and are involved in many volunteer activities. Visitors welcome!"

"Gorgeous scenery, luscious food, laughter — for a few days, we almost felt 20 again."

— **Robin L. Inboden '79**, on a summer get-together with friends who first met in Mather Hall 43 years ago, at the home of **LeAnne Grillo '79**

Tracy Teweles and her husband, Chris, downsized from their big old Victorian in Evanston, Illinois, to a 1963 townhouse in next-door Wilmette. "Meanwhile," she adds, "we are living two blocks from my childhood home to keep my 95-year-old mom company in her final journey with cancer. Bittersweet to have so much time with her. Had a wonderful catch-up with **David R. Bucey** and his wife, **Anne C. Bucey '78**. There is something to be said for the wonderful friendships and bonds we all created on the Magic Mountain." **Mark L. Thomay**, Middleburg Heights, Ohio, updates, "It was a great privilege to help organize a Kenyon Lords basketball reunion that took place at the home of **Scott D. Rogers '80** and his wife, Karen, in Cincinnati. Three of the top four scorers in the history of the program, **John A. Rinka '70**, **Scott D. Rogers '80** and **Timothy P. Appleton '77**, were there. It was very cool to meet the legend John Rinka, who still holds the all-time career scoring record for small schools. Other alumni present were **Hugh J. Burnstad '81**, **Daniel J. Martin '78**, **Kenneth P. Danzinger '94**, **Christopher H. 'Kit' Marty '69**, **Drew**

A. Peterson '80, **Kent Wellington '88** and **James H. Smith III '72**. Kenyon's current head coach, Dan Priest, joined us as well."

1980s

1980

Andrew T. Bowers, Littleton, Massachusetts, crows, "I am retired! It's not what I expected. Everyone keeps asking, 'So, what are you going to do now?' When I answer, 'plenty of nothing!' they always frown a little and don't even think of 'Porgy and Bess.' I believe there's way too much Puritan work ethic going around. I thought of giving clichéd answers: 'Travel! Volunteering! All the odd jobs I never got to!' But that would be lying just to make them happy. And that's not me. At least, not anymore — I'm retired!" **Quentin R. Hardy**, Berkeley, California, notes, "It's been very useful to make a career move at 60, not least because Google is an excellent place to be and journalism had generally become the other thing. One of my sons has entered the Jesuit novitiate while the other is doing very well in his master's in artificial intelligence. As a parent, I'm proud of how, each in his own way, they take reality seriously."

My wife left the San Francisco Public Library and has been doing her own bookbinding, with great success. I've given a series of online art history lectures on modern culture and technology, and their Renaissance antecedents. Now looking for new ideas."

1981

Ronald James "Jamie" Assaf, Osprey, Florida, retired after 13 years as the senior VP and general counsel of KEMET Electronics, a global electronic component manufacturer. "I have relocated from Boca Raton with my wife, Nadine, whom I met 34 years ago in law school. We have twin girls — Maegan, an occupational therapist in Manhattan, and Caitrin, a TV news anchor in Little Rock, Arkansas. Son Brendan is a senior majoring in entertainment design at Ringling College of Art and Design." **Wendy W. Cook**, Hinsdale, Illinois, had "a terrific time hanging out with **Cathy L. Regan** and **Michael R. Mizenko** in Denver in September," she writes. "Time flew as we caught up, shared memories and even some confessions!" **Douglas Gertner**, Denver, updates, "Afforded more time during lockdown, I stepped into a new endeavor as a booking

agent, working with five artists from the U.S. and Canada, hunting and securing them gigs and routing concert tours nationally. It's fun, a nice complement to my ongoing role as a DJ on community radio and presenter of house concerts, and recalls the days as concert chair of the Kenyon Social Committee." **Laura F. Nelson**, St. Paul, Minnesota, writes, "My grandson Ira was born in April. I am so happy to be able to hang with him, and his parents, regularly. Retired life is good." **Doug E. Page**, Wynnewood, Pennsylvania, is enjoying retirement. He took a tandem bike tour in Puglia, Italy, in May and a 75-mile one-day ride for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society in September; volunteers for Habitat for Humanity; and visited his daughters on the south Jersey beaches last summer. **Gregory P. Sesler**, Erie, Pennsylvania, has been "easing toward retirement, spending less time working and more time traveling," he updates. "Beth and I went to Iceland and Spain last spring and just returned from a two-week self-driven canal boat trip in Belgium and France. It included a lot of World War I history. Very much enjoyed the land of waffles, chocolate, good beer and French fries. We celebrated the wedding of our second daughter in June and traveled more this fall, visiting our other three children scattered about the country."

1982

Abigail R. Esman, The Hague, Netherlands, spent a "fabulous"

couple of days in September visiting **William H. Byerly II** and **Catherine A. Biern Byerly '84**, she writes, "including a joyous, laughter-filled (and delicious) dinner with **Peter S. Austin**, who joined us for the evening. Bill and Peter hadn't seen each other since graduation, but they certainly had kept plenty of memories!"

1983

Amy McCloskey, Brooklyn, New York, notes, "If I didn't make it thoroughly clear in my last note, reopening my bar, Madame X, has been exponentially harder than opening it the first time in 1997. Between supply-chain problems, staffing shortages and the seeming desire of every human between the age of 21 and 40 to party like it's 1999, it's been a constant battle to keep up. Yeah, I know I should be grateful to be open, and busy — but *damn!* I thought I'd be retiring right about now, not turning it up to 11!"

1984

Jeffrey A. Bell, Kirkland, Washington, updates, "For nearly 10 days, Captain **Douglas Heuck**, **Geoffrey A. Catlett**, **David B. "Cookie" Guenther** and I, First Mate Jeff Bell, sailed from Cedarville, Michigan, through the North Channel of Lake Huron, in Canadian territory. This journey in a 27-foot Catalina, became our own quest. Upon reflection, it paralleled Jason and the Argonauts' quest for the Golden Fleece. The first day of sailing took us to Pilot's Cove, which was the last real nirvana we experienced. We drank and sang and

swam — naive as to the challenges ahead. Our second sail was to Gore Island, Canada, and mirrored the Argonauts' arrival in Lemnos, the land of women without men. Keira the harbor master, the staff at Purvis Fish House and the old woman watering the public garden were all we would meet. The third sail to Baie Fine was like the Argonauts' passage through the wandering rocks. We ran aground, but ultimately safely passed after a watchful and treacherous night of gale winds. Our fourth sail to Killarney was when we met the Sirens of the Sportsman Inn. We had to blindfold and tie up Catlett to save him. Our fifth sail to Croker Island was similar to the peaceful welcome Jason received at the Doliones, only later to be threatened by the Gegenees (six-armed giants). In our case, it was the huge Super Yachts in Benjamin Cove that nearly consumed us. Our sixth sail to Otter Islands reminds me of the murder of Absyrtus, Medea's brother, which angered Zeus so much that he summoned a gale and blew the Argo into havoc. In our case, we spun 360 degrees and nearly collided with another sailboat. Our seventh sail to Long Point was most definitely like the passage through the clashing rocks (Symplegades). While we entered Beardrop Cove safely, we did so after hitting a rock. Our eighth sail to Blind River and then across the channel to Tolsmaville was like the Argonauts' discovering an island abandoned except for a temple dedicated to Ares; few people and

few buildings, but very hospitable. During our ninth day of sailing back to DeTour, Michigan, we encountered the huge freighters reminiscent of the Argonauts facing the bronze giant Talos. Once we arrived in Cedarville, we celebrated our triumphant return home with the Golden Fleece!"

1985

Richmond H. "Rick" Curtiss III, Palm Springs, California, was a contestant on the quiz show "Master Minds" on the Game Show Network, he informs. "It was a completely different experience than my 2015 'Jeopardy!' appearance, but still very interesting and fun. It should be available to watch on the Game Show Network website."

"I am retired! It's not what I expected."

— **Andrew T. Bowers '80**

Still very happily working for Red-Jeep. com giving Jeep tours of the desert around Palm Springs — the San Andreas Fault, the Indian Canyons, Joshua Tree National Park, Palm Springs celebrity homes and Palm Springs mid-century architecture." **Scott D. Garson**, Shaker Heights, Ohio, updates: "Retired from a paycheck in July 2021 and, feeling strong and healthy, I have focused my energies as the founding board chair of a new nonprofit in Cleveland, Goods Bank NEO, addressing both environmental concerns

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and helping those in greatest need. The organization redirects from the landfill new products returned to retailers and provides them to nonprofits helping the poorest in our community." **Patrick J. Shields**, New York City, and his wife, Beckey Bright, continue post-production for their 2023 documentary "Eagleman and Wonder Woman: An America Love Story." Patrick ran the 2022 New York City Marathon to benefit the EJ Autism Foundation, founded and run by **Beatrice "Bea" Huste '86**. **Frank**

touring performances of Broadway shows and the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, among many other events."

1986

Charles D. "Cully" Stimson, Falls Church, Virginia, retired from the Navy JAG Corps in February 2022 after 30 years of active and reserve duty, completing his service as a two-time commanding officer with the rank of captain. At his retirement ceremony, Cully was awarded the Legion of Merit by Rear Adm. Les Reardanz, deputy judge advocate

to thrive, providing patient-centered care without third-party interference." He and his wife are in year seven of a food, wine and custom travel business. "We source private-label extra virgin olive oil from my grandfather's ancestral village in Trevi, Umbria, Italy," he explains. "We now import via air freight — to our garage — over two tons of oil just weeks off the tree for immediate distribution to hundreds of customers in 35 states. We visit Italy every fall to oversee the pick, press and same-day

drop-off road trip." **Allison E. Joseph**, Carbondale, Illinois, was "thrilled" to be named Illinois Author of the Year for 2022 by the Illinois Association of Teachers of English, she notes. "My newest books of poems are 'Lexicon' (Red Hen Press), awarded Best Book of the Year by the Poetry by the Sea Conference, 'Any Proper Weave' (Kelsay Books) and 'Speak and Spell' (Glass Lyre Press)." **Matthew C. Pasher**, New York City, writes, "My wife, Lori Robinson, and I still live in Chelsea with our tween Naomi.

our kids go to the same school in Hell's Kitchen." **Patricia Rossman Skrha** shouts out "Hello from Cleveland! I'm still working as the chief enrollment officer of an independent, faith-based school on the near west side called Urban Community School. It's an amazing place, and I'm really proud of the work we do to support low-income families. On the personal front, life as a newlywed has been full of laughter! And speaking of laughter, getting together with **Lyne A. Schneebeck**, **Laura Jill Tibbe**, **Lauren Ewers Polite**, **Susanna M. Brown** and **Susan Lind Quigley** continues to be a joyful gift."

1989

Kyla K. Carlson writes, "I just returned from a weekend on Gambier Island attending Alumni Council meetings. As always, I connected with so many fabulous people across generations. The highlight — aside from tequila shots at the VI — was a networking session with students and alums. My insecurities led me to wonder what I have to offer in terms of career advice. But speaking with students, I was reminded how terrifying it is to be graduating from college and figuring out what's next. When I told them it's OK not to know, it's OK to change your mind, I could literally see their shoulders relax and a wave of relief sweep over their faces. Of course my mommy instincts kicked in, and I wanted to hug them all and make them soup. It was also awesome to see my daughter, **Shea C. Wilt '25**! When not on campus, I'm happily

"It was a completely different experience than my 2015 'Jeopardy!' appearance, but still very interesting and fun."

— **Richmond H. "Rick" Curtiss III '85**, who was a contestant on the quiz show "Master Minds," on the Game Show Network

R. Virnelli Jr., West Hartford, Connecticut, retired from working for the state of Connecticut on April 1, he informs. "At Hartford's Asylum Hill Congregational Church, I continue to serve as a deacon (part of the lay leadership), operate the cameras during livestream services and other events, and act as coordinator for our men's group, which meets for breakfast each month and serves meals at a local soup kitchen. I volunteered two days at the Travelers Championship PGA event, during which all went well — other than I almost got Rory McIlroy run over by patrons. And I am starting as a volunteer at the Bushnell, the Hartford venue that hosts

general for reserve affairs and operations.

1987

Jessica Greenstein, Highland, New York, has been working in the Office of International Programs at Vassar College since January 2021. "I thoroughly enjoy it — and am putting my Kenyon modern foreign languages major to good use! Vassar places great emphasis on international education and encourages all students to participate in study abroad."

1988

Christopher E. Bonacci, McLean, Virginia, writes that his solo private practice in Vienna, Virginia, in oral and maxillofacial surgery "continues

bottling, bringing along enthusiastic customers for an extraordinary back-roads Italian experience." **Barry M. Gisser**, Minneapolis, reports, "It was exciting to be back in Gambier dropping off our daughter **Emily Gisser '26**! It's pretty remarkable to me how the College balances established traditions and change. I was really impressed with Orientation and Convocation — and maybe a little sentimental. A lot has changed, no surprise; but the VI still pours drinks, Peirce is still magical and McBride still smells like ... McBride. It was also great to make a quick detour and catch up with **William B. Lockwood '91** as we continued our college

I have transitioned to working for QuickBooks remotely, and my wife works for the NYC DOE as a speech pathologist. I invite any '88s or any other '80s graduates to my Sunday Talks. We run the gamut on what we discuss, and I post invites weekly. I regularly see **Christopher V. Blackburn**, **Laura K. Porter-Jones '90** and **David F. Hanson '87**. Also, **Stephen R. Sexsmith '80**, **Robert F. Roche '80** and **Pamela Goodell '89** have become wonderful resources. I am working on a wonderful volunteer project getting tickets and access to theater for my community, so if anyone has any contacts please reach out. I also saw **Michael K. Zorek '82** recently, as

living life in Kirkland, Washington, with my husband and son. I love my job with the King County Library System, and I see my BFF **Abbe Jacobson Kopf** as often as I can!" **Teresa Victoria "Tracy" (Krug) Cordon**, Wilmington, North Carolina, is pursuing her passion as an ADHD advocate. "Follow me on Insta @peanut-butterandpositivity if interested!" **Ann E. Minner**, Austin, Texas, recently stepped out from her 24-year home in the public library world to become the director of the Talking Book Program with the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. "If someone in your life is visually impaired or has a reading disability, look to your state library for free resources that will bring reading back into their life," she urges.

1990s

1990

Julia Griner officially retired. "As for many," she shares, "the last couple of years have been tough, and between COVID, energy crises, changing world travel patterns and price hikes on all sides, our little cooking school has not been able to weather the storm. It is bittersweet, but since we have both worked for 40 years, we figure we are due. We continue to work in the food world. We just tested all the recipes for the Pasta Grannies cookbook No. 2, and I remain the go-to expert on pasta-making for that project. So we won't be idle. Also, I reconnected with **Karen K. Devine**, who lives outside Bologna and is a masseuse extraordinaire!" **Brendan P. Keefe**, Johns Creek,

Georgia, updates, "After eight years at the Atlanta NBC station, I've gone 'across the street' to the competition. I'm now the chief investigator for Atlanta News First at the local CBS station. So far, I've won the Peabody Award, duPont-Columbia Award, six National Edward R. Murrow Awards and the Hillman Prize. My work has been recognized with 123 regional Emmys and a national Emmy for investigative reporting. All the accolades are great, but the real reward is changing laws and sending corrupt officials to prison. This year my work resulted in a new state law in Georgia requiring all 911 dispatchers to receive annual training to give CPR instructions over the phone. Last year, we got every 911 dispatcher at the busiest airport in the world trained as emergency medical dispatchers after several passengers there died of heart attacks. My wife, Tiffany, is studying to become a wealth advisor as she reinvents herself at age 50. Our son, Ian, 15, is considering colleges in Ireland. Daughter Mackenzie, 12, has early-onset teenager! I talk often with **Michael J. Mullen** and many members of the K80s Facebook group." **Thomas P. Klein**, Pocatello, Idaho, writes, "I have enjoyed getting to know Nell Flanders, **Kathryn Flanders'** sister, who is the symphony director at Idaho State University. I got to see Kate when she helped her sister move in. Lucinda and I are doing well. I recently enjoyed 'running' the Pikes Peak Marathon, which I first heard about when I was a Kenyon

student!" **Jenny Ross Thurber**, East Lansing, Michigan, was promoted to director of student services at Davenport University and received a Milestone Award for 20 years of service. Jenny and **John L. Thurber** celebrated their 24th wedding anniversary on June 6. Last spring, John met **Sean Ward** in Orlando for a trip to Walt Disney World, and later traveled to Milwaukee to visit **Todd P. Van Fossen** and tour the Harley-Davidson Museum.

1991

Michael C. Bassett, Dayton, Ohio, shares three accomplishments since graduating: "1. I'm in my third decade working as an occupational therapist. I've worked in general hospitals with patients needing function-based

older)." **Holly Hatch-Surisook**, Minneapolis, and her husband, Joe, closed the doors of their restaurant Sen Yai Sen Lek, as well as Dipped & Debris, in April after 14 years. "It was emotional to say goodbye to our staff and community, heart-warming to know the place our food and hospitality had had in guests' lives, and fun to celebrate all we had accomplished! Our dear Kenyon friends **Chelsea M. Guillen** and **Sarah E. Phemister** and their spouses made the trip and joined the party on our last night! The timing is right; our youngest just moved into his first apartment while our daughter is a college senior. Though it's not retirement yet, we are taking our own gap year to drive our Escape Travel Trailer around the country." **Megan Lewis-**

"All the accolades are great, but the real reward is changing laws and sending corrupt officials to prison."

— **Brendan P. Keefe '90**, on his award-winning work as chief investigator for Atlanta News First

physical and cognitive rehabilitation, and I now work in a psychiatric hospital with a forensic population. 2. I have been married to Jeannine for many years. 3. After graduating, my journey took me to Kentucky, then North Carolina, followed by Virginia and then back to Ohio. In my spare time I take piano lessons, sing in the church choir (converted to Catholicism a few years ago), exercise and eat a vegetarian diet (I don't want to get any

Schurter, Fort Collins, Colorado, began her third year as director of theater at Colorado State University as her son, **Tristan Alexander Lewis-Schurter '26**, began his first year at Kenyon. "In summers, I take students on my intensive study abroad program called Arts and Culture in South Africa, run by **John Joseph 'Jay' Alexander** and his amazing company, Scholarly Sojourns. And this summer the brilliant writer-goddess **Jenna J. Blum**

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'92 visited me for some Rocky Mountain adventure and love. So proudly purple!"

