
Kenyon College Alumni Bulletin

Winter 2025

Kenyon Alumni Magazine - Winter 2025

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Kenyon
Alumni
Magazine
WINTER 2025

Beyond
— the —
Bicentennial

A new day for Kenyon
PAGE 4

Forward, Still

Chalmers Library, at left, anchors the West Quad to Middle Path. It sits back, in line with its neighbor, the Gund Gallery, creating space for Middle Path commuters to enjoy the view.

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On the cover: As Kenyon's third century dawns, the impact of philanthropy on Kenyon shines bright. Photo by Nick Hoeller.

REBECCA KIGER







CORRESPONDENCE | READER RESPONSES TO PREVIOUS ISSUES

Letters

Summer 2024

Addenda

The very interesting “200 Things to Love About Kenyon” (Summer 2024) issue brought back some long-forgotten memories worth sharing with other alumni:

No. 104: While I enjoyed watching long freight trains clatter through Gambier in the early 1950s, the Kokosing Gap Trail is an outstanding substitute. At my class’s 35th Reunion in 1989, I jogged the picturesque trail to Mount Vernon and back. I was surprised that the trail is much shorter than Route 229. The hilly terrain made me think of the difficulties train crews faced controlling slack between cars on long trains, possibly causing derailments and the line’s eventual abandonment.

No. 57: As a proud Sigma Pi, nicknamed the PEEPS, I spoke to the group in 2002 about their heritage, both good and bad. It was an eclectic evening as the “guys and gals” listened in rapt attention while I shared unknown facts and stories, and debunked some of their knowledge about how the PEEPS were named.

— **Caryl Warner '55**

Wow!

I have just traveled page by page through the (Summer 2024) alumni magazine. The only word I can think of to describe it: Wow! Well done, good and faithful staff!

— **David McCoy '60 P'87,'89 GP'17**

And now we're blushing

If it wasn't already abundantly clear to generations of Kenyon alumni, it was made so to all who read “200 Things to Love About Kenyon” that the Kenyon Alumni Magazine should be 201.

— **Jeremiah S. Miller '67**

Spring 2024

For the love of lefties

I love the left-handed index (“Back Talk,” page 80). Could you print the whole alumni magazine in a left-handed format? I'm left-handed and took notes from the back to the front of my notebooks. I usually read magazines from back to front.

— **Bill Koller '70 P'98**

Data-driven excellence

It was nice to remember the legacy of Coach Steen (Spring 2024, “Making Waves”) and his juggernaut swim teams over the decades. Steen was highly data- and science-driven and collaborated with cross-country coach Duane Gomez (in his second year of coaching) to obtain a blood lactate test device. I believe he and Gomez were discussing lactate threshold, VO2 max tables and maximum heart rate and were inspired to completely change training methodology accordingly.

I recall some of the swimmers doing the 20-minute time trial with the runners, running over to the machine and getting a pin prick of blood tested. Once your lactate and acidosis levels were determined, the tables were adjusted and you had a training schedule tailored to your individual lactate tolerance.

I had a huge jump in strength endurance that year and for the remainder of my time at Kenyon. We were never training beyond our abilities, and injuries were very low that year. One of the side benefits of the collaboration between coaches was a great relationship between the two teams. Steen knew our names and was incredibly interested in our sport as well.

— **Justin Lee '88**

Fall/Winter 2020

A sweet (belated) new year

A belated thank you for sharing Bethany Foner's “Maple Apple Upside Down Cake” recipe in the Fall/Winter 2020 issue. After substituting honey for the sugar and half of the maple syrup, it was the perfect dessert for a Rosh Hashanah get-together with family. For those who don't know, a Jewish New Year tradition is to eat apples and honey. As my 7-year-old cousin said, “It's a sweet treat for a sweet new year!” And this really was.

— **Jacob Howley '03**

The Summer 2024 issue inspired many of you to share your memories. You can read additional letters at bulletin.kenyon.edu.

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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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CORRECTIONS

The first name of filmmaker Asghar Farhadi (“A Separation”) was misspelled on page 10 of the Spring 2024 “60-second syllabus” recommended viewing list. In the same issue, on page 44, we printed the wrong class year for Timothy P. O’Neill ’76 in a class note. We regret the errors.

Editor’s Letter

This Is What It Feels Like

Last year, a series of serendipitous events led to a piece of art by Kefa Memeh ’22 finding a home on the living-room wall of actor and producer Viola Davis — and, from there, onto the cover of *Architectural Digest*.

“I am a planner. What am I doing tomorrow? It’s scheduled. What do I want my life to look like in a year? It’s written down. But an *Architectural Digest* cover? It wouldn’t have occurred to me as something I wanted to manifest,” Memeh told writer Erin Peterson in “This Is What It Feels Like To ...” (page 18). Memeh is one of eight alumni who shared with Peterson how it felt to stand in their shoes during extraordinary moments.

For Memeh, the *Architectural Digest* cover marked a turning point in her career, bringing with it an unexpected life lesson. “I write things down because I think I’ll have a level of control over them, but what is actually in your control is putting in the work,” she said. “You can’t know what’s coming for you! You can only do what you’re doing right now, and know that what is coming toward you might actually be better than what you imagined.”

Last year, when we learned my wife was pregnant with our first child, my desire to plan for the unplannable took over: I drowned our coffee table in baby books and then created a massive checklist that my wife never used.

When we brought our son, Emmett, home from the hospital, I realized that while I’d spent months preparing for every possible mishap (that never happened), I was comically unprepared for the joy and happiness he would bring — and for how completely he’d reshape my priorities. Becoming Emmett’s mom has been even better, in every way, than I could have imagined.

Here at Kenyon — and in my own home — 2024 has been a year of reflection and growth, and these themes are woven throughout this issue as well. In addition to “This Is What It Feels Like To ...,” you’ll find a special section celebrating the record-breaking success of Kenyon’s *Our Path Forward* to the Bicentennial campaign and a profile of Bridget Brink ’91, the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, who credits her Kenyon education with teaching her to “act and lead with your values” (page 28).

As we look beyond Kenyon’s bicentennial and plan for the future, all we can do is continue to put in the work and know that what’s coming toward us *might be even better* than what we imagined.

— Elizabeth Weinstein

EDITOR, KENYON ALUMNI MAGAZINE

Our Path

Forward

A Special Section

Reflecting on a record-breaking campaign — and what comes next

OUR SUMMER bicentennial issue was packed with 200 things to love about Kenyon.

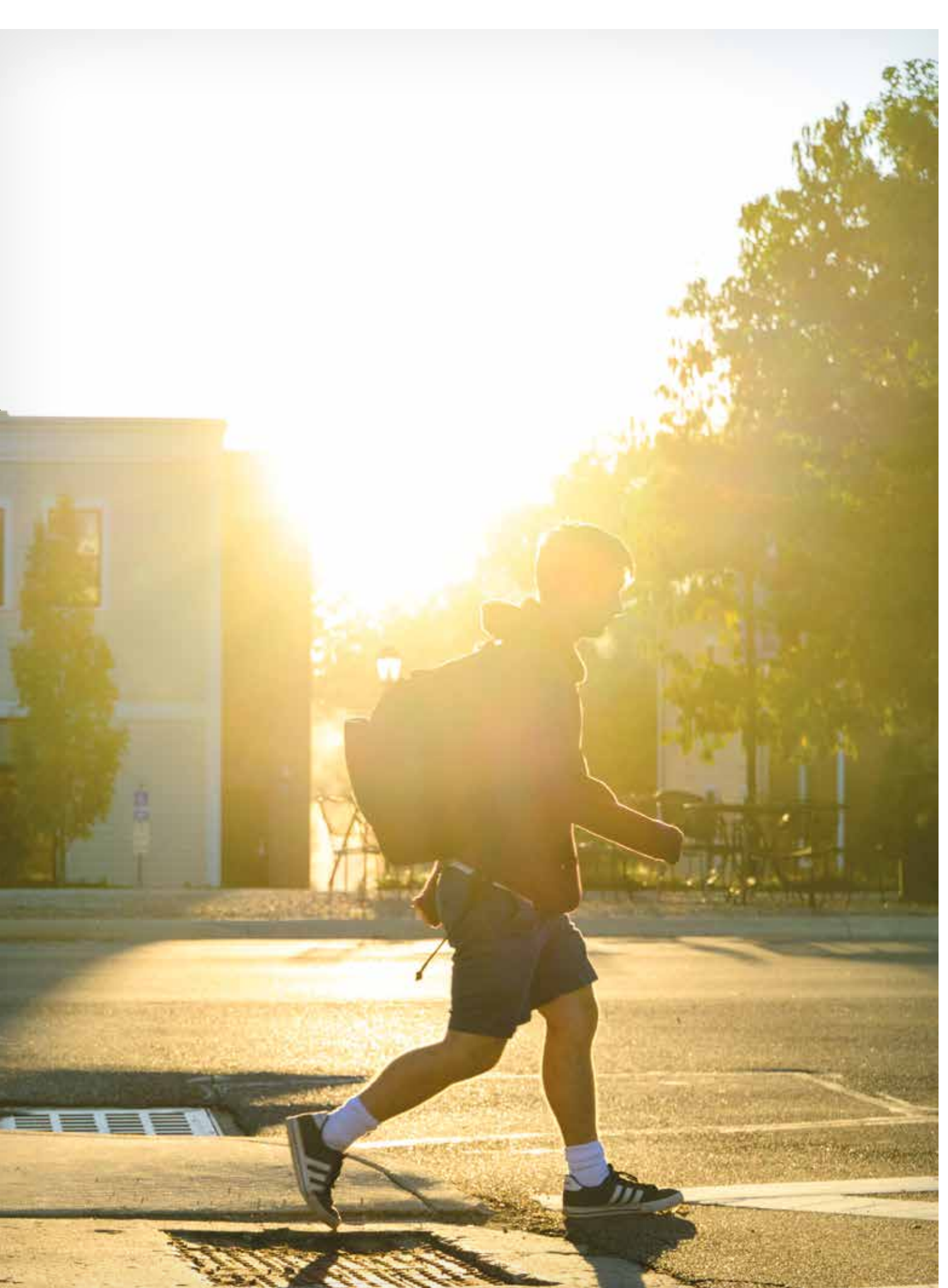
Few of the crowdsourced items featured — from favorite professors to rituals, traditions and study spots — happened by accident.

As you'll read in this special section, much of what we all love about Kenyon is made possible through philanthropy and, as Founders' Day reminds us each year, it always has been.

The Our Path Forward to the Bicentennial campaign, which concluded on June 30, 2024, was the most successful in Kenyon College history. Nearly 23,000 people gave during the full nine-year campaign, from students giving \$1 to a record \$100 million gift, for a grand total of \$532,122,343.

We hope you'll enjoy reading about the many ways such generosity is enhancing campus, supporting students today and building the foundation for Kenyon's third century.









Our Path
Forward

\$532 million is only the beginning

Examining the impact — and work left to do — after the record-breaking Our Path Forward to the Bicentennial campaign

BY MOLLY VOGEL '00

PHOTOS BY REBECCA KIGER

ELLE LYNN BADER-GREGORY '26 ALWAYS looks forward to dinnertime in Peirce, a chance to gather with her friends and chat about their day. They trade stories about classes in religious studies, art history, sociology and organic chemistry. Bader-Gregory, a psychology and English major with an emphasis on creative writing, values these moments of connection with peers outside her academic department.

“Each year, we have no choice but to turn away outstanding students because Kenyon cannot meet their full financial need.”

—Diane Anci, vice president for enrollment

Like many Kenyon students, Bader-Gregory seizes the opportunities available to her. She has served on Student Council’s safety and wellness committee, volunteered as a campus mediator and with fifth-graders at Wiggin Street Elementary School, and worked as an assistant with Special Collections and Archives. After graduation, she hopes to attend graduate school for social work or school psychology.

Bader-Gregory, who is from Buffalo, New York, worked two jobs over the summer. Like many Kenyon students, she is able to attend Kenyon because of scholarship support, with gifts made by past Kenyon students who also came together each day in Peirce.

Kenyon has many proud traditions; generosity may be its most important one.

Our Path Forward ...

Bader-Gregory receives the Sean M. Decatur Endowed Scholarship, named for Kenyon’s 19th president. Initially introduced as the President’s Fund, with generous leadership from former Board of Trustees Chair Barry F. Schwartz ’70 H’15, then renamed after Decatur announced his departure in late 2022, the scholarship has one goal: admit more talented students regardless of their families’ finances.

This sounds straightforward. It is not.

Kenyon’s resources make admitting students without considering their financial need a challenge. The relatively small size of the College’s endowment means a smaller annual payout, leaving the College’s operating budget to rely heavily on tuition revenue — the higher education version of living paycheck to paycheck. Even with careful budget management, it’s hard to flip the equation to greater endowment return and less tuition dependence, as is ideal and the case at institutions that can afford to be need-blind.

This is where campaigns come in. They are the megaphone through which donors — everyone who loves Kenyon, i.e. alumni, parents, students, faculty and staff — are invited to invest in Kenyon’s future and support current students.

Growing scholarship funds and enhancing the campus were at the heart of Our Path Forward when it was publicly launched in October 2018 — following three years of quiet, earnest fundraising to build the foundation — with a goal of \$300 million and a planned conclusion in 2021. An anonymous gift of \$100 million to construct suite-style residence halls on the south end of campus supercharged the campaign in early 2021, and allowed for a new goal of \$500 million and continuation until June 30, 2024, during the bicentennial year. (Kenyon donors were responding; why take our foot off the gas?)

The results are nothing short of historic, thanks to the combined investment of 22,886 people — including 62 percent of all alumni, or three out of every five people reading this story.

Kenyon had never before attempted such a bold campaign. The previous campaign, under President Georgia Nugent, set out to raise \$230 million and concluded in 2011 with \$240 million given for scholarships and the arts. (See footer for the history of campaigns at Kenyon.)

Decatur recalled the enormity — and urgency — of the challenge. “Kenyon needed to increase access for underrepresented students and those from lower socioeconomic backgrounds as well as do more to recruit and support a diverse community; and at the same time, the College needed to improve the campus to adapt to 21st-century learning and living,” he said.

“Three-hundred million was bold — but necessary — to accelerate Kenyon’s progress in these critical areas. We knew it was lofty. We also knew that with broad support from the generous Kenyon community, it was achievable. The fact that Kenyon eventually surpassed \$500 million is a testament to the fact that our community understood the importance and urgency of this investment.”

\$110 million for scholarships

For too long, Kenyon’s budget model — needing tuition dollars to pay the bills — has made money a deciding factor for admission. Said Diane Anci, vice president for enrollment and dean of admis-

A History of Generosity

Kenyon has always benefited from philanthropy, but the structure of fundraising campaigns is relatively new to the College. Public dates are reflected here.

1946

The College’s first public fundraising campaign seeks just over \$2 million for capital projects and the endowment.

1974-1977

Sesquicentennial Campaign raises \$17 million for faculty development and financial aid as well as the construction of Bolton Theater.

1984-1989

The Campaign for Kenyon focuses on expansion of the faculty and scholarships and raises \$36 million.

1998-2001

Claiming Our Place, with honorary co-chairs Paul Newman ’49 and Joanne Woodward, concludes with \$116 million raised with an emphasis on science and music facilities as well as increased support for faculty and scholarships.

Our Path Forward



CAPITAL PROJECT

West Quad: A welcoming center

A new, light-filled home for admissions, Lowell House, spills onto the West Quad, with ready access to neighboring Chalmers Library and Oden Hall.

sions and financial aid: “Each year, we have no choice but to turn away outstanding students because Kenyon cannot meet their full financial need. These are high-achieving students, highly rated for admission, who want to come here.”

This is the reality for a school that, only 45 years ago, had an endowment of just \$8.7 million — even adjusted for inflation, that is peanuts — and has labored to catch up.