1992

Laura E. Hauser, Pickerington, Ohio, updates, "I'm a mom of three, one of whom is a high school math

teacher, one of whom is studying animal science at the University of Findlay and hopes to go on to vet school, and one of whom is a high school sophomore. Things are really starting to quiet down around our house now that only one of them is still fully

'in the nest.' I'm currently in my 27th year as a music therapist and team leader at a state psychiatric facility, and I love getting to work on a wide range of goals with my forensic clients as they reintegrate into the community and prepare for discharge."

1993

Edward E. Curtis IV writes, "More than three decades after first appearing with **Brendan P. Keefe '90** on KCTV news, I made my return to television as the host of a documentary, 'Arab Indianapolis,' and a tour guide on

ONE OF US

Thomas Holton '91

In the early 2000s, Thomas Holton '91, a photographer living in New York City, began what would become an ongoing, decades-long documentary project: photographing the life of one Chinese family living in New York City's Chinatown neighborhood. The resulting series, "The Lams of Ludlow Street," is featured in "Kinship," a current exhibit at the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C., through Jan. 7, 2024. "Kinship" features the work of eight contemporary artists who explore the complexities of interpersonal relationships through portraiture.

Major: Anthropology

Born in: Guatemala City, Guatemala

Currently resides in: Brooklyn, New York

Occupations: Photographer and arts educator

My life post-Kenyon: Since Kenyon, I have worked in the New York City photography world in a variety of capacities, eventually focusing on making my own work and becoming a photography teacher. A big thank you to Professor Greg Spaid for guiding me way back when! I think I got a B+ in his class while my non-photography roommate got an A. He still never lets me forget this.

Motto: "Never tell me the odds!"

Proudest accomplishments: After 20 years of documenting a single Chinese family's life here in New York, the work has made it into the National Portrait Gallery. Very surreal to see my name on the walls of the Smithsonian.



Holton, second from the right, poses with the Lam children (Franklin, Michael and Cindy) in 2023

How my closest Kenyon friends would describe me: Different and fun-loving.

Favorite Kenyon memory: Meeting my first-year roommate James P. Snyder '91 (AKA Todd C. Ryan) on day one and being best friends ever since. He officiated my wedding as a one-day solemnizer at my other Kenyon roommate's Massachusetts restaurant.

Most surprising thing about life post-Kenyon: Life is not easily scripted. Hold onto your hats.

Best advice anyone has ever given me? As a photographer, follow your heart and good work will eventually be seen.

Record that changed your life? "Check Your Head" by The Beastie Boys. This album changed the way music is made.

Anything else? I'd love to hear from any current Kenyon students or alumni interested in photography and creatively connect.

Instagram: @thomas_holton_photography

PHOTO COURTESY OF THOMAS HOLTON

'The Great Muslim American Road Trip,' both on PBS." **David E.G. Hutchison** and his wife just celebrated their 10th "nomadiversary," he updates. "Ten years basing our outdoor and volunteer adventures out of the restored 1957 vintage camper trailer we lovingly refer to as 'Hamlet.' What began as a year, maybe two, break from home ownership and career tracks in our early forties transformed into a full-on love affair with traveling and seeking sustainability — in all that it might mean. Along the way we've reconnected with Kenyon friends and family — most recently with **Theresa (Gormerly) Morrison**, who willingly accepted our mail and packages before we embarked on last summer's quest — Alaska. If you've ever dreamed about driving off in your own tiny home on wheels, check us out at freedominacan.com."

1994

Richard D. Erenstoft, East Amherst, New York, went back to school for a second master's degree. "I'm enrolled at the Warner School of Education at University of Rochester, getting my master's in elementary education 1-6 inclusive, allowing me to be certified to teach both regular education and special education!" she reports. "I'm still living in western New York — Go Bills! — but go to U of R once a month for a seminar. Other than that, I'm student teaching during the day and taking classes full time! Not much time for anything else, but loving 'the littles.'" **James K. Feuer**, Alhambra, California, notes, "First recurring

TV role ('A Good Cop') aired last spring! Coming out of COVID cocoon, looking for representation and welcome any meetings with producers, directors or agents on either coast." **Kathryn A. Foley**, Adams, Massachusetts, updates, "In addition to being a longtime licensed mental health counselor, I have become a licensed horseback riding instructor and a certified therapeutic riding instructor." Combining her love of psychology and counseling with a love of and belief in the power of connection with animals, Kathy teaches riding, runs a small therapeutic riding program, provides equine-assisted psychotherapy and maintains a private telehealth psychotherapy practice, with the help of nine horses, including two therapy-trained miniature horses. "With both kids now in college, I've found a lifestyle that brings me real joy." Camp at her place via Hipcamp, contribute at gofund.me/3b512998 or learn more on Facebook: Aisling Mountain Farm. **Colleen H. Grazioso**, Manchester Center, Vermont, "had a great time celebrating **Melissa F. 'Missy' McClaran**'s 50th birthday in Vermont this year!" **Sheila Ortona** updates, "My husband, two kids (Luca, 16, and Sofia, 13), dog (born in Gambier, named Zaby) and I moved back to Rome, Italy, after five wonderful years in San Francisco. I'm working on completing a book of personal essays, titled 'I'll Behave Later,' about my last 25 years living overseas. If you're interested in

previewing excerpts, please subscribe to my newsletter, 'A Pen in My Purse' on Substack." **Jessica Vandemark**, Phoenix, realized a lifelong dream by traveling to South Africa, Zimbabwe and Botswana. "Between the stunningly beautiful scenery, the wild animals in their natural habitat, and the vibrant mix of food, music and art from different traditions I got to experience along the way, the whole trip was magical!"

1995

J. David Hicks, Bristol, Tennessee, writes, "Nothing makes you feel old more than having children who begin 'adulthood' (and I use that term lightly). Recently married and new homeowner Alex and his wife recently invited Cindy and me to their new home for dinner, with the unexpected caveat that we bring the food (anyone know the correct emoji for that?). Meanwhile, Daniel has begun his junior year at Rhodes, where he is playing baseball and prepping for law school. And we've begun the college application process for Stephen, so we will soon have two in college again. Luke, the 'baby,' has his learner's permit. **Matthew R. Leaf** and **Heather Marie (Steiner) Leaf** checked in from their empty nest in Greenfield, Massachusetts. "We moved our oldest into his first apartment at the start of his junior year at the University of Vermont and moved the youngest into her freshman dorm at Marist the following week. They promise to return home for vacations

and occasions, and assure us there will be plenty of laundry to accompany them. Our dog enjoys receiving all of our attention. Work continues to be great for both of us, and I have added working toward my master's in restorative practices to my agenda." **Jennisen M. Lucas**, Cody, Wyoming, finished a term as president of the American Association of School Librarians. "I am now back to defending my students' right to read at a local level. Reach out to the local library boards and local school librarians and stand with them as they fight against censorship. It can be lonely and challenging. In other news, I started my doctorate in professional studies, instructional design leadership. My son is now a fourth-grader, and my husband, Josh, is still the best special educator I have ever seen! We met 30 years ago while I was a freshman at Kenyon." **David A. Puts**, State College, Pennsylvania, updates, "My spouse, Khytam, and I have three kids — Usha, 11; Jack, 9; and Hannah, 4 — and we work at Penn State in psychology and anthropology, respectively. We enjoy camping and go several times a year with two other families, scheduled by Khytam so that we hit every Pennsylvania state park by the time our oldest kids go to college! We were also excited to see my brother Kevin's opera, 'The Hours,' which premiered at the Met last fall."

1996

Stephanie M. Hill, Westerville, Ohio, returned to her home state after 24 years.

"My sister, **Trish Piliado '93**, moved back here in December from Washington, so I finally live near family again. Thank you, **Joseph F. Herban**, for taking me around town to look at houses! I also started a new job as a lean strategist for KaiNexus, a software company out of Austin, and I continue to maintain my business, Light Bulb Moment Consulting, working with clients in San Francisco." **Kathryn A. "Kat" Knudson**, Minneapolis, writes, "I was recently promoted to local energy policy manager for Minnesota at CenterPoint Energy, helping communities set and achieve their energy and equity goals. While I miss strategic marketing for energy efficiency and clean-energy future initiatives, I'm loving the new role. (And loving that, since it's Minnesota-focused, I don't need to travel much anymore.) I'm still finding time to write (a poem was just published in an anthology); take many, many walks with our crazy/sweet rescue dogs and sneak in a date night with my husband every so often." **Jane L. Roth** is now acting head of school at Thomas Jefferson School in St. Louis, enjoying teaching English and Latin alongside administrative responsibilities. "After all, don't teachers become teachers so that we can keep being students ourselves in some way?"

1997

Gregory A. Davis, Bethesda, Maryland, now works for a congressional commission charged with reforming the Pentagon's system for requesting

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and spending money. "This, no doubt, sounds exceedingly dry to most of you. If not, feel free to reach out!" **Dwight K. Schultheis**, Brookline, Massachusetts, started a new job in April at a San Francisco-based company named Truepill in the digital health space. "My wife, Lauren, who recently became a social worker,

1998
Aaron M. Czechowski and **Adrienne Misheloff Czechowski '97**, Sammamish, Washington, celebrated daughter Annie's decision to become a member of the Kenyon Class of 2026. "We attended an admissions event in April, and during a panel session the students talked about the intentional

to be the primary care provider on the island." Son Max is a freshman at Columbia College, Chicago. **Christina L. Rimelspach** moved to Aurora, Colorado, in the metro Denver area, five years ago and loves it. "I got married to Ed Spree in 2019, and we finally got to take our honeymoon this past May. We spent a week in Barcelona and a week in Brussels. Highly recommend! I continue to work for Evolve, a vacation rental company, as a team lead on the customer experience team. I also keep busy as the go-to person for the Kenyon Alumni Association in Colorado."

Naomi, now in second grade, is in gymnastics. It's been busy, but we're mixing in some fun travel to Hilton Head and then a cruise to the Bahamas!" **Erich K. Kurschat** updates, "It's been quite a year for the Kurschat household! My wife, Katie, and I welcomed our first child, Evelyn Grace, to the family on March 31. In August, we moved from the South Loop of Chicago to Downers Grove, a western suburb where Katie grew up. Contact me for our new address, to offer advice on getting Evvie to sleep through the night, or to share in our excitement for next summer's Chamber Singers reunion!"

Zachary "Gush" Nowak finished his first year as director of the Umbra Institute, an American study abroad program in Perugia, Italy. He spends his time updating the curriculum and pedagogy there, as well as drinking Campari spritzes on his terrace overlooking the valley and enjoying living in a beautiful medieval city. **Andrew W. Shannon**, Lakeland, Florida, writes, "I've left Jacksonville to take a position as the director of ultrasound education for the new Lakeland Regional Medical Center residency in emergency medicine. Stay well out there!" **Eric G. Smith**, Manhattan Beach, California, and his wife celebrated their 18th anniversary. "My son is a high school freshman, and my daughter is in seventh grade. Logan is an avid drummer, already way beyond any skill I ever thought I might have had, with a growing following on Instagram and a couple of small endorsements.

"I've earned five Guinness world records for eating the hottest chili peppers in the world."

— **Gregory W. Foster '98**, founder of Inferno Farms Hot Sauce Company in San Diego, California

joined another digital health company named Cerebral and sees patients exclusively over telehealth from home. Two kids, now 12 and 14, both on travel sports teams (soccer and ice hockey), so much of our time is spent taxiing them to practices and games, but we were able to squeeze in some great vacations to Ireland and Denmark last year. It was also great to see **Benjamin Jump**, **Matt Mikula**, **Derrick 'Sugar' Johnson**, **Keith A. Blecher**, **Adam Kendrick Myers**, **David M. Eisenberg** and **Jason C. Lafferty** in Green Lake, Wisconsin, over the summer." **Aaron B. Webber** found "the love of his life and married him" after nine years in England. "Now John 'Mac' MacLeod and I live happily in Exeter with our two cats. Highland wedding to follow!"

choice of studying for four years in rural Ohio. It brought a tear to my eye and made me want to attend again! It was especially fun in May at reunion where Adrienne and I could proudly sport the P'26 addition to our name tags. Big thanks to **Christopher C. Ellsworth '96** and **Annie Higby Ellsworth '04** for their unwavering hospitality and support." **Gregory W. Foster**, San Diego, is "still slinging lots of hot sauce" with his company, Inferno Farms. "As of this writing, I've earned five Guinness world records for eating the hottest chili peppers in the world. Organized the first West Coast Hot Sauce Experience in June and am already planning the second for 2023. When life hands you a bushel of hot peppers, make hot sauce! Stay spicy!" **Dara M. Newberry** writes, "I have recently relocated to St. George Island, Alaska,

1999
Sarah H. Booth, Dobbs Ferry, New York, and her husband, Armando Inarritu, welcomed a son, Sebastian Inarritu Booth, who was born on March 22, 2022, in New York City. **Jessica B. Cole** updates, "I've been living and working in Hawaii for the last 12 years in the film and TV industry. Recently my family and I relocated to Oahu from Maui to work on a long-term TV show. Apart from work, our 5-year old daughter, a dozen horses and two dogs keep our family busy." **George W. Cook III**, Ypsilanti, Michigan, left his position as director of legislative affairs for Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer to become senior director, state government relations for Kellogg Corp. "Our oldest son, Jack, started high school and joined the water polo team. My son Noah is an all-star catcher in his Little League baseball division, and he and our daughter Cora both started middle school this fall. My youngest,

Lily plays soccer year-round, working at being a goalie and a forward. In November 2021 I started a new role with Roku, the streaming TV company, leading several sales verticals and building a growing and sustainable ad business within our large customer group. As for finally seeing people in person again, I recently caught up with **Robert S. 'Steve' Grzymala '96** after way too many years." In October, Eric had planned to connect with **Jeffrey R. "Jeff" Romph '97, Andrew Q. Winter '96, William H. "Harmon" Handorf '00, Brien T. West, Patrick O. Walsh '98, Robert W. "Winston" Sale '02** ... "and with luck many others."

2000s

2000
Benjamin D. Bagocius, Alexandria, Virginia, is an associate professor of the humanities with the Bard Sequence Program, a division of Bard Early College. He teaches Bard College classes at public charter high schools in Washington, D.C. Ben published his first book of poetry, "The Canaanite Woman," last summer, and his second, "The Gospel According to B.," is slated for publication in 2024. Ben's academic articles, book reviews and poetry are regularly published — "including two poems in **Kristopher J. Armstrong's** exquisite literary journal 'Tomorrow and Tomorrow.' I'm founding director of the Institute for Spiritual Poetry, which hosts workshops to write and talk (join us!) and a literary journal (publish your

poetry and short prose with us!)." His poem "Apple or Baby Jesus" was recently nominated for a Best of the Net award for 2022. **Kelly P. Dillon**, Grove City, Ohio, earned tenure and was promoted to associate professor of communication and digital media at Wittenberg University. She also won the Edith B. and Frank C. Matthies Award for innovative teaching. For her spring sabbatical she will research the use of digitized handwritten notes in the college classroom. "This new achievement has only affirmed my sense of place in the liberal arts classroom," she adds, "a journey that started 26 years ago in Gambier."

Rachel I. Leber, Portland, Oregon, now in her fourth and final year of naturopathic medical school, notes, "It's all clinical from here! So nice to have some brain space, time to apply and integrate everything we have learned, not to mention actual down time and fun! I rejoined an all-percussion drum troupe here in Portland that makes my heart sing! Singing, cycling, hiking and yoga-ing whenever I can, and always meeting new people in this relatively new city of mine." **Beko O. Reblitz-Richardson**, Oakland, California, updates that oldest son Kai started high school. "He's excited, but I'm not sure I'm ready for this change! One of his classes is Asian worlds, so my Kenyon Asian Studies Concentration is coming in handy. I spent the summer in Idaho with my family, at Bear Lake, with some good hiking, biking and running. I'm still working as an attorney at Boies Schiller Flexner,

currently handling privacy cases (some against Google) and antitrust matters." **Holly Donahue Singh**, Tampa, Florida, notes, "With our daughter in middle school and the adults teaching at the University of South Florida, Deepak, Anushka and I are all kept pretty occupied." In December, her first book, "Infertility in a Crowded Country: Hiding Reproduction in India," was published by Indiana University Press. **Joanna Radnor Vilensky**, Columbus, Ohio, shares that **Gelsey Lynn Rellosa, Elizabeth Roche Griffin, Heather**

quickly readjusting to life in a college town." **Stephanie Sorge** updates, "This summer, I enjoyed my first sabbatical, focusing on exploring some creative pursuits. I stumbled into working with glass — primarily stained glass — and I got hooked! I'm back at work now, continuing to serve as pastor of Trinity Presbyterian Church in Harrisonburg, Virginia, where I live with my husband, Will, and sons, Isaac and Micah, now in third and first grades, respectively."

2002
Rebecca M. Capasso, New York City, returned

sport management, and my 6-year-old daughter, Corinne, an avid chicken chaser. I've spent most of these five years working for American Farmland Trust as the New England deputy director, until this past May, when I was appointed the USDA Farm Service Agency state executive director. Far from where I thought my chemistry major would take me, but working to support and maintain small agriculture through the turmoil caused by the pandemic has been so very rewarding (and plenty challenging)." **Cheshe M. Dow** writes from Botswana, "I

"I rejoined an all-percussion drum troupe here in Portland that makes my heart sing!"

— **Rachel I. Leber '00**, who is also in her fourth and final year of naturopathic medical school

Graber Stinson, the Rev. Rebecca White Newgren, Sara Gage Rinala, Aleta P. Lafferty and Margaret Beeler Stefani are all in a regular text thread where they discuss topics ranging from Kenyon's new mascot to jeans styles to communes. They might even discuss vegan cheese once in a while.

2001
Aaron K. Perzanowski, Ann Arbor, Michigan, joined the faculty of the University of Michigan Law School as the inaugural Thomas W. Lacchia professor of law. "Although Ann Arbor is quite different from Gambier, I'm

to Bellevue Hospital Center as the assistant director of inpatient psychiatry and assistant professor of psychiatry at NYU School of Medicine. "It has been quite a transition to return to hospital work after the pandemic!" she observes. "My daughters continue to grow — both physically and in confidence — and we continue to love living in New York City." **Emily J. Cole**, Simsbury, Connecticut, writes, "After trying most of the New England states on for size, I've found myself settled in Connecticut for the last five-plus years with my husband, Ray, a professor of

am still extolling the virtues of a liberal arts education. I co-own and run a K-12 school called the Dow Academy in Mochudi, Botswana. My fondest wish is to evolve it into a liberal arts school. We welcome interns and fellows or just anyone who wants to take some time out and advance basic education. I have a J.D., an L.L.M. in finance, and a 3.5-year-old daughter. I have 10 dogs. I farm sheep, goats, ducks and chickens. I started a fruit orchard this year." **Curt N. Foxx**, Sherman Oaks, California, welcomed a fourth child to the family on July 5, a boy named Casey. "He joins Evan, 11;

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Emma, 8; and Rowan, 3. I recently retired from coaching after 24 years and took a new career with NCSA as a recruiting specialist. Everyone is doing well!" **Christopher M. Van Nostrand**, Evanston, Illinois, updates, "After spending my entire career in higher education I've made a big transition into strength coaching. My company is called Strength Wise Barbell, and I focus on elevating performance for athletes who are 40+. It feels a little nuts to make the leap into entrepreneurship with a family and a mortgage, but I'm excited about

2003
Eric A. Christiansen and his family live just outside "hot and humid Atlanta," he notes, "where I've gotten used to doing yard work ten months out of the year. I've been working as a pilot for JetBlue for six years now, enjoying almost every minute of it. The best perk might be grabbing dinner with fellow Kenyon alumni during work trips: **Monica M. Gastelumendi**, **Isaac P. Gilman**, **Nathan N. Hara** and **Benjamin J. Hildebrand**, thanks for making time for me during my layovers this

of Manhattan for the past six years. "I'm currently working as a lawyer at the firm Leader Berkon Colao & Silverstein, focusing on commercial litigation. In other news, I'm doing a podcast called Phi Fic where a few contributors and I discuss literature from a philosophical perspective. You can find us on Apple and Google podcasts if you search for 'Phi Fic' or follow us on Twitter at @PhiFicpodcast." **Rose N. Meiri**, Winnetka, California, came in second in the chicken wing eating contest at the Maryland Chicken

regularly to L.A. to visit professors and friends." **Robert J. Snow** is head writer for a new Skydance show, "The Search for Wondla," coming soon on Apple TV+. Bob and his wife, Ruth, live in Los Angeles and were expecting a third daughter in December.

2004
Erin B. Carter, Westlake, Ohio, has taken a step back from seeing patients in her group mental health practice. "Instead," she updates, "I have been pouring more energy into advocating for Prader-Willi syndrome, the genetic, life-threatening rare disease that my daughter was born with. In September, I traveled to Washington, D.C., to speak with members of Congress and their staffers about legislation that could help the rare disease community and open doors for a potential treatment. This is a new and deeply personal venture for me and I'm so thankful for the help of fellow alumni **Jennifer A. Judson** and **David N. Donadio** '03 for their guidance, expertise and friendship. If anyone out there has a personal connection with an elected official who may be interested in helping us, please reach out — my daughter's life depends on it!" **Alexander J. Franz** trained for submarine command. "I spent three months in D.C. brushing up on nuclear reactor operations, during which the highlight was hanging out with **Eric B.** and **Emily R. Kahn** and their two awesome kiddos. I then spent two months honing tactical and weapons skills in Hawaii at the Submarine Command Course.

Finally, I spent a couple weeks at headquarters learning who's who and how the machine works. After six months, it was great to be back home in San Diego with **Erin N. Franz** '06 and our three kids." In December, the Franzes moved to Guam. AJ takes command of the attack submarine USS Jefferson City this spring. **Rabbi Adam S. Lavitt** and his husband, Alex Weissman, moved to Philadelphia in July to be closer to Alex's family — and for two exciting new jobs, Adam informs. "Alex returned to his rabbinical school as faculty, a sweet homecoming. I'm director of program design and facilitation for an organization called the Jewish Studio Project, which cultivates creativity as a Jewish practice for spiritual connection and social transformation. This role allows me to bring my spiritual care work into a totally new and exciting arena." **Daniel S. Scharff** is now CEO of Machu Picchu Energy, a producer of craft organic energy drinks with a strong social mission, based in Santa Monica, California.

2005
Celeste D. Berteau has lived in Edinburgh, Scotland, for eight years. "I've switched jobs and now work for the Promise Scotland, an organization tasked with helping care for young people who have been in foster care, residential care, secure care, kinship care or 'looked after' by social work while living at home. My little boy just turned 3, and this year allowed us two trips back to visit family in the States. After two years of not

"I traveled to Washington, D.C., to speak with members of Congress about legislation that could help the rare disease community."

— **Erin B. Carter** '04, on advocating for Prader-Willi syndrome, the genetic, life-threatening rare disease that her daughter was born with

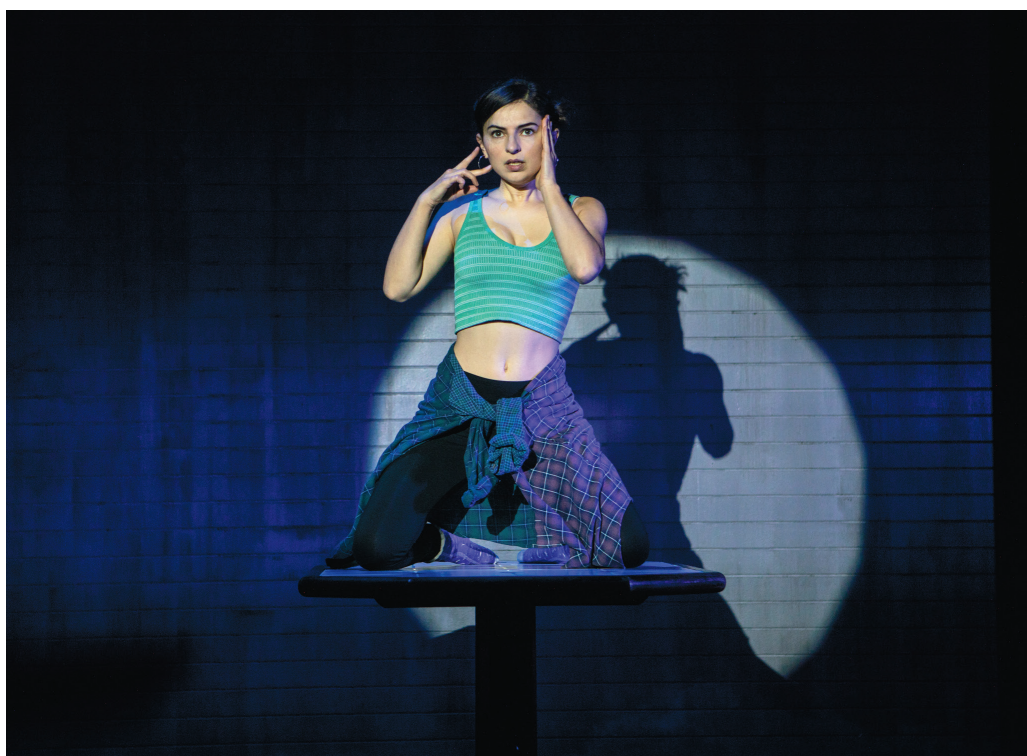
finding a passion and trying something new. My family is doing great after moving back to Evanston following almost a decade in the Bay Area." **Dana L. Whitley**, Westerville, Ohio, updates, "After 17 years in Washington, D.C., I've moved to the Columbus suburbs and am thrilled to have a fresh start. I've also shifted my career from grassroots advocacy and health-care policy to working as an editor for policy, program and business reports and documents. I'm so grateful for remote working, reduced stress and a better life balance."

past year!" **Nathan N. Hara** writes, "My family and I had an amazing trip to Peru in June, and we were lucky enough to spend some quality time with **Monica M. Gastelumendi** and visit her amazing vocal music school. We're headed back to Mexico this summer, as I've accepted a position at the U.S. Consulate General in Guadalajara, where I started my career in the foreign service and — more importantly — met my spouse." **Daniel A. Johnson** and his husband, Vidur, moved to Fort Greene, Brooklyn, after living on the Lower East Side

Wing Festival. "**Megan Rafferty Barnes** was there with her family to film the whole thing," Rose writes. "Oh, and I got married in October, with **Xander CM Piper** '04 as my officiant — but that's less important." **Morgan C. Ogilvie** and **Joel A. Rice** '01 are "loving life in Franklin, Tennessee," they inform. "It's a Cheeveresque enclave, not unlike Kenyon, with fewer anachronisms. We lived in California for two years while I earned my M.F.A. at CALARTS in 2020, where I had to live amongst the youth. We are happy to be back home but return

seeing anyone, it was such a gift!" **Thomas M. Coiner**, Marlborough, Massachusetts, "has a wonderful partner, two dogs and a modest garden, i.e., he is overflowing in Epicurean happiness," he informs. After a two-year hiatus, he started performing onstage again. Early in 2022 he appeared off-Broadway in D.H. Lawrence's "The Daughter-in-Law," and in the fall he appeared in "The 39 Steps" at Merrimack Repertory Theatre. "Don't go to the fridge and miss my part on Paramount+'s 'The Good Fight' this year," he jokes. **Rachel M. Miller**, Sacramento, California, received tenure and was promoted to associate professor of art history at California State University, Sacramento. She is assistant chair of the art department. **Melzetta R. Moody**, San Leandro, California, updates, "Last year, hubby Malick, 3-year-old Matthew and I moved back to California from the Philadelphia area, and it has been great to be home. I am currently the head of people for a technology product marketing agency based in Brooklyn, New York. Shameless plug: If you know great writers, designers, project managers, please let me know. We're growing like crazy!" Vacationing in Europe, Melzetta and her family met **A. Ted Samuel** and his parents in Amsterdam and Brussels. For 2023, she and **Milina M. (Burke) Murphy**, **Sherry C. Wherry**, **Sandra R. Norris**, **Shamekia L. Chandler** and **Qiana S. Woodard '04** are planning "our first international girls trip!" she notes. "The most exciting news

PHOTO BY MONIQUE CARBONI



ONE OF US

Rachel Sachnoff

In late 2022, Rachel Sachnoff '12 appeared as Jane Jr. in the play "Evanston Salt Costs Climbing," written by Pulitzer Prize finalist Will Arbery '11, at The Pershing Square Signature Center in New York. Of Sachnoff's performance (pictured above), New York Times reviewer Alexis Soloski wrote: "She demonstrates a flair for physical comedy and delivers a fine ... a capella rendition of 'Angel From Montgomery.'"

Class year: 2012

Major: Drama

Hometown: Lake Bluff, Illinois

Current residence: Brooklyn, New York

Occupation: Actor

My life post-Kenyon: After graduating I moved to New York to work in theater. I spend my time acting when I can, and nurturing the minds of young children when I must. Outside of work, I volunteer with an adult literacy program at the library.

Proudest accomplishment: I made an Instagram poll about Oreo flavors that went viral among my tens of followers. I call it the Oreolympics, my magnum opus.

How my closest Kenyon friends would describe me: "She prophesied the forthcoming 'Malcolm in the Middle' reboot."

Favorite Kenyon memories: Theater

rehearsals, Fools on the Hill practice, late-night orders of Papa John's.

Most surprising thing about life

post-Kenyon: Taylor Swift's music is actually pretty good!

Best advice anyone has ever given you?

"Connections are made slowly, sometimes they grow underground. You cannot tell always by looking what is happening. More than half the tree is spread out in the soil under your feet. Penetrate quietly as the earthworm that blows no trumpet." – Marge Piercy

What book/film/song/album/etc.

changed your life, and why? "The Idiot" by Elif Batuman showed me how naive I was in college and helped me meet that younger self with compassion and love.

Anything else you want readers to know about you? Every good thing I have in my life I owe to Kenyonites (Kenyonians?).

Online: rachelsachnoff.com

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is that I will begin my four-year appointment as an alumni trustee on Kenyon's Board of Trustees!" **Tristram B. Warkentin** now leads product management for Google's AI research team, Google Brain. "It's been an awesome experience," he explains. "I founded and launched the AI Test Kitchen

2007
Lauren M. Greene and **Benjamin M. Van Horrick** and their children Benji, 8; Miriam, 5; and C.J. 1.5, moved to Okinawa, Japan. Ben completed the Army Command and General Staff College course at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, last May, writing a 97-page thesis

became an elementary school administrator and K-6 instructional literacy coach. I live and work in a vibrant community in downtown Detroit. I spend most of my weekends traveling across the state to be with my long-time boyfriend/partner, who lives in Grand Rapids." Kathryn attended the wedding of **Amy N. Loria** with her brother **Mark A. Peterson '08** and **Joel C. Jablon. Sarah E. Ryan**, Ypsilanti, Michigan, shares, "I changed positions to scale back at work to make more time for family life, and have been extremely thankful for the ability to do that. Living near three university campuses, it's great to have the energy of college life around us, but it also reminds me of how special the people and place of Kenyon are to me." **Stuart H. Schisgall**, Chicago, announces the arrival of a son, James Schisgall. "Mom and James are doing well. Now we have to figure out how to manage two under 2." **Lauren Z. Steele** and **John W. Steele IV** moved back to SoCal in 2020 and live in northern San Diego with their kiddos (5 and 2), Lauren writes. "I grumble about the constant 70- to 75-degree weather conditions and pine for jacket weather and snow, but we're happy to be here. Some of you may remember our dog, Bailey, who was a presence at Kenyon in our junior and senior years. He died in April at the ripe old age of 16.5, having spent the greater portion of his last years happily lounging in the sun and generally enjoying a peaceful senescence."

2008
Kate (Hellman) Miller, Northampton, Massachusetts, writes, "After a challenging breast-feeding experience with my first baby, I was inspired to leave my job in software marketing and start a company called Mighty Milk. We offer nonjudgmental online breast-feeding and pumping classes for new and expectant parents. I teamed up with an amazing lactation consultant who leads the classes. I'd love to connect with any other alums who work with prenatal/postpartum families, or any expectant parents. And I'm happy to report that breast-feeding is going very smoothly with my second little one." **Marc E. Christian** reports, "Took the big leap and left coaching to start a consulting company, IntelliSport Analytics, which supports sports leaders using research to make informed decisions and organizational change. Starting my third year teaching sports ethics at Georgetown University and conducting research for the Wharton Business School. Recently fulfilled a bucket list of seeing Metallica and O.A.R. back-to-back nights in Pittsburgh with '08 classmates **Joshua M. Mitchell**, **Andrew J. Berger**, **Jacob M. Hoyson** as well as **Rachel R. Berger '11** and my wife, Melissa. **Rachel S. Dickson**, Chicago, announces, "The documentary I produced, 'Let the Little Light Shine,' aired nationally on PBS on Dec. 12." Rachel's film portrays a community in action "fighting for a school that works in a system that doesn't."

"The documentary I produced, 'Let the Little Light Shine,' aired nationally on PBS."

— **Rachel S. Dickson '08**, whose film portrays a community in action "fighting for a school that works in a system that doesn't"

(aitestkitchen.withgoogle.com), launched the world's most capable large language model (PaLM), the most capable conversational AI in the world (LaMDA 2), AI protein function prediction (ProteinPilot), Robots (PaLM-SayCan) and many more! I still live in Palo Alto, California, with my wonderful wife, Danielle; daughters Alex, 5, and Mira, 7; and goldendoodle Bear, 9."

2006
Kathryn L. Zeanah, Earlysville, Virginia, returned to the Hill for homecoming this year with her family. "While there, we were able to connect with some former members of KCWB: **Megan S. Morrison**, **Lindsay C. Madaras**, **Heather A. Preston '05**, **Laurel Gourrier '10**, **Morgan P. Korinek '12** and **Avery Anderson '15**. It was a quick trip, but great to be back and experience a little bit of the magic that is Kenyon in the fall!" Katy shares.

about Marine Corps operations in Marjah, Afghanistan. Back on active duty with the Marines, Ben will serve at Camp Courtney on Okinawa for three years. **Samantha J. Ley** and **Matthew C. Zaremsky**, Delmar, New York, welcomed identical twins Maya and Juno last April. "Older sisters Ellie and Rowan are excited to help out with the babies!" Samantha informs. "Matt also got tenure and is now an associate professor in the SUNY Albany math department." **Ira M. Ochs** and his wife, Claire, are the delighted (if somewhat exhausted) parents of a six-month old, Amy Cordelia Redfield Ochs. They live in Austin, Texas. **Kathryn M. Peterson** updates, "I have spent the last 15 years in elementary education, specializing in urban teaching. I work closely with at-risk and refugee populations. After seven years in the classroom, I

Bert H. Early III updates, “Our family of four moved from Kamas, Utah (outside of Park City), to Raleigh, North Carolina. We’re excited to be closer to family, and my wife and I are looking forward to reconnecting with old friends. The girls started kindergarten this year, and I will continue working with Merrill Lynch, now out of the Raleigh office.” **Alexander C. Kerr**, Chicago, started his own tech company at the beginning of 2020. Trajectory sits at the intersection of technology, analytics and sports, helping professional sports organizations evaluate and quantify their sponsorship impact. Named the top tech startup in Chicago in 2021 by TechInMotion, Trajectory works with teams from around the NFL, NBA, MLB, NHL, MLS and NWSL. “I also got married in October of 2021 to my better half (she’s Canadian),” Alex shares. “We recently bought a house in the Chicago suburbs, along with our Italian sheepdog, Mozzie.” **Anna K. Livak Hale**, San Leandro, California, writes, “This high holiday season marked the first that our synagogue has had a rabbi in many years, and I am pleased to say I chaired the search committee to hire him — something I likely never would have done were it not for the friendship and teaching of **Jessie L. Rubenstein** and **Karen (Singerman) Martin** during our time together on the Hill. My son, Ezra, turned 2 and joined his big sister, Eve, at preschool in November. Professionally, I embarked on a new chapter by beginning a

certificate program in traumatic stress studies, while working as a virtual mental health therapist for Carbon Health.”