Yet again and again during the campaign, donors stepped up. Thousands combined to give \$110 million to endowed scholarship funds. Invested with the College’s endowment, their payout will provide between \$4 and \$5 million

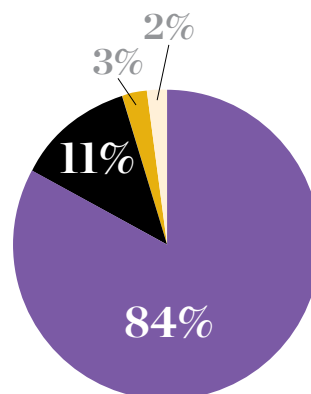
2007-2011

We Are Kenyon raises \$240 million with an emphasis on scholarships and the arts. It also provides for construction of the North Campus Apartments, Gund Gallery and Horvitz Hall as well as extensive renovations to Peirce Hall.

WHY CAMPAIGNS MATTER

Endowment 101

Endowments are investments in the future. Like a 401(k), the funds are invested and the earnings can be spent each year. Kenyon spends 4-5 percent of these earnings each year; this year, that provides 11 percent of our operating revenue. To become less tuition-dependent and be able to admit more students regardless of need, Kenyon must continue to grow its endowment.



Funding Sources
2024-2025

Even with significant fundraising success, the relatively small portion of Kenyon’s revenue coming from endowment payout makes us highly dependent on tuition.

- Tuition and Fees
- Endowment Income
- Annual Gifts
- Other

CAPITAL PROJECT

Oden Hall: Making connections

Purpose-built for collaboration by architect Graham Gund '63 H'81, Oden Hall is a new hub for the social sciences and for interdisciplinary teaching and learning.

for scholarships annually, forever. This has helped the College nearly double the amount of budgeted financial aid since the campaign began, with nearly \$66 million for 2024-25 representing a full third of the operating budget. Including gifts to the Kenyon Fund and other annual funds, this academic year Kenyon was able to provide some form of scholarship or financial aid to 85 percent of all students.

These are students like Bader-Gregory, who thinks of Kenyon as a second home. The kind of students we want at Kenyon.

Learning beyond the classroom

Kenyon was also the top choice for L.J. Dusthimer '19, who grew up in nearby Danville, Ohio. "I was lucky to receive a large amount of financial aid, which made the decision for me to come to Kenyon possible," she said.

Once on campus, although she thought she might pursue political science, the classes she selected naturally pointed her toward international studies. "I grew up in a small town, so for me, learning about global political systems, economic and cultural — it was all new. It was appealing to learn about different perspectives. International studies is so interdisciplinary: history, political science, sociology, economics. It felt like a holistic take on the world," she said.

"I also was lucky to have a number of friendships with international students and in some ways, it felt like I was always in the classroom, because I could always talk to them about what I was studying."

The summer before her senior year she had the opportunity to study intensive Arabic at Qalam wa Lawh Institute in Rabat, Morocco, thanks to funding from the Andrew Driscoll Pochter '15 Memorial International Studies Fund, created by Pochter's parents. "The opportunity I got to study abroad definitely helped me decide on the career path I was interested in. Without the financial help, I wouldn't have been able to go to Morocco or improve my Arabic," she said.

After graduation, she won a Fulbright Fellowship to teach English in Malaysia, although that was interrupted by the pandemic. She went on to receive the Thomas R. Pickering Graduate Foreign Affairs Fellowship, funded by the U.S. Department of State, and administered by Howard University. In January, she'll begin her career with the Foreign Service.

Like Dusthimer, today's Kenyon students are encouraged to put words to ideas and put those ideas into practice. Funding for such high-impact experiences, or experiential learning, was a campaign priority; donors combined to give nearly \$30 million to make them attainable for more students.

This past summer, students received campaign-funded support for internships with



regional theaters and a Hollywood-based management and production firm (Harlene Marley Endowed Fund for Internships); graphic design sales and a journal of religion and public life (P. F. Kluge Collegian Fund for student journalists); a medical school doing data analysis (DKE Fraternity Internships Fund); a youth development center (Goode Internship Fund for the Career Development Office) and more.

Our Path Forward



Many students also took advantage of professional opportunities on campus this summer. Nearly 150 Kenyon students — including more than 100 Summer Scholars — conducted research or pursued other work with faculty and staff. Last summer, Jeremy Roberts '26, from Richmond, Indiana, was one of those students. He also receives the Decatur Scholarship and is a STEM Scholar, which comes with a four-year financial aid package as well

as a book and supply allowance, both of which made attending Kenyon possible for the son of a retired small business owner and public school teacher. "There were some really scary financial constraints," he said. "I was really so grateful and I wouldn't have gone to Kenyon if it wasn't for that (aid)."

As a Summer Scholar, Roberts worked with Ruth Heindel of the environmental studies faculty and two other students to study glacial

“The opportunity to study abroad definitely helped me decide on the career path I was interested in. Without the financial help, I wouldn’t have been able to go to Morocco or improve my Arabic.”

— **L.J. Dusthimer '19**, who is entering the Foreign Service

dust samples Heindel brought back from the McMurdo Dry Valleys in Antarctica’s Victoria Land. (Pause one second on how cool that is.) The group traveled to Ohio State University twice a week to use a scanning electron microscope, giving the students invaluable research lab experience.

Heindel is the inaugural Dorothy and Thomas Jegla Assistant Professor of Environmental Stud-

ies, one of 10 positions endowed by donors during the campaign: two with The Gund, two with the Kenyon Review, one head coach and five faculty (see list on page 16). In creating these endowments, donors ensure the position will be funded in perpetuity, which in turn relieves pressure on the operating budget.

Last January, Roberts and his roommate entered the housing lottery and scored a coveted



CAPITAL PROJECT

Bexley Hall: From seminary to suites

Kenyon kicked off its bicentennial celebrations on January 8, 2024, with the reopening of Bexley Hall as a student residence. The former seminary, originally constructed in 1839, was restored with room for 40 residents in suite-style housing with common living rooms and kitchens. Colburn Hall, an attached addition located behind Bexley and originally used as a library, is now an enhanced space for student events.

Additional Campus Improvements

Philanthropy touched each region of campus and its surrounding areas. Other projects not pictured:

Wright Center Kenyon opened its first satellite space in Mount Vernon in 2017, in a renovated Buckeye Candy and Tobacco Company building. The center is home to the film program and the Office for Community Partnerships as well as a nonprofit specializing in science-based play.

English Quad Keithley House, named by Daniel Matthew Voorhees '95 in honor of his English teacher mother, Marilee Keithley Roche, and Waite House, dedicated for former trustee Charles P. Waite P'77; 81 GP'06; 10 H'97, completed this writers' region in 2018.

Philander Chase Conservancy With donor funds, easements were established through the land trust to preserve the rural beauty of the land surrounding campus, including a connector to the Brown Family Environmental Center and an historic farm of more than 100 acres.

The Annex A satellite location for The Gund, the world-class teaching museum, opened in downtown Mount Vernon in 2023 with a mission of arts education.

Our Path Forward



“The Kenyon campus, the place that is Kenyon, exists as a living demonstration of the lesson that the College itself exists to teach: we learn from the past not to be caught within it, not to be limited by it, but to be inspired by it to help us make a richer, more meaningful present. At Kenyon, not only does East meet the Midwest. The past meets present, and they are the better for it.”

— **Paul Goldberger P’04 H’05**, Pulitzer Prize-winning architecture critic and Kenyon emeritus trustee, in “Place and Purpose: Kenyon at 200”

double room in newly renovated Bexley Hall — a project made possible in part by donor funding. “It was the greatest thing ever. No words can describe how amazing it was,” Roberts said. “We moved in on a snowy night and it felt magical.”

Enhancing the campus

In September 2017, President Decatur and then-Board of Trustees Chair Brackett B. Denniston III ’69 announced that Kenyon had received the

South Quad An anonymous gift of \$100 million largely funded two new South Campus residences. The names honor two of Kenyon’s most generous supporters and volunteer leaders. Thomas Hall, for Emeritus Trustee Richard L. Thomas ’53 H’72 P’81, opens in January 2025 with Winkler Hall, for former Trustee Matt Winkler ’77 P’13 H’00, opening in the fall.

largest gift in its history: \$75 million from an anonymous donor. The gift largely funded the West Quad and inspired other donors to join in that capital investment and set the pace for forward progress. The quad replaced confused, conjoined Olin and Chalmers Libraries, created a new home for admissions in Lowell House and grouped faculty in the social sciences together in Oden Hall. It also allowed for a campus first: an underground parking garage that alleviates car clutter above ground and makes for a cozier commute around the quad in winter.

The new Chalmers Library, which opened in 2021, also made possible the relocation and centralization of student resources including academic advising, student accessibility and support services, career development, the writing center and registrar. In addition to sporting dozens of reservable study rooms and quiet nooks throughout, its lower levels house Kenyon’s collection with room to grow.

The West Quad was designed by renowned architect Graham Gund ’63 H’81, whom architecture critic Paul Goldberger P’04 H’05 calls “in effect,

“I’m really, really proud that I went to an institution that puts that care into making sure their students come from literally everywhere.”

— Ethan Parks '24, KEEP Scholar

Who donated?

22,886
Total People

12,272
Alumni
(62% of all alumni)

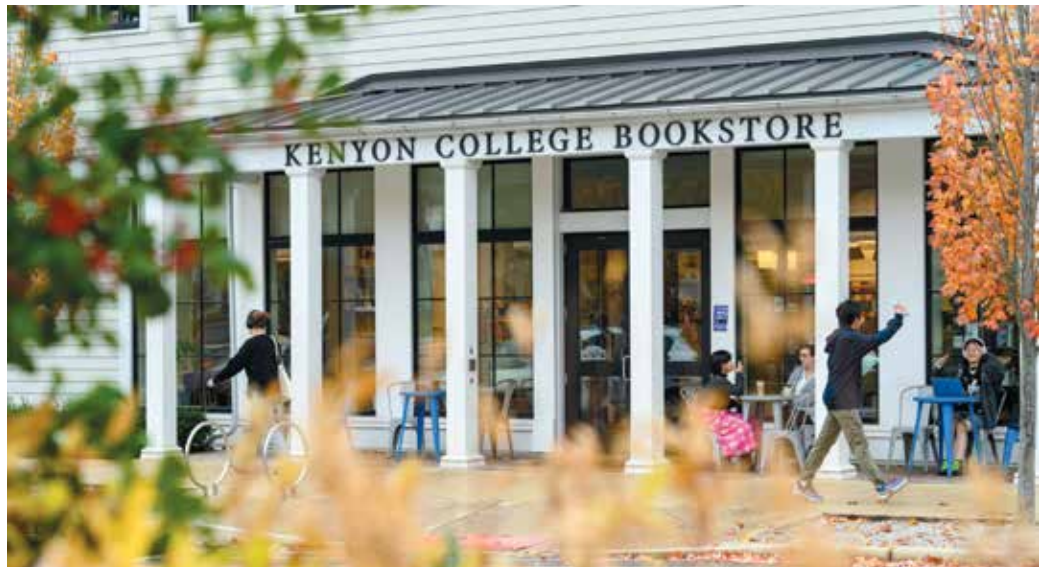
7,352
Parents

877
Grandparents

313
Employees

147
Students

1,925
Others



CAPITAL PROJECT

Village revitalization: Updating downtown

A renewed Gambier center debuted in 2019, part of a multi-phase project that included renovation of the Kenyon College Bookstore, relocation of the Village Market to a modern space across Middle Path and replacement of Farr Hall with new retail and student apartment spaces.

Kenyon’s official architect” as the designer of Storer Hall, the 1999 addition to Rosse Hall, and every major addition since. With the new library, Gund had a chance to correct crowding along Middle Path caused by the close placement of Olin, which Goldberger called “one of the most dysfunctional and ill-suited buildings Kenyon has ever built.”

Chalmers, he wrote, is “like most of Gund’s work at Kenyon, an attempt to straddle both modern and traditional styles ... the library’s design both relates to the older stone academic buildings along Middle Path and, with a large, glass-enclosed central atrium, brings a crisp, bright energy to the center of campus.”

“I like working in a context — having buildings that are new but also relate to the historic buildings,” Gund told Matt Winkler ’77 H’00 P’13 in “Place and Purpose.”

In September, it was announced that one of the new South Campus residence halls would be named for Winkler, a longtime former trustee and one of the College’s most generous donors, along with Emeritus Trustee Richard L. Thomas ’53 H’72 P’81. Thomas Hall opens to students in January; Winkler Hall will open in fall 2025.

Such care for context is a central reason that Kenyon’s campus has been able to evolve with the times while preserving the past. The revitalization of the village core — including the Bookstore in Farr Hall, the addition of new retail

spaces and apartments and the relocation of the Village Market to the corner of Chase Avenue and Brooklyn Street — was a substantial overhaul, but it still *feels* the same.

Likewise, Chalmers Library and Thomas and Winkler residence halls, whose stone comes from the same local geologic formation of sandstone that has been used recently on the Peirce Hall addition and Gund Gallery.

Additional care was paid to Bexley Hall’s masonry to faithfully restore the building with period-correct stone and architectural details, preserving its Gothic exterior while updating the interior to contemporary standards for residential spaces.

All of these new or renovated buildings were included in the College’s 2014 master plan or reflected in the priorities identified in a student housing study in the fall of 2020. Their construction could not have happened without significant donor investment. So while air conditioning in every building and replacement of the New Apartments are important, those and many other updates will need to wait until funding is available — and that funding will most likely require significant philanthropic investment.

Annual funds gifts make a daily difference

Ethan Parks ’24, from Fort Worth, Texas, was

Our Path Forward

the first in his family to attend college. He went to a rural high school and was a National Merit Finalist who majored in French while taking classes in environmental studies, computer science, Russian and English. After graduating in May, he started a program through the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education, while also teaching French at a small private school in Massachusetts.

“The scholarships I received were the number one reason I attended Kenyon,” he said, recalling that he was overjoyed at the news. “It really felt like I was plucked, very luckily, almost like a lottery of students from my high school who got to leave the state.”

Parks came to Kenyon before his first year as a Kenyon Educational Enrichment Program (KEEP) Scholar, helping him acclimate to college life and meet a cohort of first-gen and underrepresented students like him. He went on to serve as president of the affinity group FiGLi (First-Generation Low-Income Student Organization). “Kenyon is just doing an amazing job supporting these students. I’m really, really proud that I went to an institution that puts that care into making sure their students come from literally everywhere,” he said.

Parks’ significant scholarship support came not from endowed funds but from the College’s operating budget. Such financial aid is directly supported by giving to the College’s annual funds, including the Kenyon Fund and Kenyon Parents Fund — those emails, letters and postcards that come from the College several times a year. Gifts to the annual funds were another campaign priority, supported by senior class gifts, reunion giving and giving challenges (Kenyon Together, 43022 Day, Bicentennial Spirit Week, etc.), combining to inspire donors to give a cumulative \$46,768,722 to annual operating budgets. Many alumni — and students — made their first gifts to Kenyon during the

campaign, beginning a philanthropic relationship with the College that will be necessary for a third century of academic excellence.

... To the Bicentennial

At the campaign’s end, every region of Kenyon’s campus has been transformed or rejuvenated through philanthropy, which also will grow the endowment by \$138,761,361.

This is incredible.

It is also, by necessity, only the beginning.

For Kenyon to enroll the most talented students regardless of finances in an increasingly competitive higher education landscape, it must be able to offer more aid — both need- and merit-based.

President Julie Kornfeld, who began as Kenyon’s 20th president in October 2023, is a vocal advocate for the liberal arts with aspirations to continue the powerful progress of the campaign. “A Kenyon education teaches students how to gather and synthesize information and consider it critically; it also trains them to examine all sides of a question, seek out different views and understand context. We need more of these thinkers tackling the world’s greatest challenges, particularly at this moment in the world,” she said.

“I am profoundly grateful to the more than 22,000 people who responded to the priorities of the campaign and see clearly this value of a Kenyon education. I am further gratified that the Kenyon community understands that diverse voices and experiences enrich us all and that to truly live our values we must continue to ensure that access to a Kenyon education is a priority. Kenyon and our community are better for it.”

And so, as the College wraps up celebrating 200 years throughout 2024, we marvel at what was made possible by the combined generosity of so many: 22,886 people giving \$532 million to build momentum for Kenyon’s third century. The path, still, leads forward. κ



Gifts to the annual funds impact every aspect of a student’s experience and are helping to provide financial aid to 85 percent of all students this year.