2009

Corrine D. Anderson, Decatur, Georgia, is “busy leading a double life as an actress and the owner of Baby Deer Bakery in Atlanta,” she updates. Cory spent much of late spring on set for various television projects and then used the summer to recipe-test new additions to her bakery menu. “Also learning how to code — which is alternatively very enjoyable and entirely maddening!” **Nina L. O’Keefe** and **William F. O’Keefe III** ‘07 “continue to live the good life in Minneapolis with their son, Liam, and dog, Bexley,” they report. They celebrated their 10th year of marriage with a kid-free trip to Bermuda. Nina adds, “A souvenir I brought home from Reunion — a plush frog wearing a purple Kenyon T-shirt — quickly became Liam’s most constant and treasured companion, necessitating an order of four backup frogs from the bookstore website in case of disaster. God bless the internet.” **Caleb S. Ruopp**, Concord, New Hampshire, is entering his second year as a teacher of English for speakers of other languages. “My son Graham turned two!” he updates. “He’s an adorable little handful, and my wife and I still chase that elusive dream of a full night’s uninterrupted sleep. Life is busy, exhausting and wonderful.” **Helle A. Sun**, San Francisco, reports, “Years of hard work finally paid off! In March, my first story for

children was published in Cricket magazine. In April, I gave birth to my first child with hubby Sean Sun — healthy, happy Juniper (Juni) Evelyn Sun. Over the summer, I completed my second master’s, in speech-language pathology, and began working for a small private speech-language therapy practice with a focus on literacy.” **Michael T.S. Vanacore**, Kensington, Maryland, is the pastor of Pilgrim United Church of Christ in Wheaton, Maryland. “Grateful for my religious studies formation at Kenyon,”

(**Griffin**) **Lowell and Claire (Anderson) Boring** as bridesmaids!” **Halcyon B.K. Paulson Brooke**, was engaged to be married June 24. “I completed national board exams in October,” Hally writes, “which was a doozy, but they are done and I passed! My functional medicine nutrition company is growing rapidly. Our team of seven is changing lives, with the goal of 100,000 people hearing our message this year. Check out livenourishedcoaching.com.” **Jonathan A. Meyers**, West Hollywood, California, is

2011

Michael J. Beck and **Joy M. Leaman** “got hitched on a whim in her motherland — Scotland!” Michael reports. “We had an epic weekend in Pitlochry, a small town in the lower highlands, capped off by a night of ceilidh dancing and scotch at Blair Castle. Shout-out to Kenyon fam that made the trek: **Katrina S. ‘Trina’ Rennie** (bridesmaid), **Harrison Scott** and **Chanel Scott** (groomsmen), **Brandon M. Ventling**, **Miguel E. ‘Miggy’ Barrera**, **Ryan P. O’Connor** and **Elizabeth R. (Jacobs)**

“We had an epic weekend in Pitlochry, capped off by a night of c  ilidh dancing and scotch at Blair Castle.”

— **Michael J. Beck ’11**, on marrying **Joy M. Leaman ’11**
“on a whim in her motherland — Scotland!”

he writes, “which has been a major inspiration in my discernment and call to ministry.” Michael and his wife, Rosa, have a 16-month-old son, Manu.

2010s

2010
Naomi L. Blaushild, Chicago, graduated from Northwestern with a doctorate in human development and social policy in June. “I began working as a postdoc at the Learning Partnership in Chicago and got engaged to my partner of four years, Mike Czajkowski!” Naomi updates. “Can’t wait to have my Kenyon best friends **Anna R.**

an executive producer at RadicalMedia in Los Angeles. His recent projects include the HBO documentary “Spring Awakening: Those You’ve Known,” the film of “Trevor: The Musical” on Disney+, and the second season of the sketch/musical comedy series “Sherman’s Showcase” on AMC/IFC. **Lindsay M. Stevens**, Lawrence Township, New Jersey, and her husband, Adam, welcomed son Emmett to the family in April 2022. “He brings us so much joy and has given me a great reason to keep in touch with a few Kenyon friends who had babies around the same time!”

O’Connor ’12, **Gaby Koenig**, **Hannah J. M. Kramer**, **Jennifer C. Fitzgerald** and **John ‘JJ’ Hoeffler**, **McNeil F. Parker ’10**, and the even more recently married **William H. Vandenberg ’10**. Upon return from the festivities, we immediately moved into my mom’s basement, because that’s what mature, independent and married adults do.” **Liza W. Chabot**, Durham, North Carolina, notes, “Had a great spring and summer, despite loss. The highlight was a Kenyon reunion of sorts at **Hannah B. Withers’** May wedding in Missoula, Montana. I got to reconnect with so

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many Kenyon graduates, and it was a real delight. Still working as a 'scrum master' (a people and process coach) at Fidelity. Diving back into fiber art and weaving now that I have a studio again. And celebrating my stepson turning 13 in September (pinch me). Still spending about half my time in my garden and the other half daydreaming about two upcoming trips to visit

Economy Branch, and my research will focus on rural community sustainability and resilience in the face of climate change. My position is fully remote, so I'm staying in Delaware for the time being!" **Marina N. Prado-Steiman**, Gainesville, Florida, is happy to report she is now an attorney at the University of Florida. "I've been working in the Student Legal

and married my partner of eight-plus years. I'm still working at Illumina, now as a senior staff bioinformatics scientist, leading collaborative teams developing cutting-edge multi-omic NGS assays." **Nicholas T. Severyn**, Lexington, Kentucky, finished a fellowship in neonatology at Indiana University in June and took a faculty position at the University of Kentucky as a neonatol-

bird conservation work and recently joined Quest Nature Tours as a guide for occasional birding/wildlife tours. Reach out if you are in the Maritimes!" **Caitlin Starling** and **David M. Hohl**, Chicago, welcomed a son, James. "While he decided to show up almost a month early this summer, he's outstripped all his doctors' predictions and is definitely the coolest baby we know!" **Daniel K. Tebes** and his partner moved from San Francisco "to the 'burbs," he updates. "We celebrated our two-year wedding anniversary in December — pandemic wedding! — with our families in northern Vietnam. We both lead product teams at tech companies based in SF, and in our free time enjoy helping startups get off the ground, volunteering with a local farm and a dance studio, and backpacking in the Sierras." **Robert Z. Wolf**, Middleburg Heights, Ohio, writes, "Hey gang! I married my wife, Stephanie Sassano, in July of 2021. I've been teaching chemistry at St. Ignatius High School in Cleveland for the past nine years and am the head coach of both cross country and track at St. Ignatius. Go Owls!"

best wishes and healthy hearts and minds."

Colleen M. Damerell, Cleveland, updates, "It's been a wild time to work in abortion, but my clinic is still providing care in Cleveland. We're also the first independent abortion clinic with a staff union! I'm proud to be a union member, and I urge Kenyon to recognize K-SWOC. I also recently joined the inaugural board of the Northeast Ohio Worker Center and have been honored with opportunities to write and speak publicly about the intersection of reproductive justice and the labor movement. If you want information or need care, INeedAnAbortion.com is a great resource ... spread it far and wide."

Kenneth J. Fedorko, Denver, describes his life of hiking, climbing and playing volleyball as well as acting and writing. "I had one particularly eventful week where I got caught in a thunder and lightning storm at the peak of a 14,000-foot mountain; later that week, a bat got into my apartment and flew around my kitchen for nearly half an hour. The scariest part is ... the bat disappeared. I have no idea how it got out. Maybe via a vent? Terrifying — it could reappear at any moment!"

Morgan E. Peele, Philadelphia, defended her dissertation and received her doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania. She recently began a new role as a senior data scientist in oncology analytics at Merck, where she focuses on prostate cancer. **William J. Plaschke**, Overland Park, Kansas, married Alisha Morris

"I've helped launch a COVID diagnostic, bought a house, adopted a second cat and married my partner of eight-plus years."

— **Suzanne E. Rohrbach '11**, summing up an eventful few years

my partner's family in Croatia — our first since the pandemic." **Sasha Pauline Fanny-Holston** moved to Mount Vernon. "I'm still adjusting to life in the country, but I'm loving passing only two traffic lights (and several deer) to/from campus! Outside of work, I've been going to yoga class, knitting a temperature blanket (Google it) and hanging out with fellow alums and colleagues. Can't believe I've been back at Kenyon for over a year" **Laura A. Paul**, Newark, Delaware, updates, "In July 2022, I wrapped up my postdoctoral researcher position with the University of Delaware and began a new role as a research agricultural economist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service. I'm part of the Rural

Services department for six months, and I love it! I provide free legal representation to all UF students. This summer, I went to the National Student Legal Services conference in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and fulfilled a lifelong dream of going to the interactive art exhibit, Meow Wolf. My wife, Nicole, works at a nonprofit and provides exemplary legal representation to survivors of domestic violence. Last year, we bought our first home together, and it feels wonderful to improve on something that's ours." Marina and Nicole were looking forward to their December vacation to Mexico. **Suzanne E. Rohrbach**, San Diego, reports, "Since the pandemic I've helped launch a COVID diagnostic, bought a house, adopted a second cat

ogist. "My wife and I are enjoying our new home in Lexington and just celebrated our son's second birthday here on Sept. 11," he notes. **Bryn T. Stole** moved from Baltimore to Berlin, Germany, continuing a "longstanding commitment to living an utterly rootless peripatetic life," she writes. "I'll be working here as a freelance journalist after leaving my most recent job with The Baltimore Sun this past spring."

2012

Graham H. Sorenson moved from British Columbia to New Brunswick, Canada, and is now a dual citizen. "My wife and I bought a house that has a small view of the Bay of Fundy, a big lawn for our dog, and enough forest to encourage lots of birds," he updates. "I still work for Birds Canada doing

2013

W. Spencer Carlson, Mill Valley, California, started a pre-doctoral internship in clinical psychology at the California Institute of Integral Studies' wellness center. "It brings me back to Kenyon's amazing wellness center and the remarkable professionals who helped me through various challenges," he writes. "Sending the whole Class of 2013

in June, with **Kenneth J. Fedorko, Daniel J. Katz, Nathan W. Huey and John Rancatore '14** standing alongside him. "We were so glad to see some other dear Kenyon friends make the trip," he informs. The couple traveled to Italy, Greece and Turkey on honeymoon. "It was the best two weeks ever." Willie is a content editor for a tech company focused on law firms, and on weekends is blogging, releasing music and starting a meditation practice. **Christina A. "Tina" Taliercio** lives in Salt Lake City with her boyfriend, Matt, and her cats Waffles, T-Dog and Olive. She recently completed training as a B-737 pilot for Alaska Airlines and is looking forward to some Hawaii layovers. She spends her days off camping and hiking around Utah and hanging out with her telescope.

2014

Rachel M. Bishop, Atlanta, married her partner of seven years, Tyler Holsonback, on Sept. 17. In attendance were **Devon R. Bacso, David J. Hoyt, Martha M. Gavinski and Shannon P. Kelley**. In August, she joined the U.S. Department of Labor as a trial attorney. **Michael P. Gallaher** was stationed at Robins Air Force Base in Georgia, was promoted to USAF captain, flies on the E-8C JSTARS and lives with his girlfriend, Carson, and their pets Mozart, Kaiju and Poe. "From November 2021 through April 2022 I was deployed to Germany," he notes. "I was there when the war in Ukraine started, which made that deployment a lot

more interesting than I originally thought it was going to be." Michael has been training to become an instructor air weapons officer. "I have also been selected for an assignment as an instructor air battle manager at the 337th Air Control Squadron at Tyndall AFB, and so will be moving to Panama City, Florida, in February 2023." **Natalie Thielen Helper**, Brooklyn, New York, began a new fund-raising job at THE CITY, a nonprofit news outlet covering local news in NYC. She sees as much theater as possible, often with **Benjamin L. Neuhaus**, and advocates for immigrant and reproductive rights. Closest to her heart, she's found a way to participate remotely in the effort to shut down the Red Hill fuel tanks poisoning the drinking water aquifer of her home island of Oahu, 5,000 miles from where she currently lives. This winter she planned to finally learn how to crochet. **Caroline L. Hesse**, Sayville, New York, opened a wholesale cheese distribution company called C. Hesse Cheese, based in Brooklyn. "I service cheese shops, restaurants and grocery stores, and am hoping to launch a mail-order branch within the next year. I am hoping for a lot of things. Find me at @CHesse_Cheese on Instagram. I would love to be on the cover of the alumni magazine, for what that's worth." **Kelsey A. Kiser**, Brooklyn, New York, updates, "I spent the last week of summer in **Ally Bruschi's** lovely Santa Monica apartment enjoying a heat wave and caring for her lovely dog, Louise. My

time in L.A. was made even sweeter by seeing **Natalie C. Margolin, Genevieve R. Malkin and Lucia L. Knell '13.** **Kristina Miklavic**, Lillehammer, Norway, enjoys her job at the Equality Centre working on projects including "how structures in local politics across Norway dictate who gets to participate; an online tool box for health personnel regarding sexual health among elderly; a workshop for teachers regarding anti-racism; and a project we've newly started on getting body image and self-esteem in the school curriculum." Kristina enjoyed a three-week visit from **Anabel Yahuitl Garcia** last spring: "Road trips around western Norway enjoying the beautiful fjord landscape, and we even got to meet up with **Catherine P. Lloyd** and enjoyed some kayaking on the fjord." After meeting 12 years ago as first-years, **Anna V. Peery** and **Samuel L. Loomis** were married at Sam's childhood home in Santa Barbara, California. "We were so lucky to have had a few of our Kenyon friends there to celebrate: **Lana R. Dubin, Peter E. Bogdanich, Michael L. Burten, Dulce M. Montoya and Jessica Lieberman.**" **R. McKinley J. Sherrod** is a design strategist with the Institute for Healthcare Delivery Design at the University of Illinois at Chicago, "I work with clinicians and administrators to improve patient experience and make health care fit people," she explains. "My husband and I — along with our pittie, Mabel, and senior cat, Dobbins — finally moved into

our 100-year old condo in Chicago's Hyde Park neighborhood after six months of DIY renovations that included refinishing the original hardwood floors. (Hauling a 100-pound drum sander up three flights of stairs is not for the faint of heart.) I'm writing this from my tranquil new office/sunroom, which reminds me of my ninth-floor room in Caples amongst the treetops." **Kerry D.J. Strader**, Mount Vernon, Ohio, celebrated her first year back on the Hill since returning to Kenyon as associate director of off-campus study. "I really enjoy helping our students branch out around the

"I'm hoping for a lot of things. I would love to be on the cover of the alumni magazine, for what that's worth."

— **Caroline L. Hesse '14**, who opened a wholesale cheese distribution company, aptly named C. Hesse Cheese, in Brooklyn

world, especially since the pandemic upended international travel. In my free time, you can find me living that pastoral Knox County life at the Mount Vernon Farmers' Market or running on the Gap Trail. I'm also thrilled to be volunteering as an assistant coach for the cross country teams."

2015

Audrey L. Davis arrived in the U.K. and began a master's in Renaissance and early modern

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studies at the University of York. She enjoyed the brisk fall weather and the fully functional public transportation system. She does not enjoy tea, but is getting good at pretending to.

Alyssa M. LaFreniere married **Christian F. Josephson '16** on June 11, 2022, at Kenyon.

"Along with family and other friends, we had around 50 alumni there to celebrate with us! It was the best day!"

Caroline R. (Dultz) Przybylowski works in fashion marketing, overseeing fashion and beauty digital advertising and publisher partnerships for Macy's in New York City. She was married in Jersey City, New Jersey, on Sept. 24. "Now Caroline Przybylowski — say that five times fast!"

Jane E. Simonton and

Nathaniel A. Epstein

'16, Chicago, moved to an apartment a block from the beach. They enjoy that immensely "during the maybe four months out of the year it's viable to do so," she notes. Janie enjoyed being a bandwagon Bengals fan for Super Bowl LVI and forcing her non-Ohioan friends to try Skyline Chili dip. **Hannah F.L. Stoyel** updates, "Life in London is picking up speed! Our baby Felicity is a baby no more — we have a toddler, which is fun (and a little terrifying some days!). After a tough time postpartum, I landed a dream job at the English Institute of Sport, working with the British Olympic diving team, and that has been amazing. Learning to juggle work and

motherhood." **Margaret R. Tucker** and **William C. "Liam" Cardon**

'16, Washington, D.C., were married on May 14, 2022. "We were so excited to share our special day with so many Kenyon friends."

2016

Kaitlin E. Creamer defended her doctoral dissertation and earned a doctorate from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California-San Diego. "My dissertation focused on efforts to culture new marine bacteria, study their genomics, and the evolution of the natural chemicals that they produce (i.e., drug discovery from the sea!). My doctorate journey brought other adventures, including a research cruise aboard the EV Nautilus using a remotely operated vehicle to collect deep-sea sediment, animal and rock samples. I'm now a postdoctoral scholar at University of California-Berkeley and the Innovative Genomics Institute, investigating the genomics of microbes important for carbon sequestration processes. Although I'm sad to leave the SoCal beaches behind, I'm excited to explore more of the NorCal area over the next few years!" **Bradley J. Raynor** completed a graduate program in international affairs in 2021 and fulfilled his lifelong goal to join the foreign service. "I will be serving in Cameroon for my first tour and cannot wait to see one of the few waterfalls in the world that empties directly into the ocean. But as exciting as that news was, it was nothing compared

to the moment when **Alison T. Pratt '17** said yes to my proposal to marry her after a truly wonderful seven years of dating. We started our adventure together at Kenyon (notably not near Uganda), and now it would seem the next step in our journey will be taking us a little bit closer to Uganda."

Emily A. Sakamoto married **Thomas K. Reardon '17** on April 23 at the Inn at Little Washington in Little Washington, Virginia, in a small family-only ceremony. **Jennifer J. Seely** is an assistant attorney general for the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, working on air, water, contaminated sites and environmental health. "Grateful for trails, mountains and water in Anchorage!" **Peter W.O. Wear** has been living in the Lakeview neighborhood of Chicago for the past six years. They recently began working as a content marketing strategist at a company focused on driving organic traffic toward companies focused on sustainability and clean technology. They live with their partner of five years, Tommy, and two guinea pigs, Chia and Tofu. Peter continues to read voraciously, and has gotten into street photography as well as writing poetry.

2017

Christine C. Appleby received her master's in special education from Lourdes University in Toledo, Ohio, last May and began work as an intervention specialist in the fall. **Lauren E. Michael** started her master's degree at the University of Rhode Island. "I'll be



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studying bird migration on Block Island in the fall and spending the rest of the year on the R.I. coast." **Aldis H. Petriceks**, Boston, "has come humbly, with fear and trembling, to the conclusion that, at the end of the day, it's about love." **Seth T. Reichert** is pursuing a master's degree in urban planning in Los Angeles and expects to graduate this spring. "When I'm not in school, working or doing homework, I am playing music with **Rebecca R. Simantov '19**, **Sabrina E. Halavi '20** and **Jana T. Heckerman '22** — or rekindling my long-lost love of reading for fun." **Alexandra Simic-Hachmann**, Venice, Florida, updates, "I got engaged during the dreamy winter season in North Carolina under beautiful winter lights in an arboretum. I am in the third year of my chiropractic program, focusing on family chiropractic and nutrition." **Jennifer L. Wendler** graduated from American University last May. "My digital master's thesis is posted online for all who wish to read it — search 'Ideals of Femininity in the Dutch Republic.'" In July, Jenna spent a week in Italy for a summer program at Venice International University discussing Shakespeare's "Othello" and Renaissance and contemporary views on multiculturalism in the theater and society. While seeking full-time employment in the arts, she is an adjunct faculty instructor in the AU art history department.