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WHY GIVING MATTERS

Endowed Positions

Through gifts, donors created permanent endowed funding sources for 10 positions during the campaign.

Ashby E.A. Denoon
Professorship in Neuroscience
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Kenyon Review Fellows
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(open position)

Lords and Ladies Alumni
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Jessen Book '01

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FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

'A delightfully untethered curiosity'

YUTAN GETZLER, PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY
PAMELA G. HOLLIE CHAIR IN GLOBAL CHALLENGES

Hometown: Redlands Mesa, Colorado

Years at Kenyon: 20 (!)

The Pamela G. Hollie Endowed Chair was established to recognize faculty addressing global challenges. How can plastics research save the planet? If we continue on our current path, plastics will account for at least 15 percent of the global carbon budget by 2050. This makes solving the plastics problem a gigaton emissions challenge. Most of these emissions are due to single-use applications, which is why organizations like the Ellen MacArthur Foundation advocate for a circular economy. Simultaneously, the strong, light, durable materials we need to make more energy-efficient homes, automobiles, airplanes and windmill blades are nearly all synthetic plastics or composites.

What excites you most about the work you're doing now? Mostly, I am excited to be doing something that I think matters — working with early-career scientists on problems that are relevant to the climate crisis.

Why do this research at Kenyon? There is a kind of delightfully untethered curiosity that runs rampant among so many students here. Yes, many of them have well-defined professional goals, even in their first year. But even as many

Our Path Forward



aspects of the world feel increasingly precarious, much of society still seems to broadly accept that encouraging curiosity is one of the best ways to help young people grow.

What was your dream job as a kid? I wanted to be a designer for Lego. I attribute much of my abilities as a chemist to the low quality of the Lego instruction manuals in the '80s. You were given one view, and I don't think all the pieces being used in a step were clearly called out. You had to be able to imagine the object in three dimensions and do a fair bit of figuring out, including referencing later views. As an organic chemist, that's still a lot of what I do.

What's one thing people would be surprised to learn about you? I did not have the formal requirements to graduate with a chemistry degree from Beloit College. I started college intending to study neuroscience but then moved through molecular biology and biochemistry before finding myself as a scientist. By then it was my senior year and I couldn't take all the required courses. I was already applying to graduate programs in chemistry and had so clearly become a chemist that the department chair generously signed off on my "special chemistry" degree.

— RYAN E. SMITH

St
g
n



This is what it feels like to...

BY ERIN PETERSON

ILLUSTRATIONS BY VALERIE CHIANG

WHEN PEOPLE LEARN THAT PHYSICIST LINDSEY BLEEM '05 has spent several months of her life at the Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station as part of her work for Argonne National Laboratory, they're often curious about the location's bone-chilling cold. "The Scandinavians say there's no bad weather, just bad clothing, and that applies there," she explains matter-of-factly.

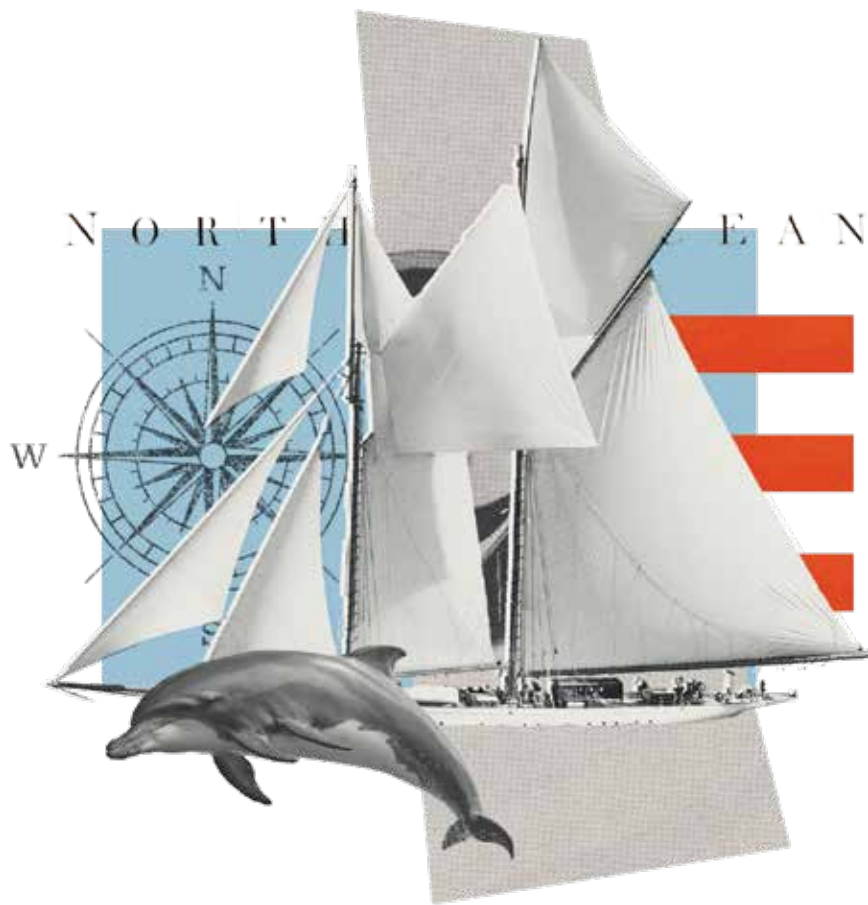
But Bleem says that the temperatures are only the start. The South Pole research station sits at a literally breathtaking altitude of about 10,000 feet. "It's also (part of) the world's largest desert, bigger than the Sahara," she says.

Those extremes — paired with the barriers to getting there in the first place, whether as a scientist or an electrician — mean it attracts all sorts of unconventional personalities. "Some of the people there are 19, and they want to see the world, and others are 45 and want a (midlife) adventure. Everyone has an interesting pathway there," she says.

Bleem's time in one of the planet's harshest environments is unique — but she's also one of countless Kenyon alumni who have had the opportunity to experience things that few others on the planet have.

For this story, we give you a front-row seat to learn from fellow alumni what it was like to be in their shoes for some unforgettable experiences.

What does it feel like to live on a sailboat in the middle of the ocean? To have your brand-new restaurant land on one of the most prestigious best restaurant lists in the country? To solve a months-long medical mystery? Here, alumni share those moments in their own words.



WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO sail over 25,000 ocean miles

What's it like to be on a sailboat in the middle of the ocean? Well, you're always moving: the boat is always going up and down waves, and often leaning to one side, depending on what side the wind is pushing on. Whenever you're walking, you're in a crouch, because you're balancing your body all the time. Even when you're sleeping, you're often bracing yourself.

There's also the noise: when you're down inside the boat, you can hear the water rushing by, the boat creaking as it moves up the wave, and the people pulling lines in on the deck. People tend to like it, but it's constant.

The feeling of being in nature, in the middle of a blue expanse of ocean, never gets old. And there are things that you get to see that feel almost magical. In the middle of the night, for example, you might see dolphins swimming through bioluminescence. Dolphins are so

playful: they'll play in the wake of the boat, and there might be dozens of them, making their little noises. Or you might see a humpback whale that's bigger than the boat we're on.

And while you're always close together — sleeping just a couple feet away from (your fellow crewmates), sharing a bathroom with seven people — there's something really special about the rhythm you get into with people when you're sailing nonstop. You're living together, keeping the boat moving forward. Everyone rotates: some people are sailing while others are asleep. It's a contained experience. You're basically in a little spaceship, and even if someone has an annoying habit, you learn to live with it in a really small space. Your group becomes a team. Nobody's checking Instagram. You become a weird family.



Emma Garscha-gen '19 is the skipper of Seabird and the founder and owner of Sail Seabird, a Portland, Maine-based business that offers coastal sail training voyages. Over the course of her career, she has logged more than 25,000 ocean miles, including two-week transatlantic crossings.

WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO

get on a 'best restaurants' list

I'll never forget the moment we got our first-ever recognition from a national publication: it was on the New York Times restaurant list of "50 places in America we're most excited about right now."

It happened three months after we opened in 2021. When it happened, (my wife, Tracy, and I) were at another restaurant having dinner with some friends. Our phones started blowing up. Text after text: "Congrats on the list!" And I was like: "What list?"

There had been no precedent for the award — the Times had never done anything like it before. We didn't really know what it meant, we just knew we had made a list.

So we did shots of mezcal at the bar, and then we met up with our team afterward. Just seeing their faces, and how excited they were about being the only Austin, Texas restaurant on a New York Times list, was really meaningful. It was a pure, joyful moment.

Oh, my adrenaline is pumping just thinking about that moment right now. It's hard to overstate how magical that was.

We later learned that nothing moves the needle like the New York Times — we'd start to have lines down the block for people to get in on Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m., and it put us on the map for other publications — but we had no idea at that point.

I still think about that moment a lot. Tracy and I talk about it every year on our anniversary because it is one of the most moving and meaningful experiences we've had as owners.



Arjav Ezekiel '10

is a co-owner of Birdie's restaurant, which opened in 2021. He owns the Austin, Texas-based restaurant with his wife, Tracy Malechek-Ezekiel. Birdie's was named one of Esquire's Best New Restaurants in America and Bon Appétit's 50 Best New Restaurants of 2022. Food & Wine magazine named it Restaurant of the Year in 2023. In August, the New York Times ran an in-depth feature on Ezekiel, in which he shared his family's immigration story.



Aldis Petriceks '17

is a first-year resident physician at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, in Boston, and a clinical fellow in medicine at Harvard Medical School. He has been a hospice care volunteer, authored journal articles about palliative care and plans to pursue a career in gerontology.

WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO

sit with the dying

While I was in college, books about death, like "Being Mortal" by Atul Gawande and "When Breath Becomes Air" by Paul Kalanithi had come out. There was also a remarkable article, ("One Man's Quest to Change the Way We Die"), in the New York Times by the palliative care physician BJ Miller.

I was very curious about how our identities are reshaped by serious, even terminal illness. These were some of the things that made me want to get involved with hospice volunteering, and my time working with a Bay Area hospice organization was a formative time.

I remember spending a lot of time with one patient who passed away after I moved to go to medical school. The patient's family reached out after she had passed to let me know that our relationship had meant a lot to her in the last period of her life.

My time with her was meaningful, but it was not glamorous. I would find her YouTube videos of the small town she was from. We talked about her childhood and her family life. She talked about her illnesses, and how she could feel lonely and cut off from many of her human relationships because she was not very mobile. I might get her into her wheelchair and walk her around her neighborhood so she could see the flowers. If it was dinnertime, I would eat with her.

I might have idealized these moments before I had experienced them, but they didn't necessarily feel profound. They felt natural. This work did not require a tremendous amount of skill — it was more about being present with someone.

The value you can give to — and get from — someone is not about performing in a certain way. It is just by being there.

WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO

have your art featured on the cover of Architectural Digest

I am a planner. What am I doing tomorrow? It's scheduled. What do I want my life to look like in one year? I write it down in my journal. Every dream and goal I have? It's written down. It's a little anxiety-inducing, honestly.

But an Architectural Digest cover? It wouldn't have occurred to me as something I wanted to manifest.

It happened because my boyfriend's mom came to one of my exhibitions and talked about it to her friends. One of her friends is an interior designer who happened to be working on Viola Davis' house at the time. (The designer, Michaela Cadiz) came to my apartment to see my art, and she just started rooting for me. She showed (Davis) my work, and they agreed that they would use it.

When I saw that the Architectural Digest video for Viola Davis' house, called "Welcome to my Home," had come out, I watched it on YouTube. I thought I might get a glimpse of my work for five seconds, and I could copy the link and send the timestamp to my parents. But it wasn't in the video. I knew that it was a possibility that I wouldn't see it, but when it didn't make it, I was extremely down.

It was my birthday, and I was with my sister in Indiana, so I put my phone away for a few hours. When I came back, there were all these texts. I thought they would be happy birthday texts, and the first thing I saw was "Congratulations!" I thought: "That's an interesting way to say 'happy birthday.'"

But then I got screenshots of the print cover. I went back to my sister, grinning. I expected a five-second cameo in the video, and it ended up on the cover.

I thought: I need to go and buy out a store of those magazines right now, but where do you go to buy magazines that just came out when you're in Indiana? The answer is nowhere.

But then my boyfriend FaceTimed me. He was in L.A., and he was literally in front of a newsstand. He had a stack of like 20 copies in his hand that he had already bought.

That experience was a really big lesson for me: I write things down because I think I'll have a level of control over them. But what is actually in your control is putting in the work. You can't know what's coming for you! You can only do what you're doing right now, and know that what is coming toward you might actually be better than what you imagined.



Kefa Memeh '22 is an artist who lives in Los Angeles. Her work is featured prominently at Kenyon, in Lowell House.



Lindsey Bleem '05 is a physicist at Argonne National Laboratory in Lemont, Illinois. In 2008 and 2013, she traveled to the Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station in Antarctica to work with a millimeter wave telescope on research that helps us understand the conditions at the very earliest moments of the universe.

WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO

work at the South Pole

To get to Antarctica, I took a military plane from New Zealand. Even on the plane, you wear your (government-issued) Extreme Cold Weather gear, called ECW. It's the puffy, polar, Canada goose stuff.

On the way, you can look through the little portholes on the plane and see land that nobody has ever walked on. More people have climbed Mount Everest than have gone to the South Pole.

At some points, the temperature got to about minus 60 when I was there, but it was sunny, and (more typically) about minus 15. Plus, it's a dry cold, not a damp cold, like the Midwest. Yes, it's very cold, but I've also felt colder in Chicago.

But there are other things that are striking: the altitude, for one. You're sitting at about 10,000 feet, and it takes awhile to adjust to that. The snow is like styrofoam, and you can pick up huge blocks of it and toss it. It's also such an extreme environment that if you cut yourself, it doesn't really heal.

I remember landing at McMurdo Sound. There are still huts from the first Antarctic expeditions there in the 1900s, including those of (explorers Robert Falcon) Scott and (Ernest) Shackleton. There's a cross and a memorial, and these are all just a short distance from the scientific station.

There's something about (that memorial) that really (cements) the feeling that Antarctica is the unknown continent. It's wild. It's dangerous. You're constantly aware that you're in an environment that will try to kill you.



WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO

never listen to the same song twice

When I was at Kenyon, I was always down studying in the audition room next to the radio studio. There were walls of records, and I'd pull the ones I didn't recognize and listen to them. I'd do that all day.

Years later, I got a job at the Center for Folklife at the Smithsonian, which was founded on the idea that there were all sorts of community traditions that have been going on for a very long time, and that should be treasured. That includes music. We hold a festival every year that features people from all over, playing different styles of music — things you'd never even know existed.

For example, there's music that the Yaqui (Indigenous people) who live near the border of Mexico play called chicken scratch

music. It's sort of a scratchy fiddle with an accordion. There's overtone throat singing, where one person sings with two voices at one time.

I'm fascinated by music in all its forms — I soak it in like a sponge. I like it when I'm somewhere and something catches my ear: What is it? How do they do it? Emotionally, I just try to be in it. I don't overthink it.

At home, I have about eight terabytes of audio that I stream — almost 290,000 tracks — and I listen to them randomly. An old fiddle tune, a Japanese song, Led Zeppelin.

Repetition? That's a negative to me. There's a tiki bar I go to, and if I hear even two notes of "Sweet Caroline" or "Brown-Eyed Girl," I'm like: ugh.



Jeff Place '79 is a curator and senior archivist with the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage. He has been nominated for 10 Grammys and has won three, including two in 1998 for Best Historical Album and Best Album Notes. Both awards recognized his work for the "Anthology of American Folk Music — 1997 Expanded Edition."



WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO

solve a medical mystery

When I was at Vanderbilt, I was often the third or fourth allergy doctor that patients had seen to try to get to the bottom of what was going on with them. They might drive three, four, six hours to see me. Some even flew.

When people came to see me, my feeling was always: I'm going to roll up my sleeves and crack this mystery. The cases can be bizarre, but I also knew it was my responsibility.

In the case featured by the New York Times, the patient had come to see me because of her hives and itching. Itching has a worse effect on quality of life than even pain. She came back three or four different times, and I had thrown the entire kitchen sink at it. Then we tested her for a delayed red meat allergy. It came back positive, and her turnaround was remarkable.

To solve people's cases, I read a lot, I go to a lot of conferences, and I absorb as much as I can about a wider range of diseases. I talk to people doing the research and reach out to international experts.

In some ways, it feels like this work allows me to embrace my creativity as a doctor: I'm not following a template of what's worked before for other people. It feels like I'm drawing new connections between all of the knowledge I have in order to produce something that's unique. I like putting the clues together to make a diagnosis.

When you can say to someone: "I think I know what's going on with you," and when you realize they've never heard (your solution) to their particular problem, it's the most satisfying thing. They just light up. It's amazing. You can see the life come back into their eyes.



Basil Kahwash '10

is an allergist and immunologist for Ohio ENT and Allergy. From 2020 to 2024, he worked as an assistant professor of medicine at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, often seeing patients with tough-to-solve allergy-related challenges. In 2022, one of his cases was featured in the New York Times "Diagnosis" section.

WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO

watch your business school case studies play out at the speed of technology

During my time at Harvard Business School (1996-98), the world was in the very early stages of the digital revolution, and I was taking a seminal class about how traditional businesses may be disrupted by emerging commerce models on the internet. One of our case studies explored the battle for online books that was raging between Amazon and Barnes & Noble. In typical smug, pre-M.B.A. self-confidence, we all concluded Barnes & Noble would win the war. Jeff Bezos — before he was Jeff Bezos — was in the classroom as a guest speaker and conceded that we were probably right about the book business — but he didn't care. He then went on to explain his vision of building a marketplace where you could buy anything you could possibly want on one site, in one transaction. The whole class burst out laughing at this absurd idea, which flew in the face of prevailing retail market trends that were going to define shopping in the new millennium. Needless to say, we all found ourselves choking on a heaping dish of crow that I can still taste to this day, and I had my first real lesson in the hazards of relying on conventional wisdom during times of transformational change.

After I graduated in 1998, I went to work for BMG, one of the “big five” global music conglomerates. At the time, the music business was nearly all physical CDs sold through brick-and-mortar retailers, and our classroom debates about disruptive technology had little relevance. However, there was a growing buzz in the industry about something called an MP3 file and BMG needed someone to jump in to see what all the fuss was about. The business of music hadn't changed much over the previous few decades, and there weren't a lot of volunteers lining up to spend their valuable time deciphering new technology and contemplating new business models. Coincidentally, I had written a paper at HBS about how MP3 files could impact the music industry, so I raised my hand.

In my new role as vice president of new media, I was tasked with figuring out how BMG would navigate a theoretical, distant world in which all music would be downloaded or streamed — an exercise dismissed by most of the label elites as a trip to Fantasyland. Then in 1999, Napster launched and upended the entire industry by allowing people to share music files with each other without paying us a dime — suddenly and without warning we found ourselves trying to sell snow in the wintertime. Although the courts would later rule that Napster's service was illegal, it was too late. People wanted to get their music conveniently, instantly and cheaply, and we didn't have a viable alternative to meet their demands; our entire industry was unprepared for the digital revolution.

Business school gave me a view from the ivory tower of the risks and opportunities that evolving technology can present to the corporate establishment — and then I learned this the hard way at BMG. During my 17 years in the video game business with Take-Two Interactive, I've tried to take these lessons to heart and avoid making the same mistakes as an executive, and as a steward of the industry. κ



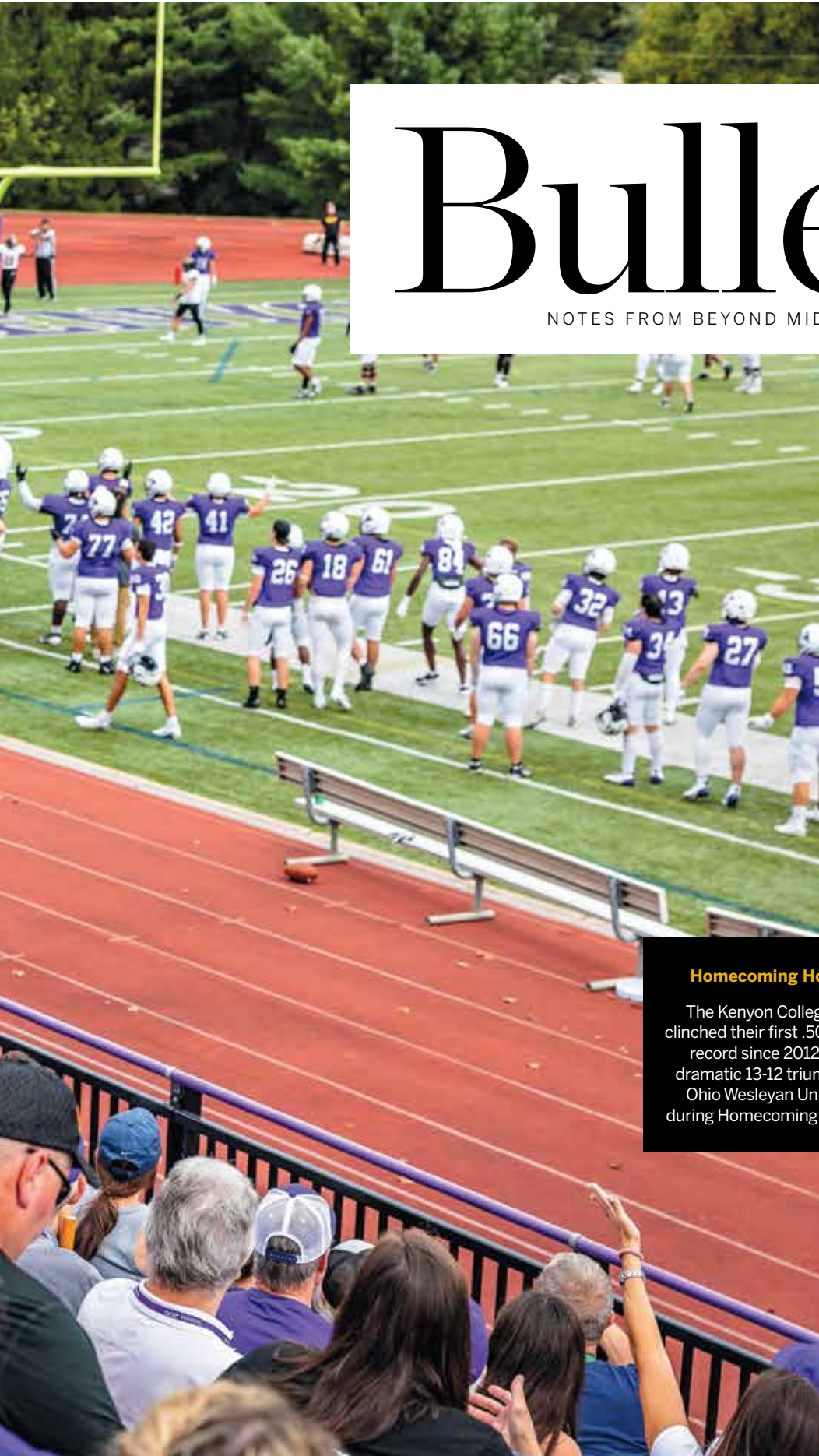
Karl Slatoff '92 is the president of Take-Two Interactive Software, an American video game holding company with a portfolio that includes Grand Theft Auto, NBA2K and Borderlands.

SEND A NOTE TO

editor@kenyon.edu

TO SHARE YOUR OWN
“THIS IS WHAT
IT FEELS LIKE TO”
STORY WITH US.





Bulletin

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Homecoming Hooray!

The Kenyon College Owls clinched their first .500 season record since 2012 with a dramatic 13-12 triumph over Ohio Wesleyan University during Homecoming weekend.

JAMES DECAMP

Quest For Justice

At the pinnacle of a decades-long career in the Foreign Service, Ambassador Bridget Brink '91 relies on lessons she first learned at Kenyon to navigate the literal and figurative minefields of Russia's war in Ukraine.

BY DAVID HOYT '14

BRIDGET BRINK '91, THE UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR to Ukraine, spends more time traveling via 19th-century means than you might expect for a 21st-century diplomat. Air travel in a war zone is too dangerous, so in order to get into, out of, and around Ukraine, Brink must travel by railroad, slowly, sometimes under cover of darkness.

During one such night journey, to the port city of Odesa along the Black Sea, Brink woke up to find the train halted, seemingly in the middle of nowhere. Her security staff informed her that there were reports of missiles being launched in their direction, with an unknown destination. Their only option was to stop and wait for the all-clear.

"I worried about my team, and I worried about my family," Brink said. "And I said a little prayer. That's about it. You can't do more than that."

As someone responsible for calming tensions in a war zone, Brink has a lot to worry about most days. Just a few months after Russia commenced a full-scale invasion in February 2022, President Joe Biden nominated Brink, who had been serving

as ambassador to Slovakia since 2019, to be America's top diplomat in Ukraine. She was confirmed by the Senate, unanimously, within weeks.

She also finds herself in the unenviable position of being a studiously apolitical public servant doing a job that is surrounded by politics. Like all ambassadors — but doubly so for those who serve in times of war — her expectation is to walk a fine line: externally, to carefully and precisely articulate the official positions of the United States; internally, to provide expert advice and counsel to her superiors at the State Department and within the White House. Once you add foreign allies and adversaries, Congress, and the media into the mix — well, that might also call for a little bit of prayer and a lot of sitting and waiting.

MARK SCHIEFELBEIN/POOL VIA REUTERS





In Transit

U.S. ambassador to Ukraine Bridget Brink '91 (right) accompanies U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken as he prepares to depart the train station in Kyiv, Ukraine, on September 11, 2024.

A career diplomat, Brink entered the Department of State in 1996 and has served under three Democratic and two Republican administrations since then. President Biden nominated Brink to go to Kyiv — and, before that, President Donald Trump nominated her to go to Bratislava, Slovakia — because of her reputation as one of the State Department’s sharpest and most accomplished professionals on some of the most dynamic posts in Europe. But how did a varsity swimmer from Grand Rapids, Michigan — one who had never even crossed the ocean before she got to college — acquire that reputation? Fortunately, and with the help of another midnight train journey that took her to Poland before she could fly back to the States, Brink was able to visit Kenyon during May’s Bicentennial Reunion celebration to tell her story.

Brink was in many ways a typical Kenyon student. She loved studying with a slice of pizza late at night on the top floor of Ascension, attending Archon Society meetings, and living in a triple room in Hanna Hall. And, unsurprisingly, she was a self-described bookworm.

“I really love school,” she said with a laugh. “I remember after leaving my first year at Kenyon and my mom was driving me back home, she (asked), ‘Well, what do you think?’ ... And I’m like, I love it! I love it because it was like candy for the brain. It was just so fun on every single level to think and learn about things I’d never thought about before.” Brink specifically

abroad office almost on a whim. “I am not sure what prompted me to enter that office,” she said in her Reunion Weekend speech. “But I was curious.” That impromptu visit led Brink to study government and politics at the London School of Economics in the fall of 1989 — the perfect timing to view the fall of the Berlin Wall on a TV screen in a flat shared with 11 other students.

After graduating from Kenyon, Brink returned to the London School of Economics for dual master’s degrees in international relations and political theory. Joining the State Department was a natural next step, although Brink’s eventual specialization in Eastern Europe was not pre-ordained.

“When you start in the Foreign Service, they give you a bid list,” Brink said, explaining that newly trained officers were asked to rank 15 different choices for potential first assignments. “I wanted to go first to China, and my second was West Africa.” It was Brink’s career counselor at the State Department who suggested she bid on Belgrade, the capital of Serbia, amid the back-drop of the Yugoslav Wars.

“What I didn’t know is that call was basically (saying) ‘You’re going to Belgrade unless you tell us no.’ ... So I get to what’s called a Flag Day, and they give you a flag that represents the country to which you’re being assigned for your first tour. ... My name comes up. Belgrade!”

Although Brink was not stationed in an area directly affected by the ongoing regional turmoil, she nonetheless found herself thrown into the deep end, recounting in her Reunion Weekend speech that she was handed a flak jacket and ill-fitting helmet and assigned to visit Kosovo to report on the situation. There, she encountered “families killed, mutilated and left on their front lawns. Houses and lives destroyed with a malice and effort that I didn’t know could be possible,” she recalled, leading her to question whether she was cut out for the career she had chosen.

“I had studied the concepts of justice and injustice, but I had never known or felt what they really meant,” Brink said in her speech. “The violence of the world I saw, even on that first assignment in the Balkans, made real all the things I cared about as a student. ... Those classroom years built the strength to think and work your way through the moments when bad things happen. And this is what is important: to act and lead with your values and, ultimately, use all those critical thinking skills to do the right thing.”

Decades later, when she was nominated for the ambassadorship to Ukraine, Brink had to contend with jumping into a role that was more stressful, and more public, than anything she had previously faced in her career. She had been in war zones before, and been an ambassador before — now, she’d have to do both at once.

“This is what is important: to act and lead with your values and, ultimately, use all those critical thinking skills to do the right thing.”

recalled courses with Associate Professor of Philosophy Juan De Pascuale P’16, as well as political science classes with Professors Peter Ahrens Dorf, Fred Baumann P’18 and Harry Clor H’99, as highlights.

“I didn’t start by thinking I wanted to, you know, change the world,” Brink said. “I started by loving political theory, and loving this idea of what kind of system of governance is the best for people — for all people — and reading Plato and Locke and Hobbes and Rousseau and Machiavelli. Those were perhaps the foundation of my interest in international relations: it starts right there and it starts at Kenyon.”

Brink’s path to the Foreign Service also started at Kenyon, on the day she walked into the study-

“We are working 24/7,” Brink said. “Everyone’s exhausted. We’re asking people to make very tough decisions and recommendations in the context of lack of sleep, very high stress, being away from friends and family, living in a hotel, and doing that over a period of however long they’re posted — so a year, two years, or however long that is. This is not something that is normal diplomatic work, so you need a level of emotional, physical and mental preparation.”

Even with a quarter-century of Foreign Service experience under her belt, the magnitude of the job Brink now faced would challenge any diplomat. Brink credits her team with helping her manage the work. “I arrived in Kyiv with nine other diplomats, and immediately I was doing media and meeting this president (Volodymyr Zelenskyy) who is also world-famous. That is a high-stakes environment.”

“The other advantage I have,” Brink said, with a slight laugh, “is there’s no time to think. ... If I had more time, I’d probably be a bit more worried about, ‘Wow, this could go badly.’ But I have no time, so we have to just do our best.”

Brink’s strategies for handling these high stakes boil down to advice that might also apply to a Kenyon student struggling to balance a heavy course load and extracurricular activities with personal well-being.

“It’s very simple,” she said. “You have to get sleep, as much as you can; that’s really important. You have to try to eat somewhat reasonably ... you have to fuel yourself in a smart way. And you have to get exercise. ... If people are doing those three things to the extent that they can have time to do it, and that they are able to make time to do it, I find that they can manage the stress of the situation. That, and staying connected to family. My husband, Nick, and our two sons are an important part of staying centered.”

Strategies learned at Kenyon about free speech and open debate are also critical to success in her position, Brink said. “It’s important for us to remember how useful it is to have time and space to actually think and debate and argue and try on ideas and hear other ideas, because in life that time condenses really quickly. You have to be able to go through that motion but in a much speedier way, and you learn how to do that (at Kenyon.)

“I’m a big believer in free speech, so I think it’s important to have that opportunity to speak out. ... In democracies, we have to find space where people can share their views because often it’s isolating to be in leadership positions, and if you don’t hear alternative viewpoints, you can’t always make the best decision.”

Brink is also more visible to the American public than the typical ambassador. Her visit to Ohio was not just a chance to speak at Kenyon and enjoy Reunion Weekend — she also sat for



interviews with media outlets including Columbus’s NPR, NBC and CBS affiliate stations, taking the opportunity to reach everyday people about the importance of her mission in Ukraine.