2018

Evan C. Gee updates, "I'm still in Austin, Texas, working on my doctorate in political theory at

UT. I spent some time in Washington, D.C., last summer with **Henry D. Brill '19**, as well as **Lindsay Stoner**, **Paul R. Murphy**, **Ann L. Coonan** and many other Kenyon friends." **Houlder L. Hudgins**, Richmond, Virginia, enjoys the River City life during the summer and works at the United Network for Organ Sharing. "I reached the halfway point in my master's degree program in public health at George Washington U. My younger brother **William B. 'Dell' Hudgins '22** graduated, and it was great to be back on campus for that." **Sadiq Jiwa** moved from Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, back to Phoenix in golf tournaments. "I will be in and around the Southwest for the next eight months," he writes, "so reach out if you're around. It's been an exciting road through the pro golf journey, and I've found myself playing in some more elite level events and qualifiers, slowly climbing up the ladder. Wish me luck!" **Natalie S. Kane** finished a six-month season in the artistic/literary department at Roundabout Theatre Company in NYC. "I've loved becoming more immersed in the theater community here and am looking forward to getting back to freelance directing and dramaturging." **Juliet E. Levy**, Denver, lives with her boyfriend and their dog. "After earning my master's in musicology from the University of Denver in 2021, I completed an internship with the company that makes Operabase and CueTV. Then I started a customer support position with MakeMusic

(Finale/Garritan/SmartMusic) outside of Boulder." **Samantha V. Palicz**, McLean, Virginia, graduated from George Washington University's School of Medical and Health Sciences with a doctorate in physical therapy and now practices as a pediatric physical therapist in the D.C. area. **Caroline R. Popiel** lives in New Haven, Connecticut, with her husband and two cats, while working at Sikorsky/Lockheed Martin as a software test engineer. **Indigo L. Rinearson** has been working as a software engineer at Axios since April, living in Seattle and baking pies for fun. **Nathaniel W. Rosenberg** was promoted to manager for deposit to enrollment in the Office of Admissions and Recruitment at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. "Specifically, I am working with students who are starting early in the summer or fall, students who defer their enrollment, and leading our final transcript collection and review process. When I'm not emailing students or reading hundreds of applications, nothing brings me more joy than cooking dinner for and spending time with **Conor L. Tazewell '15**, **Sarah P. Jensen** and **Claire M. Oxford**, who also live in Madison." **Henry O. Uhrick** completed an M.F.A. in illustration and visual culture at Washington University in St. Louis and now teaches comics and illustration at Rochester Institute of Technology.

2019

Alejandra J. Colmenares is a research coordinator for clinical psychology at

the Addiction Research Center at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. "My life's work is my personal relationships," she notes. "Thanks, Kenyon, for that." **Oscar T. Dow** updates, "I got engaged (to a guy #gayrights)! Still living in L.A. and have no plans on ever leaving this horribly dystopian utopia." **Diego A. Fajardo**, Indianapolis,

was working at the Children's Museum of Indianapolis on its diversity, equity and accessibility task force. "I worked directly with the president of the biggest children's museum in the world to recommend new standards to build a better work environment," he notes. "Now I am moving on to become the collections manager at the

Events

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SEPT. 8–10

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Museum of Miniatures, still in Indianapolis, where I will manage cataloguing the collection of miniatures and curate exhibits at our mini Minis Museum."

Anna C. Tancredi and **Austin R. Barrett '18** live in Los Angeles. "I just started as a graphic designer at HDMZ," Anne updates, "a PR firm for science and health-care companies.

teaching." **Kathryn G. LeMon** updates, "After two years in Minneapolis, I've found my way back to Ohio as an M.F.A. candidate in fiction at Ohio State! If you want to read my work," Kate adds, "find my first publication in Gigantic Sequins, Issue 13." **Madeline E. Lockyer** moved to Toronto to be with her boyfriend, Thomas, and

Connor J. Rumpit and **Kara J. Morrison** moved to New York City, where he began working as an assistant swim coach for New York University.

2021

Sarah G. Greenspon lives in New York City and works as an assistant preschool teacher. **Thomas H. Guidotti** and **Erika Oku** "are living the good life in Ohio," Thomas updates. "I am at Booz Allen Hamilton in Dayton, where I support modeling and simulation contracts for the Air Force. Working with things like missile systems isn't something I would have foreseen doing after Kenyon, but here I am."

Hanaa Ibrahim shares, "With the help of passionate and dedicated alumni, we have been able to establish the Kenyon International Student Mentorship Initiative, which aims to guide Kenyon's international students through professional life after Kenyon. As many of you know, there are a lot of challenges inherent to being an international graduate in the U.S., and our goal directly addresses some of those challenges — including educating students (with the help of the Center for Global Engagement) about a complicated visa system, the confusion that comes with applying for jobs as a non-U.S. citizen, and other complications." Hanaa moderated an alumni-student panel at the kickoff ceremony Oct. 22. **Hannah D. Petrich** moved to Alaska. "My full-time job is working with sled dogs," she updates. "I work for the most accomplished dog musher in the world,

five-time Iditarod champion Dallas Seavey, living in a dry cabin at the kennel with 120 of the best endurance mammals on the planet. I help train a group of Iditarod dogs, I guide dog-sledding tours and I'll hopefully get my first mid-distance dog sled race under my belt this winter!"

2022

Kate F. Alexy spent her summer visiting friends in Key Largo before starting her first year of veterinary school at Cornell University. **Noah D. Amsterdam**, who interned at a solar energy company for a few years through a Kenyon connection, has been promoted to full-time designer. "I now ensure people making the switch to solar have the best possible understanding of its potential for their properties. I am also continuing my work as an editor for EA Sports with the FIFA video game series." **J. Michael Asuncion** is "enjoying work at Morgan Stanley and life in Milwaukee. I never thought I'd say this, but I'm missing (lacrosse) 'fall ball' — good luck to all those involved!" **Daniel O. "Dannie" Lane** submits, "I help edit these alumni notes now! Since August, I've been working at the Office of Communications doing accounting, editorial assistance and lots of photo-related work. I'm also volunteering a few days a week for Kenyon's running programs as an assistant coach. If you're interested in Kenyon photography, please check out @dannie.lane.photography on Instagram and dannie.lane.com online!"

"My life's work is my personal relationships. Thanks, Kenyon, for that."

— **Alejandra J. Colmenares '19**, who works as a research coordinator for clinical psychology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison

2020s

2020

Mijal Epelman and **Caroline A. Campos** enjoy coming home to their "sweet little apartment" at the end of each day as they work on an acting M.F.A. (Caroline) and a J.D. (Mijal) at Yale, they inform. **Charles C. Gnagy** started graduate school in the mathematics department at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee last fall. **John Thomas "Tommy" Johnson** teaches social studies and English to sixth-graders at his high school alma mater in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, while doing coursework in Manhattan at Teachers College, Columbia, in the summer. "It's really meaningful to serve kids in the community I grew up in, and I really enjoy the elastic, multidisciplinary nature of middle-school

their dogs, Cosmo and Marti. At the time of writing, she was "in the midst of working the Toronto International Film Festival as head mixologist and menu consultant." In October, she went back to school for a certificate in museum curation and conservation with the Ontario Museum Association. **Julia K. Muse** completed her master's in library and information science at the University of Illinois last May and accepted a position as the humanities and social sciences librarian at Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana. "Making my return to a small liberal arts school has been very rewarding!" **Claire M. Preston** completed a master's in virtual and augmented reality at Goldsmith's, University of London, and in October joined Dartmouth College as a Neukom/ITC XR fellow.

Crossword Answers

from inside back cover

K	O	K	E	T	A	E	M	A	T	E	R
G	L	U	E	E	S	P	R	I	M	E	
B	E	E	K	E	E	P	I	N	G	C	L
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T	A	S		T	H	E	C	H	A	S	E
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In Memoriam

Theodore Price '48, on March 15, 2018, in Cartersville, Georgia. He was 93. Theodore majored in English after serving as a combat infantryman in World War II. A 2000 article in the Star-Ledger of Newark, New Jersey, featured Price describing his service. "I wasn't a hero, but I did my share," he said. During the Battle of the Bulge, his 97th Infantry Division "moved very fast," he told the paper. "We cleaned up the Ruhr and ended up in Czechoslovakia. When the war ended, we went to Japan for occupation duty." Price completed a master's degree at Columbia and a doctorate from Rutgers, and taught English at Montclair State University, publishing extensively on film and literature.

Bertram A. "Buddy" Josephson '49, on Nov. 7, 2022, of Parkinson's. He was 93. Buddy's private dental practice had been located at 630 Fifth Avenue in New York, and he published several of his research projects. He enjoyed travel, trapshooting, golf and photography. Buddy's lasting Kenyon memory: "I lived through the Old Kenyon Fire." He is survived by daughter Andrea Sullivan, son Stephen, three grandchildren and his wife, Jeri, his "best friend of 62 years."

James R. "Jim" Packard '49, on Aug. 29, 2022, in Ann Arbor, Michigan. He was 94. Born in 1928, Jim remembered the Ohio River flood of January 1937, when, in a rowboat, he and his father rescued his grandmother from a second-floor window in Belpre, Ohio. At Kenyon, he loved theater, as did his roommate, Paul Newman. Army service and a career as a Chicago playwright in the 1950s led him to the University of Michigan, where he earned a master's degree, eventually retiring in 1990 as the UM College of Engineering's director of development. In Ann Arbor, Jim met the love of his life, Heiju Oak, originally an overseas student from Korea whom he married in 1966. He and Heiju, whose artworks are still exhibited today in museums, balanced their artistic endeavors with a love of the outdoors, and she preceded him in death in 2013.

Edwin Masanori "Ed" Uyeki '49, on Oct. 15, 2022. Ed was born in Seattle to Japanese immigrant parents. He died peacefully in his sleep at home in McKinleyville, California. His Kenyon classmates included Paul Newman (who invited him to the set while filming "Mr. and Mrs. Bridge" in Kansas City), Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme, and Jonathan Winters. Ed remembered Jonathan being the cause of any uproarious laughter in the dining hall where he served tables. When Ed first arrived at Kenyon, he met Jonathan walking down the Middle Path. Jonathan apologized for the treatment of Japanese Americans during World War II, knowing that Ed had been unjustly incarcerated like 120,000 others on the West Coast. Ed went on to graduate studies at the University of Chicago, earning M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in pharmacology. There he met his soulmate, Aiko Harada, and they were married a year later, a romance lasting 72 years. In 1954, Ed began a post-doctorate appointment at Case Institute of Technology in Cleveland. His cellular research took his family across the

SUBMIT AN OBIT
If you've recently learned of or experienced a loss in the greater Kenyon community, email editor@kenyon.edu. We will use any information you send us to honor your friend or loved one's memory in a future issue of the Kenyon Alumni Magazine.

< JIM PACKARD '49
At Kenyon,
Jim loved
theater, as did
his roommate,
Paul Newman.

country, doing radiation biology research for General Electric at Hanford Laboratories outside Richland, Washington, to teaching pharmacology at the University of Kansas Medical Center. Over 30 years, he did pioneering tissue culture research on the toxicity of anti-tumor drugs on the immune system, studied insecticide effects on embryo development, and was among the first to examine programmed cell death (apoptosis) rates as an early marker of drug toxicity. After retirement in 1994, Ed moved with Aiko to McKinleyville, to be near their younger daughter, Amy, and her family. Later their daughter, Terry, moved nearby and son Bill was six hours away in San Francisco. Ed was beloved by his children and grandchildren, extended family and friends.

Robert M. "Bob" Kastner '50, on July 31, 2022. He was 92. For decades, Bob was president of Rotanis Pet Products, a New York City business his parents, Tanya and Al, started in 1938. It manufactured and sold pet bedding, toys, clothing and other goods. Bob's "best friends since his first day in the U.S. Army were Norma and Fred Fredricks," his obituary read. He "was a keen observer of people and a cultured man who enjoyed a deep appreciation of the arts and history, which he shared joyfully with others." Robert was an avid jogger, gardener and world traveler.

Clyde W. "Bill" Pinkley '50, on Nov. 25, 2021, at age 93. An engineer, Bill was "very organized," wrote his son-in-law Ray Drexel. "Years before Bill passed away, he prepared a three-ring binder in which he placed all the documents we would need for his final arrangements, including the enclosed obituary."

Bill was born in Mount Vernon, Ohio, and called "the best times of his life ... those in his 50-year marriage with Mary and times spent with family." After Kenyon, Bill studied chemical engineering at Ohio State and became a chemist at Picatinny Arsenal in Dover, New Jersey, working on instrumentation measuring intensity of flares and photoflash munitions, and later on radar tracking of artillery shells. In 1957, he joined Industrial Nucleonics Corp. in Columbus as an electrical engineer, serving 30 years in design, service support and project management. He held nine U.S. patents. After retirement he and his wife, Mary, traveled throughout the U.S., Europe and China; they spent winters in southern California, where he served as president of a homeowners association. Bill is survived by grandchildren, great-grandchildren and many other relatives. "Bill reunited in heaven with his wife, Mary, and his daughter, Bev Drexel."

The Rev. Keith Darr Briggs '51, on Sept. 25, 2022, age 93, at home in Brookville, Pennsylvania, his hometown. A member of Psi Upsilon, he served as a U.S. Navy flight radio operator in the Korean War, then attended Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, graduating in 1958. A Presbyterian minister, he led churches in Uniontown, Pennsylvania; Galion, Ohio; Brookville and others, along with 1960s missionary service in Iran. In August, he and his wife, Carole, celebrated their 66th anniversary. He served on the Brookville

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Borough Council for 16 years; on the boards of the YMCA, library and United Fund; and for 10 years as coordinator of the Brookville Area Food Pantry. He is survived by sons Andrew and John, daughter Gretchen Dinger, eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Roderick S. “Rod” French ’54, on June 23, 2022. He was 91. A philosophy professor and vice president for academic affairs at George Washington University, Rod devoted 30 years to that institution, where he earned his doctorate after an M.Div. from New York’s Union Theological Seminary. Rod served as the head of the youth department for the World Council of Churches in Geneva, Switzerland, from 1959 to 1964, and worked for the Peace Corps in its first decade. As the head of GWU’s Division of Experimental Programs, he helped create the university’s first classes in environmental studies. In 1998 he became chancellor at the newly formed American University of Sharjah, in the United Arab Emirates, serving on its board of trustees until 2012. Rod lived in a retirement community in Bethesda, Maryland, for the past decade with his wife, Sally, who survives, along with a sister, Suzanne Cameron; a son Erick; a daughter, Sarah D’Imperio; and four grandchildren.

William G. “Bin” James Jr. ’54, on Nov. 14, 2021. He was 89. A Delta Kappa Epsilon, Bin earned an M.B.A. from Cornell in 1956 and married Judy Adams Zook. He went on to a career with Foley Brothers, Group Health Inc. and Bank of New York. He was a vice president of BNY Info services and later at AT&T/NCR, managing data centers. He and his wife retired to Florida. In 2018, Bin submitted, “Jaz and I celebrated our 62nd wedding anniversary. Still enjoying the benefits of a liberal arts education from Kenyon. I’m happy.” Bin was the father of daughters **Sarah “Sally” James Mayer ’81** and Jennifer, and son William G James III.

Richard G. “Dick” Evans Jr. ’55, on Aug. 25, 2022, in Savannah, Georgia. He was 89. A graduate of Walnut Hills High School in Cincinnati, Dick joined the Air Force ROTC and Delta Tau Delta at Kenyon. He played football and was an accomplished lacrosse midfielder, co-captaining the team to an undefeated season his senior year. Dick’s father **R. “Gale” Evans ’26 P’55 H’75**, uncle **Benjamin D. Evans ’25**, and two other relatives led his path up to the Hill. Dick’s parents were married in the Kenyon College Chapel in November 1930.

After graduation, Dick began working at the Cincinnati Cordage and Paper Co., founded by the Evans family in 1892. Dick reported for active Air Force duty in 1956 and, within a year, was flying KC-97G refueling aircraft. While stationed in West Palm Beach, Florida, his flight school classmate, Ted Platt, introduced him to Nancy Taylor — whose sister Ted was dating. Soon the two Air Force friends became brothers-in-law, as they married the Taylor sisters. Dick flew refueling missions for B-47s and B-52s over Canada, Labrador and Greenland as part of the Eighth Air Force and the Strategic Air Command before returning to civilian life in 1959 after the birth of his first daughter, Pam.

HAL WALKER ’57 >

Hal had a distinguished 30-year career with IBM, after which he raised Corriedale sheep, worked as a business consultant and served as a board member of the Peoples Bank of Gambier.

Settling in Cincinnati, Dick rose to become executive vice president of Cordage Papers by 1976, helping grow the company from five to 13 locations before retiring in 1992. In 1978, Dick granted a request from the College for 24,000 pounds of paper — three years’ worth — to print the Kenyon Review, a gift without which its revival might not have happened.

Dick retained his passion for flying, eventually bought a Beechcraft Bonanza, and often flew with Nancy to Mount Vernon’s airfield to attend the Kenyon volleyball games of their daughter, **Barbara J. Evans ’87**. After Dick retired, he and Nancy built a home in Savannah, pursued their love of golf and boating, and enjoyed frequent visits by family and friends. Dick is survived by Nancy and his daughters Pamela Barry, Lynn Huber and Barbara.

Harlow L. “Hal” Walker ’57, on Dec. 9, 2021, at the Ohio Eastern Star Home in Mount Vernon, Ohio. He was 89. Hal graduated from Mount Vernon High School in 1950 and joined the U.S. Navy during the Korean War. In 1954 he married Carole Ann Hoover, his partner for over 67 years.

Hal had a distinguished 30-year career with IBM, retiring in 1987, after which he raised Corriedale sheep, worked as a business consultant and served as a board member of the Peoples Bank of Gambier. Hal was a member of Harcourt Parish Episcopal Church, chaired the College Township Zoning Association, and served on the board of the Brown Family Environmental Center. In 2016, Hal and Carole sold their pond and its surrounding acres to the Philander Chase Conservancy to preserve it. “For years,” an Along Middle Path post noted, “a hike to Walker Pond was a secretive thrill for Kenyon students. Now the sale of the land back to the College will give students full access to study the pond and its wetland ecosystem.” Just north of the Franklin Miller Observatory, the pond and its surroundings added to protected lands in the valley west of Gambier, including Wolf Run, a tributary of the Kokosing River. “If someone [else] had bought this land and developed it, there would be a direct threat to the health of the Kokosing,” Director of Green Initiatives **David Heithaus ’99** said at the time. The land had been in Walker’s family since Lemuel Holmes bought it from Philander Chase’s original 8,000 acres. (Hal was descended from Holmes.) “Our three children all were in favor of preserving it under the auspices of the Philander Chase Conservancy,” Hal said. The farm was once notable for its sheep, which Hal’s grandfather herded through Gambier to the train depot on the south side of the Hill.