The ultimate result of Brink’s mission in Ukraine is, of course, unknown — a state of limbo not unlike those moments spent aboard the halted train to Odesa one dark night. But Brink cannot just sit and wait this time: no matter the outcome of the long, grinding war, the terms of any potential peace agreement between Ukraine and Russia, or the decisions of the new administration starting on Jan. 20, she is focused on laying the groundwork for whatever success is possible against a backdrop of destruction and suffering on a massive scale. And that work relies on lessons she first learned at Kenyon.

“Schools like Kenyon are being forced to go to great lengths to explain the value of a liberal arts degree,” Brink said in her Reunion Weekend speech. “Detractors will say it is too broad, doesn’t teach hard skills, or doesn’t help you get a job. My lived experience offers a profoundly different view. ... The power of a liberal arts education is simply this: the ability to prepare us to shape the world around us.” κ

The Diplomat

Top: Ukraine’s President Volodymyr Zelenskyy greets Brink in Kyiv on May 14, 2024, while Blinken looks on. Bottom: Brink talks with Professor of Political Science and International Studies Joseph L. Klesner during a Q&A at Kenyon’s Bicentennial Reunion Weekend in May 2024.

ITALY IN A WINE GLASS: THE STORY OF ITALY THROUGH ITS WINES | FEATURED BOOK

Through Rosé-Colored Glasses

A free-flowing conversation between David Lynn '76 and Marc Millon '77

MY GOOD FRIEND MARC MILLON '77 AND I attended Kenyon at the same time, but somehow our paths never crossed when we were students. My senior year was his junior, and he was a member of the very first group to go on the Kenyon-Exeter Program to Devon, led by Professor Gerald Duff. During that year, he met his wife, Kim, a talented artist and photographer, and he returned to the UK to marry her after graduating. He's lived in Topsham, Devon, ever since.

Coincidentally, I moved to Exeter on my own in 1976, his senior year, to write and to live near Professors John and Maryanne Ward, who were running the Kenyon program that year. But it wasn't until 1992, when Wendy Singer and I led the program and were living in Professor Galbraith Crump's house in Topsham, that Marc and I finally met. More than three decades of friendship — and many shared bottles of wine — later, I called up Marc to reminisce and talk in-depth about his latest book, "Italy in a Wine Glass: The Story of Italy Through Its Wines" (Melville House 2024). What follows is a condensed version of our free-flowing conversation.

— BY DAVID LYNN '76

MM: By the time you and I finally met, some 15 years after I had graduated, we had each moved in completely different directions to arrive back in the same place. Kim and I had embarked on our career writing and photographing books

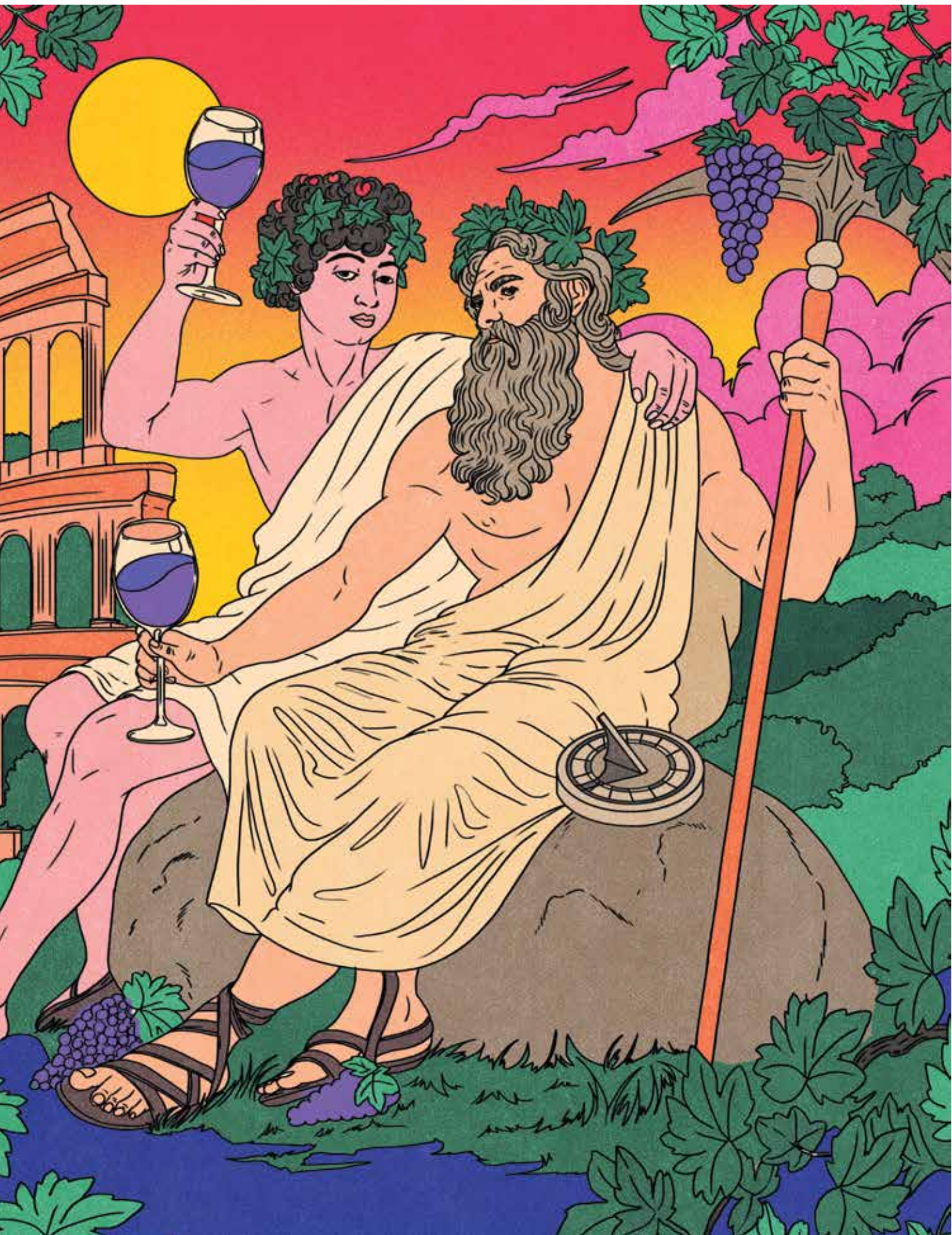
about wine, food and travel. By 1992, we had already published seven books and had just been commissioned to write and photograph our next two-book project to celebrate the opening of the Channel Tunnel that would link the UK to Europe.

DL: Among those many other projects, you wrote and photographed a series of award-winning books in the 1980s and '90s, "The Wine Roads of France," "The Wine Roads of Italy" and "The Wine Roads of Spain." Not only were these commercially successful, they launched a whole new way of appreciating wine in terms of local foods and traditions, building on the notion of terroir, and going far beyond that.

But now you've gone in another innovative direction in your new book, "Italy in a Wine Glass: The Story of Italy Through Its Wines." Rather than seeking a single, coherent narrative, it creates a great quilt of Italian history — and



MARÍA JESÚS CONTRERAS



the origin and originality of its wines — through stories that trace back to the Greeks and the Etruscans, their grapes and their methods of winemaking. Many of those methods, you show, are still being employed or have been rediscovered today. And the stories burst with dramatic detail. Can you talk about your love for Italy and its wines, and how you came to structure this book through stories?

MM: “Italy in a Wine Glass” had a very long gestation, maybe around 30 years or so, while Kim and I were researching, writing and photographing “The Wine Roads of Italy.” We kept coming across wines that had such compelling stories linked to history, from antiquity to yesterday, today and tomorrow: a wine from a vineyard replanted in Pompeii following the exact Roman training system that had been in place until that fateful day in 79 CE when life was obliterated; a villa and wine estate given by Italy’s first king Vittorio Emanuele II to his mistress Rosa Verzellana, still producing great wines today; wines from cooperative wineries founded more than a century ago on social ideals that are still strongly adhered to today; wines made from vineyards grown on lands confiscated from convicted Mafiosi; a wine from grapes grown on Europe’s only remaining island penitentiary, Gorgona, the production of which serves to assist in the rehabilitation of some of the country’s most hardened criminals; and many more such instances that you’ll find in the book.

History has always been a love and fascination of mine. In fact, I started at Kenyon with the intention of being a history major, and one of the most rewarding classes I took (it must have been my sophomore year) was Medieval History with Professor Robert Baker. We were both there in something of a golden age, or so it felt to me, with giants in the English department such as Galbraith Crump, Perry Lentz, Fred Turner, Gerald Duff, Gerrit Roelofs, John Ward. They were all brilliant in their own ways and fields and, thinking back on it, they all must have been quite young, maybe just in their 30s, and they all loved literature and above all teaching literature. Robert Daniel was older, something of the father of the department, and it was he who especially encouraged me to write. So I decided to major in English instead of history, and that allowed me to participate on the inaugural year of the Kenyon-Exeter program. It was at Exeter that I met Kim, a first-year student at the university, who was reading English and fine art. Together we soon discovered our shared interest and love for wine.

DL: I’m particularly fond, naturally, of your description in “Dante Alighieri,” Chapter 12 of “Italy in a Wine Glass,” of the evening of outstanding food and wine we shared with the

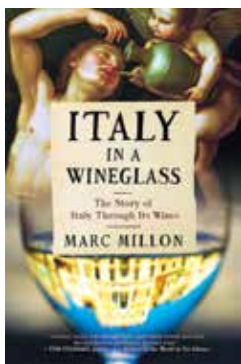
Kenyon travel group we were leading in the *Foresteria* of the Villa Serègo Alighieri outside of Verona. This estate was bought by the son of the great Italian poet in the 14th century, and remains in the family, producing some of the great wines of Valpolicella. The dinner was long, elegant and joyful, and we chanced upon the current Conte Pieralvise Serègo Alighieri standing in the shadows, elegantly suited, and ensuring that every detail of the meal was seen to. At our behest, he repaired with us to the library, with its high bookshelves and sconces in the walls, each of us with a glass of incredible wine in hand. To the astonishment of his own staff — they swore he never did such a thing — he bowed and recited the opening 50 lines or so of his ancestor’s masterpiece. I still get chills thinking about it.

MM: Yeah, me too! That was a moment that I will never forget, an extraordinary occurrence when literature, history and wine all came together through the beauty and power of that very special Casal dei Ronchi Recioto.

Perhaps it was my liberal arts education at Kenyon that has led me to approach wine — and especially Italian wine — as I do, for it is an infinitely fascinating subject that can bring together literature, art, religion, sociology, economics and political science, all topics covered in my book in one way or another. Chapter 1 begins with Homer’s “Odyssey;” Roman poets praise and extol famous wines such as Falernum; Dante of course and Boccaccio, too. Wine was a subject of classical and Renaissance art. Wine played an important part and continues to have a role in religion, the triumph of Christianity, the monastic tradition, pilgrims and wine along the Via Francigena.

Wine is a reflection of society, too, with systems of land tenure not only shaping the landscape itself but reflecting the styles and types of wines produced. The cooperative movement is another important example. Italy’s economic miracle led to the industrialization of Italian wine, but real quality and economic as well as critical value was only achieved when wine producers reclaimed that ancient patrimony of greatness with the rise of the so-called designer and Super Tuscan wines. And political events are reflected as well, with the influences from foreign occupiers such as the Austrians in Northeast Italy and the Spanish in the South, Sicily and Sardinia all had a profound influence on styles and types of wines produced, such as Gewürztraminer and Kerner from Sudtirolo to Tintilia in Molise and Vernaccia di Oristano (a unique sherry-type wine) from Sardinia.

DL: So many wines to taste, so many stories to tell. I look forward to sitting over a bottle of something lovely with you, perhaps Mario’s Barbera D’Alba, which is in the book, of course!



Italy in a Wine Glass
The Story of Italy
Through Its Wines
Marc Millon '77



Editor's Note:

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

Dear Readers and Riders:

The Beloved Books, Faithful Fans, and Hidden Private Life of Marguerite Henry
BY LETTIE TEAGUE '83

Marguerite Henry's name may not come up in conversations about New York's literary darlings, but the prolific author of 59 books has been beloved for generations. Her children's books about horses and the humans who populate their world were so foundational in many young readers' lives that Henry solidified and evolved the "horse girl" book genre as we know it. Award-winning wine writer and lifelong Henry fan Lettie Teague pens a love letter to the author in her biography of Henry that covers the author's nearly eight-decade-long career. Complete with letters, color photographs, and discussions of the other writers and collaborators in Henry's orbit, "Dear Readers and Riders" brings the famed author back to life for her now-adult readers to enjoy. (*Trafalgar Square Books*)

The Black Tax:
 150 Years of Theft, Exploitation, and Dispossession in America
BY ANDREW W. KAHL '01

Author Andrew W. Kahrl takes a deep dive into the racist policies hidden within property tax law and exposes how it strips African Americans of their hard-earned land, halts the acquisition of generational wealth, works to keep Black people dispossessed and impoverished, and broadens the ever-widening racial wealth gap. Though taxes may not seem like the most riveting topic, Kahrl writes with real human stories at the forefront, focusing on the people directly affected by these harmful policies. (*The University of Chicago Press*)

Good People:
 Stories From the Best of Humanity
BY GABRIEL REILICH AND LUCIA KNELL '13

When there's plenty of bad news to go around, sharing positive stories that restore people's faith in humanity feels more important than ever. Alumna Lucia Knell and co-writer Gabriel Reilich penned "Good People" for that very purpose. Both work at Upworthy, the media brand dedicated to making people smile with feel-good, heartwarming stories, and 101 of their best smile-inducing tales are included in this book. From stories of kind strangers to tales of kids saying the darnedest things, "Good People" will bring joy to readers of all ages. (*National Geographic*)

Anything Is Good
BY FRED WAITZKIN '66

From the author of the beloved memoir-turned-movie, "Searching for Bobby Fischer," "Anything Is Good" is based on the true story of Fred Waitzkin's friend, Ralph Silverman. Described as "a foreign film buff, a victim of bullies, and a boy genius (who) held long conversations with his pet parakeet (and) created mesmerizing music," Ralph is a compelling character from the jump, and he becomes even more unforgettable as the story of his father's second family unfolds, and he becomes unsheltered. Ralph takes over more and more of the story from the narrator, making for an immersive, propulsive read. (*Open Road Media*)

Plain Sight
BY DAVID BERGMAN '72

Writer David Bergman first rose to poetic prominence decades ago with his stunning poems about life as a gay man. Now, Bergman is back with his first collection in 25 years — and it's worth the wait. In "Plain Sight," Bergman flexes his poetic prowess in writing about aging, his changing body, and life with Parkinson's, a disease he's lived with for the past several years and which necessitated his retirement from teaching. Bergman shares his experiences poignantly and with wry humor, finding wonder in the everyday and, in doing so, encouraging readers to see their own lives and struggles in a new light. (*Passager Books*)

For a listing of more recent publications, turn to page 39.

Bulletin | Class Notes

1950s

1951

David A. Keyt updates, "I've had the good fortune of being able, in my nineties, to continue working in my profession. The fruit of four years of such work is a recently published volume of original essays on Plato, Aristotle and Epicurus by various authors entitled 'Principles and Praxis in Ancient Greek Philosophy,'" co-ed-

Wintermantel shares, "Kenyon's bicentennial is a reminder that our class graduated even before our own semi-centennial!"

1962

Stewart D. Brown and his wife of 59 years, Judy, moved from Hilton Head, South Carolina, to a senior living residence in Prairie Village, Kansas, in April. "Our 18th address! Our second daughter lives two miles away.

can't compare, but I'm grateful for the fortuitous chances I got. I hope Kenyon can still provide its students this excellent experience." **Samuel W. "C.B." Corbin** writes, "Well, well, I'm only 84 years old and too young to have attended Kenyon's 100th anniversary!" In 2012, Samuel moved to a Canadian village where he summered as a child. "Bought a house, just a 15-minute drive from the lake, and have

Iredell IV wintered in Cleveland, but "also went south — to my old family home in Portage Lakes, south of Akron! In February, Olivia and **David Evans** stopped over for drinks and reminiscing before the fireplace. Great time." Bob enjoyed a Kenyon Chamber Singers performance in Cleveland as a "nice way to prep for our visit to Gambier and the bicentennial."

Robert H. Scott, Joplin, Missouri, writes, "It is hard to believe this May was 61 years from our graduation. Continuing my work with National Geographic and the government of Cyprus to recover significant artifacts lost at sea in 1871 when being shipped to the U.S. as the first collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in NYC. The remainder did make it and formed the first collection of the museum." Robert published a booklet, "Heritage Lost," about it and two new novels in his adventure series. "Also recently published are Books 1 and 2 in a new series and genre for me — a romantic, comedy, mystery novel under the pen name Carol Roberts." (Another nom de plume: Haywood Roberts; all available on Amazon.) "So I may be retired as a lawyer but have never stopped working!" **Eric A. Wagner**, Gainesville, Florida, took a three-month cruise: "Hawaii, Kiribati, American Samoa, Samoa, Fiji, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Komodo Island in Indonesia, 15 ports circumnavigating Australia, eight ports in New Zealand, Tonga, the Cook Islands, a number of islands in French Polynesia and the Marquesas Islands."

"I've had the good fortune of being able, in my nineties, to continue working in my profession."

— **David A. Keyt '51**, who recently published a volume of original essays on Plato, Aristotle and Epicurus featuring various authors

ited with Christopher Shields, a brother of **Patrick Shields '85**. David's essay, "Dealing with Aristotle's Indefensible Ideas," grew from a Larwill Lecture he gave at Kenyon in 2013.

1953

Ron R. Ryan writes, "Mig and I are both enjoying good health. Playing golf two or three times per week."

1960s

1961

David Brown submits, "Barbara and I are hanging in there. Spent January to April at our home in Delray Beach. I'm interested in how Kenyon is handling some of the DEI issues that seem to be boiling up across campuses, so by the time this letter is published there may be some sunlight on that matter." **Richard E.**

Our oldest daughter is in eastern Montana — beautiful country, but next-door neighbor is miles away! Our son is in Houston. We travel to see our 14 grands, two grands-in-law and four significant others in nine different states, plus eight great-grands. Life is good. Looking forward to this new adventure in Kansas City! We now own lots of red shirts with GO CHIEFS printed front and back!" **George Brownstone** recalls, "Raised in small-town Painesville, Ohio, I had the good fortune to attend an excellent high school and Kenyon. My experience broadened and deepened my knowledge and view of human nature. In recent years, doubt has been cast on the value of elite institutions of higher learning. Since I've not had experience in non-elite places, I

enjoyed working on the property, building trails and home improvement. Hobbies have included landscape painting, singing in various choirs and pursuing amateur astronomy at the local dark sky preserve." He planned to watch the April 8 solar eclipse from Kingston, Ontario.

1963

Steven S. Fischman notes, "I had an opportunity to meet President Julie Kornfeld in Florida. I think she is quite terrific and really understands what makes Kenyon the special place it is." Steven received an honorary degree on April 16, telling the audience, "Repairing society feels to me part of our obligation to one another. It certainly came from my studies at Kenyon, but also from my experiences in life." **Robert**

He sent his note “from somewhere in the Tasman Sea.”

1964

John J. Camper writes, “My wife, Mary Galligan, and I spent a few days in Phoenix, where we visited two Frank Lloyd Wright masterpieces, Taliesin West and the Arizona Biltmore Hotel. We’ve been doing this sort of thing ever since Mary became a volunteer tour guide at the Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio in Oak Park, Illinois, 11 years ago. A lot of the Wright stuff is within a few hours’ drive of our Chicago home, but we’ve traveled as far as Los Angeles and Tokyo to view his architecture. Also, Buffalo, New York; Mill Run, Pennsylvania; Bartlesville, Oklahoma; and Lakeland, Florida, where he designed an entire campus for Florida Southern College, which doesn’t look at all like Kenyon.” **Jeffrey D. Gold**, Hamden, Connecticut, updates, “Since closing my ophthalmology practice at the end of 2019, Vicki and I have been traveling. Highlight was a few weeks in Australia, where we got to pet koalas and hand-feed kangaroos. We were on a cruise which was supposed to go to the Great Barrier Reef but, because of a cyclone, diverted to Eden, Adelaide, Melbourne and Tasmania. Proud of our daughters and three grandchildren: Carl is a sophomore at Brown med school, Bill is in his introductory year with Prudential, and Onyx is a high school sophomore with an interest in marine biology.” **P.F. Kluge** welcomed all to a bicentennial Reunion event at Keithley House

that celebrated a “salute to writing at Kenyon.” It launched his latest non-fiction book, “Wordman,” an account of a career of writing and teaching writing, with comments and lessons from Kenyon writers including **John M. Green '00, Stephanie Danler '06, Ransom D. Riggs '01, Cameron K. Rosenblum '89, Perry C. Lentz '64, Megan Wolpert Dobkin '95, Daniel M. Epstein '70, Katherine L. Tully '04, Rohini M. Pragasam '90** and more. “The book tracks the emergence of a career and ... reveals the stumbles and accidents that happen along the way ... from the classroom to distant islands in the Pacific. ‘Wordman’ is a salute to Kenyon, which taught me and generations of writers and readers.”

1965

Fred J. McGavran, Cincinnati, published a story in *New English Review* in February. “Dorton Thiery and the Angel” is about an encounter between an alcoholic angel and an alcoholic retired lawyer.

1966

Richard T. Nolan, Red Lodge, Montana, shares, “Cancer makes you very aware of how little time you may have left. And so it is with me. I came down with esophageal cancer in 2021, spent two months in chemo and radiation, and three months recovering from the surgical removal of the spot on my esophagus where the cancer occurred. Gretchen and I will continue to travel and hike for as long as we’re able.” Last year’s trips included hiking in Scotland and a northern lights cruise to

northernmost Norway. They planned to hike in Great Smoky Mountains National Park in June and to fly to the U.K. for a 106-mile hike in the Cotswolds in August. **John C. “Jake” Rohrer** experienced a very wet California winter and thus enjoyed the warm, sunny spring and summer, visiting daughters and grandsons in the San Francisco Bay Area. “Andi and I also made our annual trip to Hawaii. During past Hawaii trips, I have broken my neck bodysurfing and my foot on a slippery walk. We are also in the process of considering downsizing from our two-story house here in Newport Beach.”

Raphael was born Jan. 8 in Bangkok, where Joe works for Amnesty International and Poppy for Reuters.” **Nathan N. Parker** dubs Kenyon’s 200th birthday “Quite an anniversary year! Sixtieth high school reunion, which we all share; our children all pushing 50 (oldest grandchild off to college in the fall); 53 years of marriage.” Nathan and Rachele spent a month in Australia and New Zealand “exploring the Great Barrier Reef, kangaroos, kiwis, sheep and cows,” he writes. “Learning about the remarkable natural history of the Aboriginal and Maori cultures. Exploring sacred sites

“I still have deep appreciation for the liberal arts erudition that directed my career and life sensibilities.”

— **Edward J. Forrest Jr. '67**

1967

Edward J. Forrest Jr. croons, “Oh, oh, life goes on, even after the thrill of living is gone. Thankfully, for Lanny, the two blue Weimarers and your author, we are still having great fun. I still have deep appreciation for the liberal arts erudition that directed my career and life sensibilities. Godspeed to all.” **Richard G. “Rick” Freeman**, Philadelphia, reports, “I hereby celebrate the birth of our new grandson, Raphael James McPherson Freeman, son of **Joseph H. Freeman '05** and Poppy McPherson.

such as Uluru. The cruelty to those cultures is only surpassed by our treatment of the indigenous cultures of the Americas and, of course, the Lost Cause. Hopefully there will be a country for all where Palestinians and Israelis can coexist and prosper with their own dedicated lands. When will mankind learn violence only begets violence?” **Alan T. Radnor**, Bexley, Ohio, recalls, “In 1963, as an immature 17-year-old, I was told I had real academic potential. Unfortunately, my high school grades did not reflect that. I applied to Kenyon and was

promptly (and properly) rejected. My father, who had not graduated from high school, had faith in me and, in late August, after I had committed to a state school, he called then-head of admissions Tracy Scudder. He somehow convinced him to give me another chance. I was accepted

nephew (and of course I) went to Kenyon, she has regrettably never been," he notes. "On our bucket list. But is Gambier on the way to anywhere? But maybe that is the point! Not on the way to anywhere was its amazing attraction, at least back in the old days." Bill's

in particular. Dave and I were co-captains in '67."

1969

John J. Fallat, Fircrest, Washington, updates, "I had not been on campus in over 40 years. My wife and I were able to schedule a visit in October 2023. Returning to campus on a beautiful fall day became an emotional experience I was not prepared for. You leave a piece of your soul in Gambier. It will always be one of the most important parts of your life." **David C. Houghtlin**, Sandy Springs, Georgia, recollects a spring choir trip by chartered bus. Post-concert, at a pool hall in Kinderhook, New York, he and **Jeff Thompson** won steadily enough "to hustle free beer for the entire night!" After the tour, he caught a bus to Maryland to join lacrosse team scrimmages coached by Dick Watts, "a Johns Hopkins and Lacrosse Hall of Fame player who had strong connections with the Baltimore lacrosse scene." As a member of the last all-male graduating class, David recalls, "We had to 'import' our dates for the weekends. Having come from a public school, the change in the social climate proved to be a distraction-free benefit and allowed us to just be ourselves. If we didn't have a current girlfriend, we would be 'fixed up' with girls from Denison, Ohio Wesleyan, Ohio State and others. On dance weekends, fraternities opened their doors to one and all, with free open bars. They resembled scenes from the 1978 movie 'Animal House': toga

parties, squirming on the dance floor doing the Gator, and fraternity nicknames like Earth Pig, Ostrich, Hondo, Groady, Fred's Body, Rabbit, Froggie, Spanky, 'Gors, Pretty Boy Floyd, Face Man, Budda, Eariel, Muley, Earween and others."

1970s

1970

Robert C. Boruchowitz continues to teach part-time at Seattle University School of Law. "I taught my seminar on 'Law and the Holocaust and the Abuse of Executive Power' in our January intersession. I do some expert witness work on the right to effective assistance of counsel. I am active in state and national bar committee work on public defense. I am the assessor for public defense services for the city of Edmonds, Washington. Thinking about the upcoming Kenyon celebrations, I reflect on the loss of four of my Farr Hall comrades over the years — **John Friis-Mikkelsen**, **Hamilton B. "Buzz" Maule Jr.**, **Thomas M. Sawyer III** and **John P. Flanzer**. I have been fortunate to stay in touch with **Don O. Mayer** and **Byard Q. Clemmons**." **Donald L. Comis** reflects, "My proudest moment at Kenyon was staging a one-person anti-Vietnam War sitdown protest inside Peirce Hall. I believe that stone dropped in a pool of water triggered the formation of the Kenyon College Committee to End the War in Vietnam. I served as its first president. The group chartered a bus to the huge march on the Pentagon in 1967. Our banner

"You leave a piece of your soul in Gambier. It will always be one of the most important parts of your life."

— **John J. Fallat '69**, on returning to campus for a visit in October 2023 after 40 years away, which he called "an emotional experience I was not prepared for"

and firmly believe I was the last student accepted in our class. My Kenyon professors also told me I had real academic potential. Unfortunately, my grades at Kenyon did not reflect that. Because I was a graduate of Kenyon, I was able to talk my way into law school. My professors there told me I had real academic potential. Fortunately, my grades finally reflected that. I had a successful, satisfying career. In my mind, Kenyon made that all possible. I married well and have three children. Each was accepted at Kenyon. One chose another college, **Joanna Radnor Vilensky '00** was magna cum laude and **Joshua T. Radnor '96** received an honorary degree in Rosse Hall on April 16." **Bill S. Schnall**, Shoreline, Washington, and his wife celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. "Despite the fact that her brother and her

latest enterprise is retail marijuana stores, after three previous careers in medicine, real estate and heading a 501(c)(3) foundation. "So many amazing, fond, crazy and sometimes embarrassing memories from college that it would take a book to relate — so I will leave that to **P.F. Kluge '64**. I just learned that my advisor and my inspiration, Dean Bruce Haywood H'80 — who eventually went on to become president of Monmouth College — passed away, as have so many of the bright lights of Kenyon's teaching past. Hoping at least my classmates are doing well as we head toward 80!"

1968

Timothy R. Holder, Wilmington, North Carolina, writes, "**Paul D. 'Dave' Munger '67** and **Peter M. Cowen '70** live nearby. We got together for lunch and reminisced about Kenyon, and Kenyon swimming

(magic marker on a sheet) appears on the back cover of the paperback edition of Norman Mailer's 'The Armies of the Night.' That photo may have come from our march to the United Nations headquarters in New York City, where we met a Kenyon alumnus bystander. Years later, I learned there had been a Students for a Democratic Society chapter that preceded us. As a student, my wife and I drove to Saskatchewan so I could evade the draft around 1970. I observed the plans for the first Earth Day and saw the beginnings of the feminist movement. I now see that Kenyon students are very environmentally minded, something we were not. A Kenyon ad in my time told parents that Kenyon is 'a place where things don't change.' But Kenyon changes with the world, and we need to preserve the history of activism at Kenyon."

Peter M. Cowen, Wilmington, North Carolina, notes, "Kenyon swimming connections are everywhere! Had lunch with my Delt big brother **Timothy R. Holder '68** and his swimming co-captain **Paul D. 'Dave' Munger '67** (both live nearby). Met a married couple on a canal boat ride in Amsterdam, and the wife swam at Kenyon! Ran into **Donald L. Shupe Jr. '81** at a restaurant here in Wilmington because our cars were parked next to each other with KENYON license plates. I talk to **the Rev. Karl D. Ruttan** and **William S. Koller Jr.** on a somewhat regular basis, as well as **Lawrence H. Witner '69**, **William T. Howard** and **William R.**

Wallace '72 on occasion! Go, Lords!" **Paul G. Keiner**, Henniker, New Hampshire, has 2023 updates: "In October, our eldest grandson had his bar mitzvah. Over Thanksgiving, we spent the holiday with our son, his wife and our first female grandchild. The Kokes Klassics rehearsed hard and performed five times over the course of the two middle weekends of December. One of those performances was at the assisted-living facility where classmate **E. Robert Plunkett** now resides. We took him out to lunch between performances and had a great visit." Paul and Deb eagerly anticipated the bicentennial, "a Kokosinger reunion weekend as well as

eldest daughter **Lesley C. Herzberg '99**'s 25th. So we have plenty to celebrate. We look forward to seeing family and friends and catching up with folks who, like us, missed our 50th because of COVID."

1972

Robert S. Schine and **Rabbi Steven J. Lebow '77** published a memorial to Professor Eugen Kullmann. "Kullmann was born in 1915 in Germany and died in Mount Vernon in 2002 after teaching at Kenyon from 1968 until his retirement in 1984," they shared. "Steven conceived of the idea for this volume shortly after Kullmann's death. It was to be a collection of reminiscences and essays — whatever each

contributor wished to share — to create a kaleidoscopic portrait of our beloved teacher. The idea has finally come to fruition, 20 years on." The pair's collaborative editing ultimately garnered "a chorus of some forty voices" and includes some of Kullmann's writing. "Many of his students will remember his gnomic sayings, among them that the purpose of education is to add the letter 'e' to the adjective 'human.' Hence the book's title: 'From the Human to the Humane: Eugen Kullmann, Teacher.'" Learn more by writing to rabbilebow@gmail.com.