Hal is survived by Carole; daughters Cathianna Pfrang and Cari W. Rothenhoefer; son Harlow H.; brother Terry F.; eight grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Howard P. “Howie” Jones ’58, on Nov. 15, 2022, in Oakton, Virginia. He was 86. Born in Toledo, Ohio, Howie earned an economics degree before serving as a U.S. Navy lieutenant. He later earned a master’s of public administration from George Washington University and worked as a personnel director for the Navy. After retiring, he

founded Oakton Piano Works and provided piano tuning and restoration services throughout the D.C. area for more than two decades.

A Virginia resident for 48 years, he loved old-time Appalachian string band music and was active as a local fiddler, guitarist, mandolinist, music teacher and performer. He was also a passionate maker of furniture and cabinets, and a luthier who crafted guitars, dulcimers and two harpsichords. Husband to Carolyn Cottrell Jones, who passed away in 2012, he is survived by his two children, Michael and Juliet; his brother, Stephen; three nephews and a niece.

Dale A. Neuman '58, on Sept. 18, 2022, in Blue Hill, Maine, age 86. Dale had been “relatively healthy and quite vigorous — seeming much younger than his years,” his obituary read, “but in June several underlying health conditions caught up with him at once.”

Born in Elyria, Ohio, Dale recalled fishing for crowdads and hunting squirrels to eat while his dad worked two jobs to make ends meet; their standard of living improved when his father became a police officer. After Kenyon, Dale earned his 1964 doctorate in political science at Northwestern University, where he met and married his wife of 56 years, Dona King. A specialist in American presidential politics and Harry S. Truman, Dale joined the University of Missouri, Kansas City, where he eventually chaired the political science department, was an associate dean, and finally directed the Harry S. Truman Center for Governmental Affairs before fully retiring at age 81.

One of Dale’s passions from even before his Kenyon years was barbershop singing. A two-time president of the Kansas City chapter of the national barbershop preservation society, he sang tenor in the award-winning Crosstown Four, and in recent years sang for local audiences and even over Zoom. In his 80s he performed in two productions staged by the Gilbert and Sullivan Society of Maine. He also wrote two poetry chapbooks.

Dale is survived by daughter Lisa Neuman, a grandson, three nephews and four nieces.

Robert W. “Bob” Chapin Jr. '59, on May 19, 2022. He was 84. Bob’s daughter **Constance Iacovelli '85** shares, “After graduating with a degree in French, Bob spent a year boat-sitting a friend’s sailboat and contemplating what to do next. That turned out to be joining the Navy as an intelligence officer, where he served for 28 years.”

Bob’s career took him on adventures to Chicago; Vietnam (where he arrived in April 1962 and met Carol, an embassy secretary who became his first wife); Washington, D.C.; the Philippines; San Diego; McLean, Virginia; Bahrain; Monterey, California; Norfolk, Virginia (where he met and married his second wife, Ellen); Edgewater, Maryland, and Newport News, Virginia, along with three sea tours. After retiring from the Navy as a captain, he and Ellen “sold their house, their cars and the lawn mower” and embarked on four years of sailing adventures aboard their 47-foot ketch. They sailed the eastern seaboard and Caribbean from Maine to the Virgin Islands before landing in Virginia’s Tidewater area,

where they “sold the boat and bought a house and two cars — but no lawn mower.”

Bob was predeceased by his wives. With Carol, he had four children: Constance, **Susan A. Chapin '89**, Robert III and Christina. With Ellen, he acquired three more: Lee Latham, John Law and Beth Singleton. He also is survived by several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Michael J. O’Haire '60, on Oct. 3, 2022, in Vero Beach, Florida. He was 83. An English major, Michael edited the undergraduate literary publication HIKA, won a Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship, and graduated magna cum laude with honors. In 1963, he graduated from Harvard Law School. He was admitted to the Florida bar and married his high school sweetheart, Shirley.

Michael practiced law in Vero Beach for nearly five decades. With his firm, O’Haire Quinn Candler & Casalino, he tried and won many cases at both the trial and appellate levels. Michael’s legal work included the early development of John’s Island; the creation and growth of the Indian River Land Trust, where he was director emeritus; creation of Marine Bank and Trust Company; and service as legal counsel to the Indian River Farms, Fellsmere and St. Johns Water Control Districts, and the Indian River Mosquito Control District.

Michael loved Vero Beach and its natural beauty, and he worked hard to protect its legal status. He also mentored high school students who were at risk of dropping out; volunteered as an alumnus interviewer for Harvard; and directed the Holmes Foundation. A member of Trinity Episcopal Church, Riomar Bay Yacht Club, Harvard Club of Central Florida and John’s Island Club, he enjoyed reading, Key West and long walks with his dog. He is survived by Shirley, son Sean, daughters Meghan Candler and Deirdre O’Haire, and five grandchildren.

S. Bradley “Brad” Gillaugh '61, on Sept. 28, 2022, in Chicago. He was 83. As Brad wrote to the Bulletin four years ago, “Though I only attended Kenyon one year, it’s time to let everyone know how much the school still means to me. I moved to New York City in 1959, spent nine years at MOMA, then 11 at Leo Castelli Gallery. In 1980 I became registrar for the ARCO Corporate Art Collection in Los Angeles. When ARCO merged with BP, I oversaw the sale of the collection and retired to Chicago. A one-semester art course at Kenyon set me on track for a long career in the field.”

Brad “lived life to the fullest through simple pleasures,” his obituary read. “Late-night conversations with friends, cinema, symphony concerts, museums, ballet and, above all else, boasting of his love for his hometown, Dayton. Brad had an uncanny ability to reach people in a very deep, positive and lasting way wherever he went.”

John S. Wells '61, on Aug. 7, 2022. He was 83. John grew up in Evanston, Illinois. He applied to Kenyon on the recommendation of his friend’s brother, **John P. “Jack” Niemann '58**. John was a Pi Kappa Sigma and history major, and played soccer. After graduation, he served as an officer on

BRAD GILLAUGH
'61 >

Brad “had an uncanny ability to reach people in a very deep, positive and lasting way wherever he went.”

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the U.S. Navy cruiser USS Oklahoma City, and in 1969 he married his wife of 52 years, Mary Lou. Soon earning a journalism master's degree, he joined the marketing arm of Time magazine. After a long career in media, from which he retired in 1999, he and Mary Lou spent two decades traveling the world: Provence, Cuba, Japan and many other places — including the Hill for his 55th reunion.

In a note submitted to the Bulletin three years ago, John wrote, "After 44 years in a Brooklyn Heights brownstone, Mary Lou and I have moved to Kendal on Hudson, a life care community in Sleepy Hollow, New York, close to the Tappan Zee Bridge. It's a big change from NYC, but we've met lots of new friends. Plus great views of the Hudson from our living room."

Thomas J. "Tom" Hoffmann '62, on Sept. 15, 2022, in Gambier, after a courageous battle with liver cancer. He was 82. A Delta Tau Delta and chemistry major, Tom swam on a hall of fame team and was a proud alumnus and patron of the College for decades. Recipient of the Burchell Rowe Award for support of athletics, a 2012 Distinguished Service Award, and the Gregg Cup, Tom was a former president of Alumni Council. After moving back to Gambier, Tom and his wife, Janet, reliably attended Kenyon arts and music events, and all men's and women's home soccer games and tennis matches. They hosted athletes in their home right into the recent years of COVID restrictions. Tom had served as a major catalyst in the College's decision to build the Alwin C. Ernst Center (predecessor to the KAC), and he and Janet mentored countless students over the decades. Last year, Tom established the Hoffmann Family Endowed Swimming and Diving Fund in honor of his parents.

After studying at the University of Michigan and George Washington law school, Tom worked as an international trademark attorney, retiring last year. He had served as director of the Center for Intellectual Property Law at Chicago's John Marshall Law School and in numerous other roles.

In a recent update to the Bulletin, Tom wrote, "As president of the Friends of the Quarry Chapel, I am in the midst of a fundraising campaign celebrating its 150th anniversary. I am giving back for the late-night adventures we had when it was a derelict structure. It is now restored and used for weddings and other events (quarrychapel.com). Life is good in Gambier. Come visit."

Tom is survived by Janet, sons James and Peter, and two grandchildren. Contributions in his honor may be made to the Thomas J. Edwards Scholarship Fund in honor of the legendary dean and swimming coach.

Theodore L. "Ted" Walch '63, on Sept. 8, 2022, at home in Studio City, California. He was 80. A passionate educator and director of performing arts at the Harvard-Westlake School, Ted taught for 55 years at three high schools, impacting thousands of students, many of whom went on to become teachers themselves.

His interest in becoming a theater director was piqued by James E. Michael, whom Ted called "the grand man of theater at Kenyon." Ted pursued

TED WALCH '63 >

"Ted had a gift for seeing his students — from theater kids to baseball players, from philosophers to mischief makers — for who they truly were, and it was his life's work and his life's joy to show them that he believed in them, however much they might be doubting themselves."

graduate studies in drama at Yale — always quick to add that he dropped out — and Catholic University of America. He taught at the St. Albans School in Washington, D.C., for 13 years and in 1979 took a leave from teaching to establish the Kenyon Festival Theatre, where he served as producing artistic director until 1985.

It was formed out of an earlier production celebrating the completion of the Bolton Theater in 1978 with a new play by playwright and friend Michael Cristofer, directed by Paul Newman and featuring Walch's friend John Considine in the lead role. The professional repertory theater operated for five summer seasons, producing classical and new work, including Walch's play "The MoPac Rag," about life in a small Missouri town. While Walch demanded high-quality productions, he maintained that the relationships that developed out of the Kenyon Festival Theatre were most important to him.

In 1984, Walch returned to the classroom at the Branson School in Marin County, California. In the 1990s, he moved to Los Angeles and became head of performing arts at Harvard-Westlake, where he taught for more than 30 years, becoming a legendary institution. Ted was preparing to return to the classroom for the fall 2022 semester when his cancer returned.

Harvard-Westlake President Richard Commons said, "Ted had a gift for seeing his students — from theater kids to baseball players, from philosophers to mischief makers — for who they truly were, and it was his life's work and his life's joy to show them that he believed in them, however much they might be doubting themselves." In a 2003 Bulletin profile, Ted described how he recommended Kenyon to hundreds of "theater-oriented (high school) students who are also gifted academically. For certain students, I know Kenyon is the perfect place." Ted returned to the Hill for presentations or visits at least once a year.

Walch was preceded in death by older brothers **W. Stanley Walch '56** and **Charles F. Walch '57**, who died in an airplane crash near Gambier in 1956. Survivors include his brother, Anthony; nephew **Charles M. Walch '88**; nieces and cousins; and an A-list of current and former students — including **Allison Janney '82**, Jake and Maggie Gyllenhall, Ben Platt, Beanie Feldstein, Jason Segel, Jessica Capshaw and many more.

Richard J. "Dick" Scheidenhelm '64, on Dec. 7, 2017, per his son Colan. Dick was a

history teacher in Boulder, Colorado, after having practiced law on and off, including three years as an assistant city attorney. A Colorado resident since 1972, he taught at Colorado University, Colorado State University, Metropolitan State University of Denver and the University of Northern Colorado.

A Civil War buff, Dick loved visiting battlefields and monuments on road trips with his kids. He volunteered and served on boards for the American Journalism Historian Association, the Boulder Historical Society and North Boulder Little League, where he was a team manager, maintenance man, umpire coordinator, concession stand operator and jack of all trades. When Dick was 17, he won the 1959

Michigan table tennis championship with his “wicked spin serve,” Colan shared. In retirement, he delivered for Meals on Wheels, never missing a route, and he loved playing bridge at least twice a week.

Richard will be sorely missed by his sister, Meg; ex-wife, Lynn; his three children, Colan, Galen and Nathan; and four grandchildren.

Frank L. Kooistra ’65, on Aug. 10, 2022. He was 79. “Frank had an interesting life,” wrote his brother **John Kooistra ’65**. “After schizophrenia set in late in college, he had challenges and complications that the rest of us don’t have to face on top of our usual tribulations.”

Frank lettered four years on the perennial national champion swim team and was president of Phi Kappa Sigma. After graduating, he earned a master’s in English at Case Western Reserve University “in spite of the deepening onset of his malady, and went into college teaching,” John wrote. “About that time, things began to unravel, fracturing any momentum Frank could muster that would lead to a stable life. Even so, after ten years of drifting, he went on to earn a doctorate at the University of Alberta in Canada, but most important, he became medicated for his condition. This changed the world, allowing him to teach in the Kent State University system for 22 years until he retired at age 70. During that time, he met and married Judy Ohles for a happy union. They adopted their beloved son, Nate, in 2002.” After Judy succumbed to cancer in 2011, following a long battle, Frank moved into assisted living, where he wrote a unique and well-received book titled “Assisted Living,” his third book of published poetry.

“Frank was a kind, extraordinarily generous and humane person, proclivities that never flagged,” John noted. “With his passing, a rich layer has disappeared from the people whose lives he graced.”

Thomas L. “Tom” Taylor ’65, on Dec. 26, 2020, in Greensburg, Pennsylvania. He was 77. After Kenyon, he earned an M.B.A. at Baruch College. Tom became an ad executive at Ketchum Advertising and Dymun + Company, Inc., after developing his career at several ad agencies in New York during the “Mad Men” era, his obituary noted. Tom was a fierce fan of the Steelers, Pirates and Penguins. He is remembered as a witty and lovely man by friends and family, including his wife, Carolyn Taylor, and his former wife, Janet Taylor Jain. Also surviving were sons Christopher C. Taylor, Benjamin P. Taylor and Richard C. Hoffman; daughter Elizabeth Hoffman Wheatley; and seven grandchildren, who knew him as “Boppo.”

Allan S. Kohrman ’67, on Oct. 13, 2022, due to complications of a cerebral hemorrhage, caused by a fall. He was 77. He earned graduate degrees from Brandeis and the University of Massachusetts before a 37-year career teaching English and history at Massasoit Community College in Brockton, Massachusetts. “Allan entertained his classes with his own renditions of labor songs and groan-worthy puns,” his obituary read.

He traveled to New York twice a year to enjoy the Metropolitan Opera. Owning a collection of around

ALLAN KOHRMAN
’67 >

“Allan was known for speaking what he felt was true even when he knew it would be unpopular. He was also known for his hugs, warm greetings, loyal friendship and attention to the elderly.”

1,500 CDs, “his knowledge of performers, music and recordings was extensive,” his obituary noted. “He also held passions for sports history, fine food, chocolate and art cinema.” Active in Quaker activities locally and regionally, Allan participated for decades in the Quakers’ annual gathering in New England. “At such gatherings, Allan was known for speaking what he felt was true even when he knew it would be unpopular. He was also known for his hugs, warm greetings, loyal friendship and attention to the elderly.”

In a class note he submitted in 2008, he wrote, “I amble through retirement as I have ambled through life.” He is survived by his wife, Carolyn Stone; and son, Adam Kohrman.

A.F. “Al” Ehrbar ’68, on Oct. 17, 2022, after an eight-and-a-half-year battle with lung cancer. He was 76. Al was a senior economics writer for the Wall Street Journal, senior editor of Fortune magazine, editor and publisher of Corporate Finance, partner at Stern Stewart, and president of the EVA Institute.

After Kenyon, Al earned a journalism master’s from Northwestern and a University of Rochester M.B.A. His early career at the City News Bureau in Chicago leapt upward, resulting in numerous awards for journalistic excellence. A tribute written by a friend named Pen Pendleton on Al’s online obituary page described Al’s “colorful life as a newspaper man: eating free steak dinners with the Chicago police at restaurants near the stockyards; covering the mob in Albany and Buffalo and Rochester; interviewing CEOs who knew less about their business numbers than he did; and how the corporate finks tried to stop his stories for Fortune. I learned a lot from him, particularly what it means to be tough and thick-skinned and dogged. ... I wish I could have learned more from Al, especially how to confidently call out lies and pour cold water on fuzzy thinking. Once he gave me a tip that I could have used when I was a reporter. ‘People don’t talk to reporters, but they’ll talk to you if they think you’re a cop,’ he chuckled. I will miss him tremendously.”

Al was an accomplished sailor, diver, golfer and world traveler. His passion was education for everyone. According to a 2017 alumni note about his cancer fight, he still kept in touch with classmates **Steve Honig**, **Steve Wuori**, **Spinner Findlay** and **Phil Crittenden**. He is survived by his wife of nearly 26 years, Marina; sons Gene, John and Ned; and five grandsons.

Geoffrey R. “Geoff” Enck ’68, on Aug. 18, 2022, in Tampa, Florida. He was 76. Briefly a Kenyon football player, Geoff went on to serve as a partner in some of the world’s top companies, including China Products Limited, and he worked in China for more than 30 years. He coordinated transnational enterprise relations and resolved trade differences, serving as special advisor of the State Council Information Office on foreign trade issues. Geoff worked closely with the Zere Foundation, and he and his wife of 23 years, Xinglu Li, raised 60 orphans in Tibet. In a 2014 alumni note, Geoff wrote, “Over the years, my company, Ascension (sound familiar?) Capital Group, Ltd. has

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employed many interns from Kenyon, hired about five or so, and helped place many others.”

Despite a cosmopolitan life lived far away from Gambier, Geoff loved Kenyon, according to a note written by his mother, Eleanor B. Enck, a venerable fraternity house mother who died in 1999. Ellie grew up in Gambier, the daughter of “Banker Brown” (as students called him), who ran the Peoples Bank for 30 years. At his mother’s funeral service, Geoff said he cherished the story of how his grandfather Ray had defended the bank on the day John Dillinger’s gang passed through — and gotten shot in the process. The family also formerly owned the Village Inn. In fact, the Encks traced their ancestry back to landholders who helped Philander Chase plan out the College. Geoff was buried on Sept. 1 at Oak Grove Cemetery in Gambier.