1973

Tom E. Allen reminisces, "Still thinking

NEW RELEASES

More recently published books by members of the Kenyon family

Jessica Andruss '21, "Jewish Piety in Islamic Jerusalem"

Barbara W. Ellis '75, "Container and Small-Space Gardening for the South: How to Grow Flowers and Food No Matter Where You Live"

Arthur Goldwag '79, "The Politics of Fear"

Anara Guard '78, "Kansas, Reimagined"

George Holloway '77, "From the Mountains to the Prairies"

Fritz Horstman '01, "Interacting with Color: A Practical Guide to Josef Albers's Color Experiments"

Scott Jarrett '92, "Ten Cent Beer Night"

Rebecca Katzman '14, "Your Vote Matters: How We Elect the US President"

Scott Kenemore '00, "Edge of the Wire"

David Lynn '76, "Rebuilding the Goat Walk: An Eco Memoir"

John Lysaker '88, "Hope, Trust, and Forgiveness: Essays in Finitude"

Tim Miller '08, "Ursula K. Le Guin's A Wizard of Earthsea: A Critical Companion" and "Palgrave Science Fiction and Fantasy: A New Canon"

Anne Morrissy '01, "Street Fight: The Chicago Taxi Wars of the 1920s"

Jeff Place '79, "Playing for the Man at the Door: Field Recordings from the Collection of Mack McCormick 58-71"

Phil Porter '74, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds, Mackinac Island's Little Stone Church" and "The Charming Gentleman of the Game of Golf, Frank Dufina and the Dufina Family Professional Golfers of Mackinac Island"

>Discover more featured books on pages 32-35

Millicent N. Simmelink '78, "Set Your Sails to Reach!"

Martha Skogen '90, "The Glass Tree"

Charles "Cully" D. Stimson '86, "Rogue Prosecutors"

Thomas Storck '73, "The Prosperity Gospel: How Greed and Bad Philosophy Distorted Christ's Teachings"

Diana Williams '81, "Traveling Solo"



TWO OF US

Stewart Peck '74 and Renee Brandt Peck '75

Alumni often credit Kenyon with their romantic meet-cutes, writing in to share how they met their future spouse in college — and sometimes later at Reunion. But Stewart Peck '74 and Renee Brandt Peck '75, of New Orleans, count themselves among a select group of these alumni: “Stewart and I are among the original Kenyon couples,” said Brandt Peck, who was a member of Kenyon’s third class of women. “It has given us shared memories, crossover friendships and a conjoined history that has deepened our relationship, as the many Kenyon couples since know.”

ANNIE FLANAGAN

RENEE BRANDT PECK '75

Major at Kenyon: English literature

Born in: Houston, which gave me my twang. But I grew up in DeRidder, Louisiana.

Occupation: Journalist

My life post-Kenyon: I spent 30-plus years as a feature writer and editor, telling other people's stories for *The Times-Picayune*, the New Orleans daily newspaper. Post-retirement I started a hyperlocal cultural website (nolavie.com), and am immensely enjoying our five grandchildren.

Proudest accomplishment: Covering the rebuilding of the city post-Katrina. As the paper's *This Mold House* columnist (I did not invent the name), I could identify a black stachybotrys spore from afar, navigate a 20-page Road Home application, and I wept with my audience as we figured out how to salvage soggy family photos or dry out Southern pine studs steeped in stagnant water for six weeks.

Favorite Kenyon memento: Our purple wool "Magic Kenyon" blanket, awarded to Stewart for soccer prowess. It has followed us around for 50 years now. We convinced our three daughters that it had magical healing properties.

Anything else? Kenyon relationships remain a lodestar on my horizon. Cherish them, as we have.

STEWART PECK '74

Major at Kenyon: Political science

Born in: Cleveland

Occupation: Lawyer

My life post-Kenyon: I married Renee, graduated from Tulane Law School and founded a law firm in 1986, where I was managing partner and grew it to more than 50 lawyers. I was part owner of a professional soccer team — the New Orleans Storm — and I'm a father of three daughters and grandfather of five.

Proudest accomplishments: Receiving academic honors at Kenyon and Tulane Law. Serving as co-captain of the Kenyon men's soccer team my junior and senior years, and winning the Midwest Liberal Arts School Soccer Championship my senior year. And my reputation as a lawyer in the Gulf Coast region and among my peers.

Favorite Kenyon memory: Meeting this Louisiana girl at a Beta party where we danced all night. Been with her ever since.

Anything else? At Kenyon, I learned how to learn and I have continued to be a student throughout my life. In my later years, I have grown to love art and have become a serious art collector.

so wonderfully about our 50th Reunion. How inspiring it was to meet up with classmates and renew acquaintances." Tom has since published two articles in deaf studies journals and won several photography competitions, including two honorable mentions at separate Maryland statewide events. "Currently, three of my images are on display in two separate galleries. And my wife, Roberta, and I have gotten immense pleasure in visiting our two sons and one grandson throughout the year. Indeed, loving retirement." **Jeff L. Bennett** notes, "I'm still a substitute teacher in Midland (Michigan) Public Schools and enjoy it very much. I typically have grade-schoolers and kindergartners, who are a lot of fun. I usually do two days a week. In 1975, I started buying used vehicles at the Flint Auto Auction for our Chevrolet dealership in Marion, Ohio, so it's kind of ironic that I find myself back there as a volunteer in the Sloan Museum's collections department doing archival research. Susie and I both sing in two choirs and are planning to volunteer for the local Democratic Party again this election season." **Mitchell L. Jablons** is busy: "My daughter Michelle and her husband, Brad, had their first child (our third grandchild), Juliette Ann, in January. I continue to work part time as an anesthesiologist while pursuing myriad interests. Hoping that 73 is the new 53 thanks to modern medicine." **Kurt Karakul** updates, "I am staying active by serving on several Cleveland nonprofit boards and

Kenyon Alumni Council. Our February meeting on campus was amazing, with students and faculty bustling about. The College appears to be navigating a crucial period with great skill. I got a chance to meet and speak with the new president, who seemed awesome, and several students, who seemed equally awesome." After a Friday night snowstorm, "Middle Path and the campus were magical on Saturday morning. I had a great dinner with **Thomas P. Stamp** on Saturday night and caught up on many classmates' activities. The Kenyon Chamber Singers came to Cleveland on their spring tour in March, and their concert was wonderful, ending with a beautiful and teary 'Kokosing Farewell.' We hosted three of the singers at our home that night. I continue to be amazed at the talent, intelligence, spirit and curiosity of Kenyon students." **John A. Kirkpatrick III**, Bald Head Island, North Carolina, recalls, "One of my fondest Kenyon memories is among my first. It was a beautiful fall day when my mom, dad and I made our way to Gambier after what seemed like a very long trip from Philadelphia. Neither of my parents had seen Kenyon and didn't know what to expect. I had only made a whirlwind campus visit. As we walked along Middle Path with other incoming students and their parents, I looked at my mother. Tears were slowly rolling down her cheeks. The campus was beautiful. With its stunning architecture and setting, it looked just like what a college

was supposed to look like. They were just so impressed. So was I. After they left, I started to make friends with other freshmen at the welcome reception on the lawn and then felt a bit foolish — yet also a strong sense of doing something special, while standing on the Rosse Hall steps singing. My four years had many ups and some downs. Nonetheless, I never lost the feeling I was in a very special place. I still feel that way 50 years later." **Lucinda H. Peterson** updates, "I have an art studio in Loveland, Ohio, and for the third year I participated in a community painting experience as part of Loveland's Hearts Afire Valentine's Day celebration. Our event is called Paint like Pollock and has become popular. We sell small canvas boards or provide canvas on the floor to throw paint. A lot of fun. This year we had ages 3 to seniors painting, often whole families." Learn more at studiosonmain.com. **Peter Smagorinsky**, Athens, Georgia, updates, "In retirement I've earned master gardener status, which requires passing a class and doing a lot of volunteer work, and now lead the Garden Enthusiasts group of the local chapter of Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. I'm still active in my old profession, keynoting a conference in Turin, Italy, in April, and still writing. My 33rd book, which I know you've all been waiting for, is 'L.S. Vygotsky and English in Education and the Language Arts' (Routledge, 2024)." **The Rev. Noel D. Vanek**, New York City, shares, "I've been out of touch

with Kenyon folks for many years and regret not making it to the 50th. I retired from full-time ministry in the United Church of Christ in 2022 and now work part time assisting small congregations searching for pastors. Currently we're facing a clergy shortage. Linda and I live in Penn South, an affordable housing development in the Chelsea section of Manhattan. Our daughters are grown and gone, and even our two rescue dogs are getting older. We joined Judson Memorial Church in Greenwich Village, one of the more iconic congregations in NYC. It's keeping us on our toes!"

1975

Teresa G. Betts, Solon, Ohio, writes, "Bill and I will celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary in 2025! I keep busy teaching cooking classes to seniors through Baldwin Wallace. I volunteer a lot and take commissions occasionally for church banners. I dream about Kenyon once in a while, which I think is kinda weird." **Anne G. Campos**, Hancock, New York, jokes that the editing phase of the book she's writing "may exceed my lifespan — oh, well. To stay grounded, I also write seasonal features for local print outlets with the idea that others may find common cause in a divisive world. These food adventures combine historical and literary references." Check out June's "Turtles, Madmen & Sushi," at hancockherald.com/turtles-madmen-sushi. "Drove an hour in a torrential rain-storm to a reading by **David Goodwillie '94**. His books are really

"I dream about Kenyon once in a while, which I think is kinda weird."

— **Teresa G. Betts '75**, of Solon, Ohio

good reads." **Steven C. Durning**, Holliston, Massachusetts, published "a memoir in prose, poetry and drawings" (available on amazon.com), he shares. "Kenyon gets more than mentioned. Not that I did it justice. My partner, Dawn, and I just had breakfast with **Brad Foote** — he transferred after sophomore year — and his partner, Yvette. How great to pick up where we left off. I'll be attending our 50th in 2025, and I hope every living member of our class attends. Wouldn't that be something?" **Michael R. Halleran**, Williamsburg, Virginia, retired. "After a very happy career as a professor of classics (and administrator), the pull of doing *only* what I want proved too strong. We'll be staying in Williamsburg, with some more travel, domestic and international, in the mix. Excited for this next stage of the journey. Anyone who wants to visit the 18th century and Colonial Williamsburg, please come on by." **Phil B. Olmstead** and his wife, June, returned to upstate New York. "By a fortunate combination of what would seem to be providence and serendipity, we found a well-maintained house and barn in the hamlet of New Woodstock, a few miles south of Cazenovia and my

former Episcopal parish of St. Peter's. We moved in on Jan. 7 and effectively traded places with an older couple like us who wanted to spend their 'golden years' in the Sunshine State. We, for our part, wished for respite from the torrid climate of Montgomery, to be closer to family, and to enjoy the cultural and scenic opportunities of the Northeast." June works part-time with Respite for All ministering to adults with dementia. "For my part, I anticipate the possibility of painting the parish house, singing with the choir and exploring the acoustics of the barn — full of tools bequeathed to me by the former owner! Put me down as a happy camper!" **Neil E. "Rip" Russell** was "burning some retirement money for five weeks in New Zealand." **Pamela Cole Schneider** looks forward to the 50th. "I still remember meeting **Karen Mesberg** after moving into the dorm," she recalled. "First person I met at Kenyon — and still a dear friend." On Pam's 19-acre rural property in central Florida, she rides horses and owns a nearby horse training facility. "After losing my first husband to complications from heart surgery 10 years ago, I am now happily remarried. Tim was also widowed after a long and happy first

marriage. We enjoy visiting our lake home in New York's Finger Lakes region in the summer." Last year, the couple took a WWII history trip to Europe, and this year hiked in Scotland. "Then Zimbabwe, Botswana and South Africa in the fall. We enjoy seeing my two adult children and their spouses — and of course my adorable 5-year old granddaughter. So life is good, and we savor it." **James A. "Yak" Yackee**, Jacksonville, Florida, muses, "As we age into the golden years of our lives, I am looking forward to trying new things (and recipes), as well as looking back on the many great experiences and friends we've had on our journey. Life is good."

1976

Tanna L. Moore informs, "Continuing activities to connect globally in the world through my board work with Global Minnesota, whose mission is to inform, connect and engage Minnesotans with the world. So love hosting and interacting with diplomats, fellows and social entrepreneurs visiting from around the world. Supporting the next gen of classical musicians in my work with Lakes Area Music Festival. Still seeking where I can most joyfully use my skills and wisdom (ha)."

Kim M. Straus updates, "Still enjoying life in Santa Fe — volunteer work, a bit of artwork, hiking, visiting our cabin, birdwatching — while also working in lots of travel." **Christine D. Tailer**, Georgetown, Ohio, updates, "I have retired from being a trial attorney and now work alongside my husband on our 63-acre off-grid farm. We live in a log cabin, raise cattle, grow a huge garden and love it when family and friends stop by to visit!" **Anthony C. Wood** exults, "I'm happy to report I now have a publisher (Rowman & Littlefield) for my upcoming book: 'Servant of Beauty: Landmarks, Love, and the Unimagined Life of Albert Sprague Bard.'" Look for it in 2025.

1977

Joseph M. Dreher announces, "Dreher's Grey Horse Farm's hospitality is open to all revisiting Gambier. I'm leaving a light on!" **John R. Gregg Jr.**, Grand Rapids, Michigan, updates, "Haven't been back to a Reunion since my 20th, in 1997. Pathetic, but all is well here. I will definitely be back for the super 50th." **George N. Holloway** published 'From the Mountains to the Prairies,' a book "describing the adventures of my ancestors during the American Revolution, as well as the search to unearth their stories. The first chapter includes my memory of a history class I took my senior year." **Richard B. Kurtz**, Marfa, Texas, updates, "My painted art books were included in an exhibition by the French artist Sophie Calle and shown at the Picasso

Museum in Paris in autumn 2023. You can see my paintings at Tears of Venus on Sunset Boulevard in Los Angeles this year." **Lee M. Markowitz** reports an exciting milestone as part of a team that spent five years building a community for adults with disabilities in Solon, Ohio (solon-communityliving.org). "The community, which includes 14 homes and six caregiver suites, opened in May, and my younger daughter will be moving in," Lee shared. "My older daughter, who is a permanent resident in Johannesburg, South Africa, is getting married and having her first child, a girl, this year."

1978

Anara S. Guard, Sacramento, California, published her second poetry collection, titled 'Kansas, Reimagined' (The Poetry Box, 2024).

Newman for a poetry reading during bicentennial Reunion weekend. **Robert K. Lundin** completed a video about the Awakenings Project, "a mental health organization I founded in 1996 dedicated to improving the lives of artists, writers and poets with mental illnesses. I'm gratified with the positive reaction I've gotten from people who have viewed it." **David H. Lynn '76** wrote me that it was 'powerful, moving, and important'—a tribute I found very encouraging." View the 13-minute clip at youtube.com/watch?v=zufuj2aG-6b4&t. Of **Wade Newman's** poetry reading at the bicentennial, he writes, "Thank you, Kenyon, for what I learned from my literature, religion, mythology and other courses, which have informed my poetry over the decades." **Alec**

R. Pierce Jr. retired. "After 45 years of work, it is definitely different. Doing some board work, consulting, hunting, golfing and writing historical fiction." Jim published 'Treachery,' about Lincoln's first 18 months in office, and is at work on 'The Beginning,' which starts on the day Winston Churchill took office in May 1940. "All my kids are out of school. I have two wonderful grandchildren, Pierce and Milly; son Robby married in October. Lastly, I am happy that my DKE fraternity life at Kenyon continues to this day. Nearly 30 of us correspond weekly. For a time, there were members of Kenyon's administration who were very anti all things Greek. Thankfully, those naysayers have moved on." **Millicent "Penny" N. Simmelink**, thinking of the bicentennial,

"I recall us all matriculating in the fall of 1974 and the College celebrating 150 years! How time flies."

— **Millicent "Penny" N. Simmelink '78**, reflecting on Kenyon's bicentennial

"L. Frank Baum only visited the state once," she explains, "declaring it the worst place he'd ever been. His Oz books describe Kansas as nothing but gray, but I find beauty throughout the Midwest. These persona poems give voice to familiar characters — Toto, Dorothy, Em — and to unexpected entities — corn, sunflowers, windmills." She joined poets **Andrew Grace '01**, **Daniel Mark Epstein '70** and **Wade**

A. Pandaleon informs, "Living in Millbrook, New York, with wife Leslie and two Labrador retrievers, Baylee and Solo. Son Nicholas is a conductor with Norfolk Southern Railroad, and daughter Alice a third-year at University of Virginia in engineering. She interned this summer with Rolls-Royce Jet Propulsion in Derby, UK." **Alec** is building a home in Albemarle County, Virginia. "Go, Lords lacrosse!" **James**

writes, "I recall us all matriculating in the fall of 1974 and the College celebrating 150 years! How time flies. Grateful for my time on the Hill and the profound effect that experience continues to have on my life!" Penny became a licensed professional counselor, earned a Ph.D. in organizational leadership, and in Cleveland runs Career Links LLC, a career planning and outplacement service. Check out



JANE SHAUCK

PAYING IT FORWARD

A Mutual Curiosity

HOW ELLEN PADER '72 AND MAUREEN ST. CYR '04 ARE WORKING TO END HOUSING DISCRIMINATION IN MASSACHUSETTS

In the fall of 2003, Maureen St. Cyr '04 was sitting in her English honors senior seminar when her instructor, now-Professor Emerita of English Judy Smith, walked into the room holding a newspaper clipping about Coal Run, a predominantly Black neighborhood in nearby Zanesville, Ohio.