John R. Tucker Jr. ’68, on June 15, 2022, in Norfolk, Virginia. A special contributor to the Collegian as a student, he authored a 1964 front-page story dedicated to predictions of the winners of the National Book Award: For poetry, John Crowe Ransom’s “Collected Poems.” “Ransom is my choice, not because he is Gambier’s most illustrious citizen, but because these poems have been part of America’s poetic heritage for the last 25 years. Ransom’s poems have already survived the test of time.” The headline? “Foolhardy Reviewer Predicts National Book Award Winners.” His senior year, in the fall of 1967, he wrote passionately about the Vietnam War protests at the Pentagon.

One of the condolences left on his obituary read, “John was wicked smart and so interesting to talk to. He was a big supporter of this area’s bookstores and a great friend to librarians.”

Thomas B. “Tom” Arnold ’75, an avid cyclist, on Oct. 24, 2022, after sustaining injuries from a bicycle fall. He was 70. An English major at Kenyon, Tom headed off to New York City to work in advertising at J. Walter Thompson. Eventually, he settled in Princeton, New Jersey, where he managed Halo Farm and Halo Pub ice cream shops.

Tom was an outdoor educator at Princeton Blairstown Center for five years before he retired in 2018, continuing to volunteer as needed. “Tom was an important, integral and respected member of the PBC community,” said CEO Pam Gregory, a friend of Tom’s. “In the nine years I’ve been here, I have never done a big event without him.” Known as the “old guy” at PBC, his wife, Martha Bolster, shared, Tom was as fit and competent as the youngest employee. “Having run many marathons starting at age 40 probably helped. His love of the outdoors began in adolescence, when he participated in canoe trips in the remote corners of northern Maine. In 2004, Tom went on an expedition in the Wind River Valley in Wyoming. He also worked for Project U.S.E and Outward Bound, where he continued to develop his wilderness education and leadership skills. Eventually, he became a staff member at Camp Dudley in the Adirondacks, where he worked for several summers, guiding teenagers on overnight hiking trips.”

Tom was intellectually curious, well-read, and a lover of every genre of music. He especially enjoyed

live music at events like Austin City Limits, South by Southwest, Phish’s New Year’s Eve show, and the Grassroots Festival. He is survived by his wife, Martha; his daughter, Lucy; and two grandchildren.

Elizabeth B. “Betsy” Friedberg ’75, on Oct. 15, 2022, in Melrose, Massachusetts. She was 69. After Kenyon, she earned a master’s degree from Boston University and spent 37 years as a historic preservation planner for the Massachusetts Historical Commission. She had recently retired as director of the National Register Program. A lover of historic houses and her local community, Betsy also spent many years contributing her time, knowledge and passion as a trustee of the Beebe Estate in Melrose.

Betsy loved to express her creativity through her hobbies, from making pottery and quilts to tending to her gardens, whether at home or in her abundant plot at the Melrose Community Garden. A skilled cook and recipe connoisseur, she showed her love through food both comforting and inspired. Since childhood, she adored spending time on Cape Cod, where she loved walking and reading on the beach, admiring sunsets, rigorous antiquing, and sharing laughter, ice cream and lobster rolls with family. Betsy was an avid and curious traveler, though her favorite destination was always England, where she lived for a time in her youth and revisited on many memorable trips with family, including her honeymoon.

Betsy’s warmth, kindness and generosity were unparalleled. Quick to laugh, she exemplified the importance of delighting even in the small things. She is survived by her husband of 41 years Drew McCoy; children Laura McCoy and Ethan McCoy; siblings Aaron Friedberg and Susan Friedberg Kalson; and nieces, nephews and a grandnephew.

Jeffrey H. “Jeff” Merian ’75, on May 16, 2022. He was 69. Jeff majored in psychology and ran track. (His father, **Richard Merian ’50**, had been a physics major, and his sister **Michelle L. Merian ’73** preceded him to the Hill.)

Jeff earned a master’s in statistics from Trinity University, specializing in predictive modeling. He worked as a senior systems analyst for the Wackenhut Corp. until 2005 and was an enterprise architect executive with Advance Auto Parts for the past 14 years, supervising accountability for technology design and smooth corporate integrations. For the company, he helped design and create a comprehensive predictive modeling system to statistically determine optimal hard parts mix needed for each individual store based on big data analytic modeling.

Richard S. Ostrow ’78, on April 19, 2021, of pancreatic cancer. He was 68. An economics major, Richard went on to get a master’s in social work from the University of Michigan. However, he found his real interest was in computer programming and eventually switched careers. He was employed by a consulting company, Spantech Software, as a high-level systems analyst until his 2005 retirement. Richard is survived by his wife, **Connie Ostrow ’78**, who, she shared in September, has had a tough year — also losing her mother-in law and her own

BETSY FRIEDBERG '75 >

Betsy loved to express her creativity through her hobbies, from making pottery and quilts to tending to her gardens, whether at home or in her abundant plot at the Melrose Community Garden.

mother. "He was a brilliant and funny man as well as a wonderful husband to me and father to his son Daniel," she wrote.

Albert "Al" Reynolds '78, on Nov. 3, 2022, in his home on a hill overlooking Nashville, Tennessee. He was 66. After Kenyon, he earned a doctorate from the University of Virginia, where he met his first wife, Kathy Deazley, and then began his career at St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. By 1995, he had joined the faculty at Vanderbilt University. There he became known as a brilliant researcher and respected teacher.

Al led the Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center Program in Signal Transduction and Cell Proliferation. He was director of both the Vanderbilt Antibody and Protein Core Resource and Graduate Studies for the Program in Cancer Biology. He served on numerous National Institutes of Health study sections and published over 130 peer-reviewed papers. Al's groundbreaking research on P120 catenin — a protein that regulates cell adhesion — earned him the name "the Father of P120," according to his obituary. He led the field for over two decades, laying the basis for a branch of study that continues to play an important role in cancer research globally. He trained 24 graduate students and postdoctoral fellows, all of whom launched successful careers. He also invented lab equipment, such as the innovative "Bellydancer," a platform shaker now used in labs throughout the country. Al, who raised Rhodesian ridgebacks with his wife, Elizabeth Mask, had only just retired in August.

A natural leader, he was revered by his peers. He loved animals and nature, capturing and taming a menagerie of snakes, lizards and other small creatures. Throughout childhood he was known for a basement full of animals where he worked his magic, attracting kids from all over the neighborhood. He excelled at tennis and took up wrestling in high school. What he lacked in size he made up in strategy, rising to captain of the wrestling team by senior year. He played the violin exquisitely and sat first chair in the orchestra from grade school through high school.

Al is survived by Elizabeth; his parents, Albert B. and Helen; his twin sister, Charlotte Merrell; his younger sister, Marion Reynolds; and several nieces and nephews

James P. "Jim" Bolan '80, on Oct. 16, 2022, in Madison, Connecticut. He was 64. Jim was known for his unending kindness, humor, intelligence, patience and courage. As a young child, Jim was diagnosed with a rare form of muscular dystrophy (Becker, or BMD), a progressive and debilitating illness. "In the face of increasing muscle weakness that eventually led to him not being able to leave his bed," his obituary read, "he approached every day focusing on the things he could do and the life he could lead. Remarkably, Jim embraced each day with a positive outlook. Expressions of bitterness or complaint never left his lips."

Jim married Donna Giddings in 1992 after they met as jazz announcers at WWUH-FM in Hartford, Connecticut. They remained involved in the Hartford

< AL REYNOLDS '78

Al's ground-breaking research on P120 catenin — a protein that regulates cell adhesion — earned him the name "the Father of P120."

jazz scene for decades. She and Jim were a compassionate and loving couple throughout his challenges and medical struggles. Jim was also a dedicated sports enthusiast, a lifelong Red Sox, Green Bay Packers and Hartford Whalers fan.

Jim loved modern history and political science. He attended Kenyon briefly before graduating from Connecticut College, next earning a master's in teaching from Brown University. From 1984 to 2014 he was a beloved social studies teacher at Daniel Hand High School in Madison. He served as an inspiration to his students and colleagues alike. He is survived by Donna; a sister, Gail; a brother, Tom; and nieces and nephews.

Todd W. Holzman '80, of Solon, Ohio, unexpectedly on Aug. 11, 2022. He was 64. Todd grew up in Willoughby. At Kenyon, he studied English and history and wrote for the Collegian all four years, covering sports, writing a sports column called "Hindsight" and fashioning editorials. Later in his journalism career he chaired the Kenyon Collegian Alumni Association.

Todd was a reporter for the Miami Herald until 1987, when he moved to Washington, D.C., to work as an editor at Knight-Ridder and other agencies. From 2000 to 2011, Todd was a supervising senior editor in charge of digital news at NPR. He was a gifted writer. Online can be found a wealth of stories, reminiscences and musings that he crafted for NPR over those years on personae such as Bob Feller, Bubba Smith, Barry Bonds, Babe Ruth, Eric Idle and many more. He is survived by his mother, Frances L. Swerling, aunts and cousins.

Michael P. "Mike" Ginley '81, on Oct. 8, 2022, in North Olmsted, Ohio, after a battle with cancer. He was 63.

After graduating with an economics major, Mike began a successful career at Standard Oil before he moved into the college textbook publishing industry. In his next career, he worked in executive recruiting for several small firms in the Cleveland area. Later, he founded MPG Executive Search, from which he had recently retired.

His greatest passion was volunteering as a Catholic Youth Organization football and track coach at St. Raphael in Bay Village for more than 25 years, leading his junior high teams to five championships. He was recently inducted into the CYO Hall of Fame. In late September Mike was awarded the prestigious Founders' Award from St. Ignatius High School, an honor bestowed on his father 45 years before. "Mike was truly 'a man for others' and lived his faith and commitment to service every day," his obituary read.

The oldest of seven, he was brother to Kevin, Dennis and **James F. Ginley '82** and sister to Patti Donofrio, Kathy Stewart and Rita Andolsen. In a video tribute, Jim called Mike "one of the sharpest people you'd ever meet, and anything he jumped into, he jumped completely in."

J. Kerney Kuser II '82, an estate lawyer in Princeton, New Jersey, at home July 31, 2022, after a brief illness. He was 62. From Kenyon, he headed to law school at Seton Hall University and was

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admitted to the New Jersey bar in 1985.

Active in civic and professional organizations, Kerney used his lawyering skills "with a light touch and a sure hand, and was always available to help friends and family," his obituary read. In 1984 he donated a kidney to his older sister, Cricket, and the organ continued to function and support life until her death in 2014.

An avid gardener, Kerney planted his one-acre property with thousands of flowers and dozens of ornamental trees. His unique way with young people made a difference in the life of Errol McDowell, son of Kerney's close friends Rider and Victoria McDowell. Kerney and Errol hit it off right away when the boy was 8 years old, and they maintained their special bond during the years Errol suffered from a brain cancer called medulloblastoma. In 2018, Errol died at age 18, but he conceived of a charity called Canceragogo, focused on childhood cancer.

Kerney is survived by his partner, Jeremiah Edwin Obert; three of his six siblings; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Reed A. Lynn '84, on Aug. 7, 2022, in Cincinnati. He was 59. He graduated from Kenyon with a degree in economics, then earned an M.B.A. at Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management. Throughout his career, Reed held leadership positions in sales, marketing and management, with the bulk of his professional life spent in the flavor industry. Most recently he served as senior vice president of the commercial division at Mane, Inc., a flavor company.

Reed's passions included basketball, college football, the Ohio State Buckeyes, hiking, biking and time at his beloved cabin in rural Ohio. He had a curious mind and never lost his love of learning. Reed was a master at the grill, pretty good with a fishing pole and not too shabby on the ski slopes. He considered travel one of life's greatest pleasures, and work and leisure took him to nearly every corner of the world. Reed's greatest passion, though, was family.

He is survived by his wife of 28 years, Mary Ann; daughter Emily; sons Alex and Eric; mother, Shirley; and brothers Jeff and Scott. "Mary Ann, Alex, Emily and Eric were truly his heart and soul, and they loved him beyond measure," his obituary read. "He had a pure heart, a quiet strength, and a terrific sense of humor. As a husband and father, his family could not have asked for better."

Robert S. "Rob" Bridges Jr. '86, on Nov. 17, 2022. With his wife **Kelly L. (Miller) Bridges '88**, he had relocated to Vero Beach, Florida, from Riverside, Connecticut, after a 2021 promotion.

At Kenyon, he earned All-America honors as a diver on the national championship swim team. His highest-scoring dive at the 1986 nationals was a difficult full twist 2½ somersault off the 3-meter board. Rob was a loyal and dedicated member of Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity, as well as a long-term board member of the DKE Club of New York City. He had a long and successful career in investment management as managing director at Fiduciary Trust and managing director and senior

investment advisor at Wilmington Trust. Colleagues and clients relied on his knowledge and steadfast guidance in planning for the future and navigating difficult markets.

Rob strongly believed in serving others, packing and serving meals to those in need, and he served on the board of New York City's Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies. In his free time, Rob enjoyed golfing, hiking, skiing, vacationing in Maine and cheering on his sons at swim meets and water polo matches. Family was of utmost importance to Rob, and he loved planning large gatherings in exciting new places.

He is survived by his college sweetheart, Kelly, and sons Shaw and Austin; sisters Peggy and Caroline; brother John; parents, R. Shaw and Beryl; and several nieces and nephews.

Patrick M. "Pat" Augusta '88, on Jan. 4, 2022, in Willoughby, Ohio. He was 55. Patrick was a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon and a biology major at Kenyon. He had most recently worked as a sales representative for Honda of Mentor. Patrick loved his family, friends and animals. Survivors include his father, Bobby Augusta, and a sister, Nicole Augusta.

Mark C. Simmons '95, on Oct. 28, 2022, in Detroit. He was 49.

Mark grew up in Cincinnati. At Kenyon, he played basketball, joined Psi Upsilon and majored in philosophy and political science. He rose to become executive vice president of marketing at Burrow home furnishings, where he worked tirelessly to help grow the brand and build demand. He had high expectations of himself and, often, of others.

From a young age, Mark was an athlete. He loved playing sports and encouraging his kids, nieces and nephews from the sidelines. Each May, he joined his dad and good buddies at the Indy 500. He loved watching the Bengals and Reds, even knowing they would likely lose.

Mark was an encouraging and loving father. His boys were his center and a source of great pride. The generous heart and unconditional love of his partner, Cat, allowed Mark's creativity to bloom. Together this past year they had been working nonstop to restore a beautiful Victorian home in Brooklyn. "Mark had a strong moral compass guiding him to do the right thing even when it was hard," his obituary read.

He is survived by his parents, Jim and Linda; sons Teddy and George; partner Catherine Birch and her children Sayer and Mason Birch; sisters Anna Simmons, Jill Spiegkeman and Kate Rossman; and eight nieces and nephews.

Scott B. Scrivner '96, on Nov. 2, 2022, in Philadelphia. He was 48. Scott studied economics at Kenyon, graduating magna cum laude with High Honors. In 2002, he earned a master's in public affairs from the University of Wisconsin.

Scott dedicated his career to public service, most notably at the Pew Charitable Trusts, where he was a director in planning and evaluation. Some of his major projects included U.S. wilderness protection and the Economic Mobility Project. An avid Flyers

MARK SIMMONS
'95 >

Mark was an encouraging and loving father. His boys were his center and a source of great pride.

fan, he enjoyed playing ice hockey, mountain biking and working on his Buick and Corvette. Scott loved nature and enjoyed taking his daughter to Wissahickon Park. Scott's friends were important to him and he had lifelong friends from Sanford, Kenyon, Pew and more. He is survived by his parents, Carol and Noel; and his daughter, Paige.

Justin T. Sigman '02 died unexpectedly on Oct. 26, 2022, in Clayton, Missouri. He was 42. An ardent reader and scholar, Justin valued his years at Kenyon and had a wonderful time reconnecting with classmates at the 20-year reunion. Several classmates attended his wake in St. Louis.

After graduation, Justin attained his J.D. at the University of Texas School of Law and a master's in contract law at George Washington University. He spent several years working as a contracts lawyer in Washington, Asia and the Middle East. The bulk of his career was overseas, working for the U.S. government and non-government organizations in war zones, such as Afghanistan and Iraq, where he managed the construction of schools, hospitals and bridges, and in Africa, where, among other projects, he was instrumental in writing the constitution for the new nation of South Sudan.

The family asks that any donations be made in Justin's name to Kenyon College toward a scholarship for a political science student, "for it was at Kenyon that Justin learned to soar," his mother, Paula, wrote. Justin kept in touch with his poli sci professors and considered Professor and Acting President Jeff Bowman a great mentor, she added. "The unexplained death of a beloved son, brother, nephew or cousin can be soul-wrenching; but the pain can be eased by the love and support of friends and community, of which [our] family has many: As we grieve Justin's loss, we rejoice in the 42 years Justin was part of our earthly lives."

Besides his mother, he is survived by his brother, Joshua; and aunts, nieces, a nephew and a cousin.

Sarah A. (Clark) Miller '04, on Aug. 10, 2022, after a nine-year battle with brain cancer. "She died peacefully at home in the arms of her loving family," her obituary read. She was 40.

Sarah grew up on the family ranch in Waterloo, Montana, riding horses and driving the family's Pinto Belgians. At age 7, she rode her horse to Helena for three weeks of the Montana Centennial Wagon Train. She attended Kenyon her freshman year, studying creative writing and playing rugby, but graduated from the University of Montana in Missoula with a degree in Native American studies and a minor in English.

In 2007, she reacquainted with her childhood crush, Justin Miller, whom she married in 2008 at the family ranch. They welcomed a son, Benjamin, in 2009. Following Ben's birth, Sarah and Justin opened their coffee shop, Jumping Rainbow Espresso, at their home in Twin Bridges. Passionate about her community, Sarah supported Buy Local and the Saturday Farmers Market, and wrote a weekly column called "Sustainably Sadie." In December of 2012, their second son, Ruben Archer Miller, was born.

CYRUS BANNING >
"Cy Banning was a man with an admirable sharpness of mind in debate and a desire to give a fair hearing to both sides of an argument."

Six months after Ruben's birth, Sarah experienced her first seizure and was diagnosed with a brain tumor. Surgery to remove it left her disabled. But her indomitable spirit did not let her disabilities drag her down. She enjoyed quality time with her family, camping in the woods and watching her sons grow. Her father, also diagnosed with a brain tumor, died in 2015. In addition to her husband and sons, she is survived by her mother, Leslie; brother, Liam; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Kathryn E. "Katie" Mazzolini '22 died unexpectedly of a coronary aneurysm on Sept. 14, 2022, in Calabasas, California. They were 22.

Katie remained at Kenyon through the COVID-19 pandemic, before transferring to Loyola Marymount University in California, close to home in Calabasas. A junior political science major there, they were passionate about classical civilization and justice studies and worked as an event operations assistant at LMU.

Kenyon's Archon Society, in collaboration with the Class of 2023, organized a fundraiser to celebrate and treasure Katie's life in coordination with Katie's family. "They, and their bunny Poppy, were often a source of love and compassion on our campus," the Archon Society wrote, "and they were a treasured member of many student communities, including the Archons. Katie was a proud activist, exploring and engaging in their passion for social justice by working as a campaign fellow for the George Gascón Los Angeles District Attorney campaign, a Jails Intern at the ACLU of Southern California, and as a partnership coordinator for Root & Rebound.

Katie is survived by their parents, Aaron and Nicole; and sisters Grace and Julianna.

FACULTY, STAFF, AND FRIENDS OF KENYON

Cyrus W. Banning, on Sept. 2, 2022. A long-time professor of philosophy at Kenyon, he was 90.

Banning joined the Kenyon faculty in 1962 as an assistant professor of philosophy, won tenure and promotion in 1968, and became a full professor in 1976, retiring in 1994. His key areas of interest included free will and determinism as well as ethics, philosophy of science and, in later years, philosophical issues in feminism.

"Cy Banning was a man with an admirable sharpness of mind in debate and a desire to give a fair hearing to both sides of an argument," recalled **Reed Browning**, professor emeritus of history. Many students learned about not only philosophy but also the central skills of a liberal-arts education. **David Lynn '76**, who went on to teach English and edit the Kenyon Review, remembered, "Cyrus Banning was an exacting, brilliant teacher who taught me to read carefully and precisely while working my way through the challenges of Plato and Kant, among others. Just as important, he persuaded me of the deep value of such labor."

"Cyrus was an imposing presence with a razor-sharp intellect trained in analytic metaphysics," recalled **Juan DePascuale**, an associate professor of philosophy who joined the faculty in 1984. "Later in life, he took an interest in feminist philosophy and

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became a gentle giant, full of compassion, with a willingness to entertain all possible points of view." Another colleague, Professor **Joel Richeimer**, noted the role Banning's wife played in his growing interest in feminism. "Margaret made Cyrus aware of the situation of women on campus and in society at large. Women's issues and sensitivity to women became more and more an issue for him. ... Watching Cyrus evolve on this issue showed that although his persona was formal, he was also open to criticism and change. ... A powerful presence in the classroom and on the campus, his clear-headedness meant that he spoke with authority. It has to be said that some students felt intimidated by him, but they did respect him." He is survived by Margaret, a daughter, a daughter-in-law and a grandson. Memorial contributions may be made to Kenyon College. A more in-depth tribute written by Kenyon Historian **Tom Stamp '73** is available online at kenyon.edu/news/archive/kenyon-remembers-cyrus-banning.

Ken A. Bode H'99, former trustee and the father of **Matilda Bode '99** and **Josephine D. Bode '01**, died on June 2, 2022, in Charlotte, North Carolina. He was 83. Ken was perhaps best known for moderating "Washington Week in Review," the eminent roundtable program produced by PBS affiliate WETA. The Friday night television show acquired a reputation as a calm and thoughtful forum for discussions of public affairs during the era Bode hosted it from 1994 to 1999. Defending this approach to the New York Times, he once said, "If that's too dull, okay. Is there really no room for a show that dares to be serious?" He was succeeded by trailblazing journalist Gwen Ifill, whom he supported in the role. After covering national politics and the presidential campaign trail for NBC and CNN, Ken won numerous journalism awards. He demonstrated the capacity of television news to function as a genuinely educational medium for voters. He served Kenyon as a conference participant, a lecturer and then as a trustee. The College awarded Bode an honorary degree in 1999 while he was dean of Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism. In addition to Matilda and Josie, Ken is survived by his wife, Margo.

Walter "Dean" Burnham, on Oct. 4, 2022, in San Antonio, Texas. He was 92. Born in Columbus, Ohio, Burnham taught political science at Kenyon from 1961 to 1963. **Pat McGraw '63** remembered his professor as "an incredibly agile, energetic mind, boundless intellectual curiosity and enthusiasm, amazingly well-read. I suspect he might have been a little disappointed at my decision to go to law school rather than grad school. Reflecting back on that choice, I think I was so in awe of him that I kind of knew I never could have approached his brilliance. Although we had no contact after that, he had a profound, lifelong impact on my ideas and interests. Other members of the classes of '62 and '63 — especially poli sci majors — will recall him vividly." Burnham's lengthy New York Times obituary noted his later teaching at MIT and the University of Texas, Austin, and described his research into the "tectonic

shifts back and forth between parties." The paper quoted an NYU law professor who called Burnham "one of the most influential political scientists of his generation on the role and nature of political parties in American democracy."

Barbara B. Church, on July 21, 2022, after a long illness. Barbara was the widow of Professor Philip D. Church and mother of **Susan E. Church '85**.

Awarded a full academic scholarship to the University of Michigan, Barbara earned a degree in psychology and met her future husband there. In 1963, they moved to Gambier, where they raised Susan and her sister Brooke, many cats and one memorable dog, Walker. Barbara worked as a laboratory technician at Mercy Hospital in Mount Vernon, eventually becoming the lab manager and guiding it through a hospital merger that became Knox Community Hospital. She built a large network of laboratory service contracts throughout central Ohio.

Her daughters and former colleagues remember her bright smile and the gentle yet purposeful clip-clop of her heels as she walked the tiled hallways of the hospital. She is also remembered as a beloved friend and mentor by generations of Kenyon students, who recall her patient, insightful interest in their lives and ideas.

Barbara loved music, gardening and reading. Her record collection was remarkably broad, including many first pressings of classic rock from the 1960s and '70s. She loved to be in her garden; her meadow of daffodils was a delight every spring. She also enjoyed scouring the countryside for antiques and, most of all, she was a voracious reader of all kinds of books and a lively conversationalist. She and Philip talked for hours in the evenings. They were kindred souls, and she grieved deeply for him after his passing in 1998, never marrying again. Barbara moved to Durham, North Carolina, in 2010 to be closer to family. She is survived by her daughters; daughter-in-law Sabrina; three grandsons; a granddaughter-in-law; sisters Susanne, Mary and Peggy; brothers-in-law Donn and Kenny; and many cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Denise R. (Phillis) Salmons, on Dec. 1, 2022, in Newark, Ohio. She was 61. An office assistant for food service contractor Aramark starting in 1986, Denise oversaw operation of the Peirce Shoppes and Kenyon Athletic Center Cafe, and retired as an AVI employee in 2019. She served the College's dining services for more than three decades. Her daughter-in-law, Melissa Baughman-Salmons, is AVI's catering director.

"I depended on Denise for many years," said Fred Linger, retired manager of business services. "I could count on her for problem-solving and laughs along the way. I believe most people thought of her as a Kenyon employee, and she was beloved by many."

Denise attended the Bladensburg Church of Christ and enjoyed boating, listening to music, singing and cooking. But the most important thing in her life was spending time with her son, Daniel, and grandson, AJ, who survive, along with her father, Maynard; brothers Dale, Dave and Darren; and several nieces and nephews.

<KEN BODE
Ken was
perhaps best
known for
moderating
"Washington
Week in
Review," the
eminent
roundtable
program
produced by
PBS affiliate
WETA.

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Back Talk



(our Table of Contents in reverse)

Welcome to the end of your alumni magazine journey; we hope you enjoyed it. Or, for those starting at the back and reading forward, please enjoy this reward for breaking the rules. Here are a few moments in the magazine that we wanted to make sure you caught.

31

Kenyon love connections

Author Emma Fedor '09 comes from a long line of Kenyon romances: Her grandfather graduated from Kenyon in 1936 and while he was there, he met her grandmother. Fedor's parents also met at Kenyon. And Fedor met her husband, Nate Fedor '09, during the first week of their first-year Orientation.

8

One way to save on textbooks

Charissa McCune '92 knew what she was doing when she sent all four of her children to Kenyon at the same time. The siblings, one in each class year, are studying pre-med.

10

One last time

Kenyon's 19th president says goodbye as he looks to a future full of history.

29

Seasons of books

When reading for pleasure meets actuarial tables, what does the reading list of your sunset years comprise?

41

Who moved my cheese (soup)?

A tasty tale featuring a mother-in-law's mother, four sisters, Edelstein House and the Horn Gallery, a marine and a brother's roommate, melting into a long-sought recipe.



16

CAN YOU SPOT THE MOVIE STAR IN THIS PHOTO?

When Eileen Cartter '16 told her dad, Matt, that she was writing a story on Paul Newman '49 H'61 for this magazine, he shared that he'd seen the movie star in person once, in 1977, and had even taken a picture. In the photo (above) Newman is in his early 50s. Cartter explained: "There are dozens of people in the image, which my dad snapped from the sidelines of a car race at Watkins Glen International, a road-racing track about 30 miles from Ithaca. This is, I imagine, what you would see if you zoomed out on many paparazzi photos of celebrities: the awestruck bystanders, glimpsing a person they had previously only seen on a screen."

PHOTOS FROM TOP: MATTHEW CARTTER P'16; REBECCA KISER





Crossword

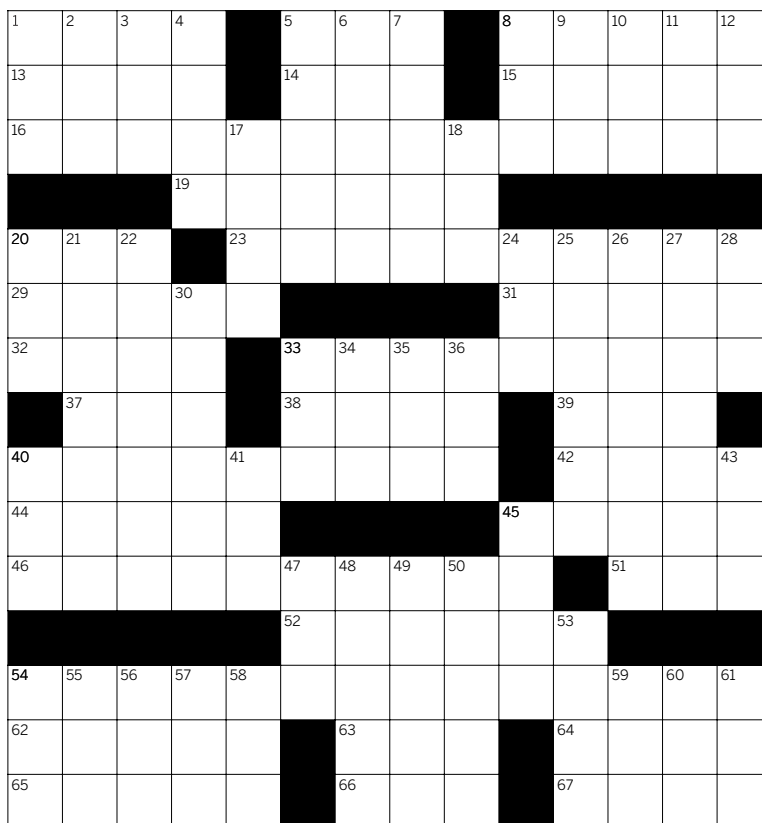
Kenyon Crossword

An original puzzle created by David Bukszan '02 for Kenyon Alumni Magazine readers. The answers can be found on page 60.

Student Involvement Fair

ACROSS

1. The Kenyon student with a bubbly personality became a ____
5. Lead-in to "kwon do"
8. See 32-Across
13. Sticky stuff
14. If you had this ability, you wouldn't need to read this clue
15. Part of "PM" (as in Sweden's PM Olof Palme, '48)
16. The Kenyon student who liked how Hayes styled his name joined the ____
19. Kenyon's Coles Phillips (known for his "Life Magazine" covers), for one
20. Student workers Kenyon employs in foreign language courses
23. The Kenyon student who liked to be "it" joined ____
29. Top-notch
31. Reindeer name "rhymed" with Blitzen
32. With 8-Across, Kenyon, to you, probably
33. Former college trustee whose gifts included Leonard Hall (familiarily)
37. Sch. about a mile from Harvard
38. State that's the "Mother of Presidents"
39. Help
40. Historian and author of "The Alienist"
42. Important stat for Erin O'Neill '02, Kenyon softball coach since 2011
44. A rousing device kept bedside?
45. "Lord, ____?" (Last Supper query)
46. The Kenyon student who said "As Richard and Gene say..." wrote for the literary journal ____
51. Cookbook abbr.
52. The Kenyon Inn and the Gambier House
54. The Kenyon students who had political aspirations joined the ____
62. Something to row at Mohican State Park
63. At any time, poetically
64. Soothing stuff
65. John ____ Ransom, founding editor of the "Kenyon Review"
66. Name of a play about Capote (no lie!)
67. The Kenyon student who was an airhead joined ____



DOWN

1. Former Soviet spy agcy.
2. Bullfighting cheer
3. Scrabble 10-pointer (as spelled with a Scrabble 5-pointer)
4. "____ mouse!"
5. Some of a mouse's can grow 4 inches a year
6. Easy-____
7. Kenyon Coll., faithfully?
8. Car ad letters
9. Path of the moral universe, to MLK
10. Up to such point in time as when
11. Bird that's the start and end of the Kenyon sorority EΔM?
12. Hebrew honorific
17. French-Russian illustrator known for his magazine covers
18. Advanced degree?
20. Pekoe, e.g.
21. Like Kenyon before 1969
22. Like
24. Film's Gardner or DuVernay
25. Ravi Shankar's instruments
26. Put up in a museum
27. Changes a copywriter's changes, say
28. 4th-yr. student (or hell, sometimes a 5th-yr, you do you!)
30. Tots or fries, familiarly
33. Dept. whose courses include "Institutions and Inequalities" and "American Folk Music"
34. "So that's your game!"
35. Former Russian space station whose name sounds like a lead-in to "kat"
36. Casablanca's country: Abbr.
40. Gown's partner
41. Ratio involving ht. and wt.
43. Hardly chug
45. Any of the Galapagos
47. Conductance unit
48. "Water Lilies" painter Claude
49. Badger's cousin
50. Leader of India 1950-1964
53. "Pygmalion" dramatist George Bernard
54. TV monitoring agcy.
55. Device for fast-forwarding through a stream?
56. Yoko whose "Wish Piece" was part of a 2013 26-Down at Gund Gallery
57. Like gears for biking up Wiggin Street in winter
58. Be a looker
59. Sort
60. ____ cit. (in the place cited)
61. Sign of the end of summer?

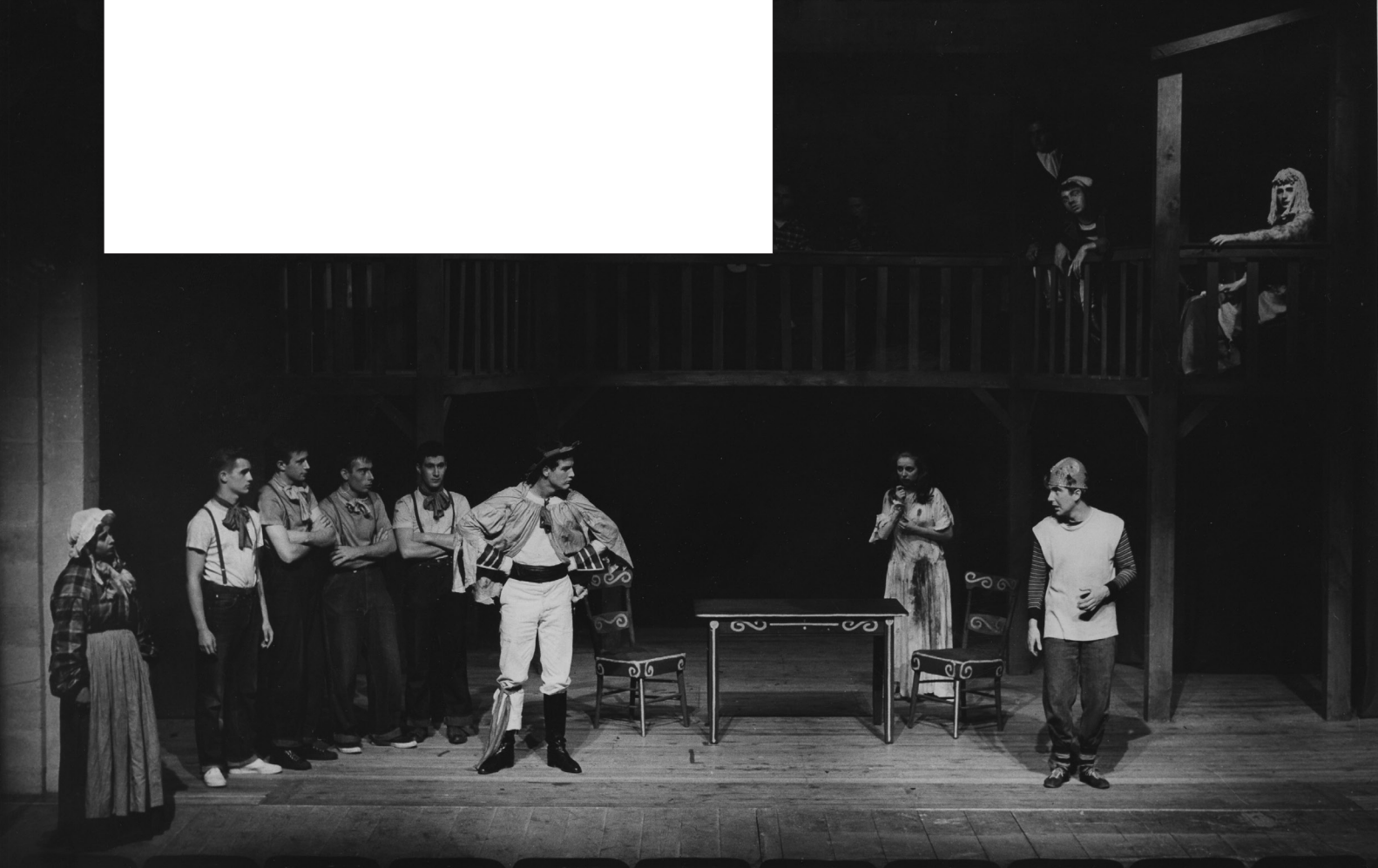
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KENYON COLLEGE



“To attend Kenyon College was to have Paul Newman be a part of your life. He was by far the most famous alumnus ... and the fact that Kenyon was Paul Newman’s school partly defined your undergraduate experience.”

— **Murray Horwitz '70 H'92**, on NPR, remembering Paul Newman '49 H'61 in 2009