Residents of the town had been denied access to public water, forcing the community to collect rainwater or transport water from local cisterns to cook, drink and bathe. The issue struck a chord with St. Cyr, as did the subsequent class discussion.

After graduating, she worked as a paralegal at an Ohio law firm, and in a full-circle moment, she was pulled onto the Zanesville water case. While working on the project, St. Cyr remembers an associate at the firm taking out a map of Zanesville and pointing out the road where the water line stopped. “The dividing line was race.”

“The thing that has always drawn me to the issue of fair housing is that it is so fundamental and it connects to everything,” said St. Cyr. The Fair Housing Act of 1968 prohibits discrimination in access to the services and facilities that are related to housing — water, in the Zanesville case. Thinking back to the civil rights era, when modern fair housing advocacy was in its nascent stages, spurred by Dr. Martin Luther King’s work around the open housing movement in Chicago, she noted that “Connections were being made between economic justice and issues around segregated housing, those basic issues of access to equal housing opportunity.”

St. Cyr later earned a master’s degree from Queens University Belfast and a law degree from the University of Pennsylvania, but fair housing advocacy was always front of mind. Working as an attorney in Massachusetts, she was involved in community legal aid, providing civil legal services and eviction defense.

A decade into her career as a lawyer, she caught wind that the Massachusetts Fair Housing Center (also known as Mass Fair Housing), the oldest fair housing center in the state, was on the lookout for a new executive director. St. Cyr had long admired the center’s innovative approach toward housing issues — addressing the underlying causes of housing disparities and not only the day-to-day issues.

When Ellen Pader '72, who chaired Mass Fair Housing’s search for a new executive director, was reading through applications, she spotted “Kenyon College” in the education section of St. Cyr’s CV. For Pader, who arrived at Kenyon with the first class of women, the connection was a green flag. “That said to me she was very well-educated. She

could write, she could think. In a sense, Kenyon was another letter of reference.”

Pader is an anthropologist with a doctorate from Cambridge University whose research and work on housing discrimination has influenced policy and saved hundreds of people from eviction. She has worked with Mass Fair Housing since the '90s — she joined the board in 1992 — and, during her decades as a professor at UMass Amherst in the Regional Planning Program and the School of Public Policy. She involved her classes in community service learning projects with Mass Fair Housing, conducting research and testing, and introducing generations of students to fair housing work and its importance for an inclusive democratic society.

During the interview process, the pair hit it off. Their initial conversations spanned a variety of topics, following different lines of inquiry and identifying points of intellectual connection. “We naturally slid from one question to the other,” Pader said, “pulling together everything from art history, religion, sociology, anthropology, our own family histories.”


That sense of conversational depth and mutual curiosity felt, to St. Cyr, deeply reminiscent of her alma mater. “One of the things that, for me, was sort of quintessentially Kenyon was the way that I learned about the importance of storytelling and narrative to meaning-making. And I think that is central to a lot of people’s experiences there. What does it mean to tell our stories? What does it mean to be people in this world and in a community?”

Those questions are directly relevant to the work of Mass Fair Housing, which strives to be directed by the community it’s serving, rather than directing and making decisions on behalf of the community.

Early in the interview process, Pader remembers a colleague noting St. Cyr’s ability to think outside of the box to reframe her work in a fresh way that nonetheless made total legal sense. That sense of ingenuity, paired with passion and a career built on fair housing advocacy, got her the job. “She’s phenomenal,” said Pader.

In a way, for St. Cyr, it all goes back to Professor Smith, whose teachings on memoir and self-narration have deeply shaped her professional experience. In that senior seminar, “We talked about what we owe to each other,” St. Cyr remembered. “You have to sit with how different people are approaching the truth and how different people are approaching meaning, and how are we creating it as a community, together?”

— CAROLYN TEN EYCK '18



Ellen Pader, '72, left, and Maureen St. Cyr '04, stand in front of an old mill wheel along the Holyoke Heritage State Park’s canal walk near the offices of the Massachusetts Fair Housing Center, where Pader is board president and St. Cyr is executive director.

Bulletin | Class Notes

her book 'Set Your Sails to Reach! A Mindful Approach to Envisioning Your Potential and Navigating Your Career' on Amazon "for practical ways to mindfully connect with your awesome potential at every age and stage of your life-

successful. My wife, Janet, and all three of our daughters are pediatric dentists. We are truly blessed that they and our son Jimmy have all chosen to live in Indianapolis, blessing us with five grandchildren. Thanks to all who

dying industry." Learn more at LGTMedia.net or QuentinHardy.ME. **Clayton H. Paterson**, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, notes, "Always great to reconnect with classmates. Had dinner with **J. Roderick O'Connor** and **Lisa Marrano O'Connor** — thanks for the memories. Like many, I'm now retired but not completely. Trying my hand (or face) at modeling. It's never too late to find another trajectory. Even got a few jobs at the happiest place on earth. How much longer do I have to keep doing these pushups?" **Stephen C. Stec** informs, "For the last couple of years, I've been splitting my time between Hungary and Maryland, while my two kids have been studying in the U.S. My older child is a junior at Bates, and my son started college in the fall. I've been teaching an international environmental law seminar as a visitor at the University of Baltimore School of Law while my regular position is lead researcher on environment and democracy at the Central European University Democracy Institute in Budapest."

Together they explored the East Coast and into Ohio last spring. "My real estate business is going well. Record number of transactions last year, and this year looking even better." **Amy McCloskey** updates, "Who would have guessed that 26 years after opening a bar in Manhattan — after 9/11, blackouts, hurricanes, a smoking ban that decimated business, four crappy mayors and a 16-month pandemic shutdown — we'd catch the tail of a comet and blow all previous earning records? Just wish it had happened when I wasn't 62 and exhausted. Participating in the nightlife industry for a quarter of a century teaches you things about the world, humanity and yourself, in a way I'd venture to guess differs greatly from most others. It keeps you young, in that you're perpetually surrounded by people in their 20s and 30s. Their music, style, attitudes, invectives and pronouns become a natural part of your lifestyle, and it's only by stepping away that you realize how different a path this is. And like many of us, I'm finally starting to step away. I've managed to hire a great team of people — all misfit toys who somehow manage to make it all work. Despite my being joyfully childless, a lot of them call me Mom, which is weird, and I protest, but kind of like it all the same. Because of them, I think I might actually be able to pass along Madame X to another generation. Which is both freeing and frightening. I'm looking forward to the next stage, whatever that might be." **Lisa Harpring McLaughlin**

“Trying my hand (or face) at modeling. It’s never too late to find another trajectory.”

— **Clayton H. Paterson '80**, of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on fresh starts at any age

work — even in retirement!" She thanked **Jody L. Tyrpak '91** for raffling off two copies of the book at a January Career Exploration and Networking event in Cleveland. "Hope the lucky winners find the book a useful resource!" She and her husband split time between Florida and Ohio, enjoying kayaking and their eight grandkids. **Scott Tindall** is happily retired in Eugene, Oregon. "Kenyon was a safe place for me to grow intellectually and helped launch a career that took me to six continents. So many friends (Sprague, McGroarty, Munkelt), to name a few. Some lost (Medley) and some unfound (Bentley). Best regards on No. 200 and the friends I met there."

1979
J. Murray Clark, Indianapolis, writes, "Boy, where has the time gone? Trying to wind up a 42-year law practice at the moment, although my journey toward retirement doesn't seem very

have helped to keep us informed and communicating through the years."

1980s

1980
Douglas T. Braddock, regarding 44 years since graduation, reacts, "Yikes! Sometimes my Kenyon years seem like yesterday, but if I think deeply, the memories are fuzzy, like looking through semi-clear plastic sheeting. I've been retired from my urban planning career for 13 years and moved from Alaska to central Oregon, where my wife and I can be active in outdoor pursuits all year. We bought an older house in the desert, which we will fix up. Many people don't realize that the eastern two-thirds of Oregon is arid high desert and sunny 300 days a year. Coming from Alaska, we're really enjoying the four-season climate!" **Quentin R. Hardy** updates, "I have left Google and gone independent, including services to journalists who have to leave their

1982
Roberto Castillo-Sandoval, a professor of Spanish and comparative literature at Haverford College, was awarded Chile's oldest and most prestigious literary prize in November 2023 for his third, most recent novel, "La novela del corazón."

1983
G. Taylor Johnson, Hyattsville, Maryland, hosted an exchange student from Poland named Oskar, the 10th whom he has hosted.

writes, "Vero Beach, Florida, seems to be the center of the universe lately. When **J. Robert Lind Jr.** was in town, Bob and I met up at a tiki bar overlooking the river, watched the sunset and caught up. Saw **Elizabeth E. Lind** at the end of March and **Julie L. Borden** in April with her husband, Tom. How lucky am I?" **Lettie Teague** updates, "I've been a wine writer for decades — currently in my 14th year as the wine columnist of the Wall Street Journal, before that executive wine editor of Food & Wine. I'm also the author of several wine books. None of that has anything to do with what I decided to do a few years ago: tell the life story of the famed children's book author Marguerite Henry. Although Henry wrote 59 books, many of which were best sellers (including 'Misty of Chincoteague' and 'King of the Wind'), several of which were turned into movies, Henry herself seems to be largely forgotten by today's readers." "Dear Readers and Riders" currently sits atop the publisher's Hot 10 at trafalgarbooks.com (see Bookshelf page 35). "I could not be more excited!"

1984

Jeffrey A. Bell updates, "No rest for the retired. I'm enjoying serving the Johns Hopkins board, our parish and archdiocese, and our 40th Reunion committee! I am also learning about private equity investing as an operating partner at MidOcean. And most important, **Colleen Murphy Bell '85** and I welcomed our first grandchild, Maeve Mary, in November 2022." **David B. Guenther**

published his first book, "The Art Dealer's Apprentice: Behind the Scenes of the New York Art World" (Rowman & Littlefield, 2024), "a nonfiction story about fakes, frauds, money and power; the extraordinary old Italian woman who taught me the New York art business as her gallery director from 1989 to '92; and the changing meaning of art in our lives." **Gail C. Hamel** reports, "I continue to use my Kenyon degree every day! I have run a successful business for over 24 years portraying Abigail, 'the everyday housewife who lived during extraordinary times for America.' (see AbigailByGail.com). I am blessed to have raised four grown children with my husband of 35 years, David. They are successful and 'alive and kicking,' which in today's world is no easy task. I have cherished my Kenyon friendships throughout my life." **Susan (Miller) Lloyd** celebrates "big news in my family: my oldest daughter **Sarah M. Lloyd '17** and her beau, **Alexander W. Seaver '17**, were married in Gambier on the lawn in front of the Church of the Holy Spirit. It was a perfect Gambier day with temps in the low 70s and a light breeze. It was such a special day. Sarah and Alex live outside of Philly, Molly and her beau live in Philly, Abby is in Brooklyn, and Caroline lives in Kansas City, Missouri. Everyone is healthy, employed and doing well. What more could a mother ask for?" Susie is in her 31st year in admissions at the Peddie School in Hightstown, New Jersey. "About what comes next, I really have no clue."

1985

Rebecca Houpt Gladstone updates, "Fun 60th birthday celebrations in 2023 included a weekend in London celebrating **Katherine N. Krader** with **Sharon Cassidy Dorsett, Claire (Bruny) Casey '86**, (and a few drinks with **Joel F. Holmes III**), as well as a great weekend in Deer Isle, Maine, at **Eliza Garrels Childs'** house with Sharon, **Emily W. Neilson, Carolyn A. (Donnelly) Johnson** and **Laura Vastine Lynch**. My oldest daughter, Emma, is getting married in June to **Jonathan S. Kaye '83**'s son Will. Small world!" Rebecca saw Ben Locke and the Chamber Singers in concert in Sherborn,

I love, as community outreach and training manager at Good Grief, a nonprofit for grieving children and families. New Jersey recently became the first state in the U.S. to pass a law mandating grief education in all public high schools, so we are busy helping teachers and counselors to feel equipped to teach this important subject. I love being a drive away and hanging out with so many Kenyon folks! Had a blast in Vermont with **Sarah VanOosterhout Shannon, Willa A. Worsfold '88, Jennifer L. Taylor '91** and **Meghan T. Strubel**, and also saw **Peter A. Propp** and **Alison M. Steiner** for a casual afternoon at Smorgasburg in

"My oldest of four is getting married, and my youngest turned 21. Sounds old, but my spirit is young and willing!"

— **Gina B. Kornfeind '85**, of New Jersey, on the passage of time

Massachusetts, and saw **Gina (Bauman) Kornfeind** on a "Meet The New Kenyon Volleyball Coach" Zoom. "Thinking of heading to the Hill for Homecoming in September when they will celebrate 50 years of volleyball at Kenyon. Cheers!" **Gina B. Kornfeind** informs, "Having been two years in New Jersey, we are happy to be East Coasters enjoying all four seasons and much less traffic than Los Angeles! I started a new part-time job, which

Brooklyn! My oldest of four is getting married, and my youngest turned 21. Sounds old, but my spirit is young and willing! Hope to see more Kenyon folks around the tri-state area!" **Jennifer M. Mizenko** received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Mississippi Alliance for Arts in Education. **Jan M. Richardson** was honored with the Sue Smith Professional Leadership Award at the 2024 Keep America Beautiful conference in San Diego.

1986

Paulo E. Franco Jr. started a new band in 2023 called Los Alacranes de R.V.A. "Alacrán is the Spanish word for scorpion," he writes. "The band, which takes its name from the song 'Alacrán y Pistolero' by Chingon, features my original songs in English and Spanish. We opened for Los Lobos, played the Richmond Folk Festival as well as several other local festivals, and were signed to indie label Shockoe Records in January." Have a listen at peflmusic.com/los-hermanos-alacranes. "Also still a full-time lawyer for the Virginia State Bar, prosecuting lawyers for ethical violations." **Thomas L. Tobin**, Cleveland Heights, Ohio, reports "a year of travel! Tracy spent a week in Panama on horseback,

graduation of youngest son **Christopher Zaiser '24**, who followed in the steps of brother **Andrew Zaiser '20**. "I have been the director of institutional advancement at Moravian Academy in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, for 18 years and celebrated my 30th wedding anniversary to my wife, Georgia Spiliotes Zaiser."

1987

Catherine "Katya" (Uroff) Brill published two short stories over the summer, one in Fourteen Hills: The SFSU Review, the second in the North American Review (pick up a copy at uni.estore.flywire.com/products/nar-3092-summer-2024). "I'm thrilled to be still writing, a love I found at Kenyon. I publish under my maiden name

Campbell reports a happy surprise: "What are the chances two Kenyon grads attend the same yoga retreat at the same time on a remote island in Thailand?" **Jodi and Zolzaya Erdenebileg '14** serendipitously bumped into each other on Koh Yao Noi and enjoyed reminiscing about their Kenyon experiences. **Tara L. Jones** has been ramping up her musical performance game, three times a week at her favorite restaurant. "My first performance inspired me to buy myself a mic and amp and start guitar lessons to bring my playing up to the level of my singing. I have begun to make sheet music for my piano compositions." Email Tara at taral@efn.org for MP3s or her sheet music. "Some things remain the same: Sophia is still in graduate school for nuclear engineering at OSU (that's Oregon, not Ohio); Kira is still in Bozeman, Montana, working for Mystery Ranch; and Jeff and I still think 'pickleball!' the minute the sun comes out."

1989

Lincoln E. Bleveans reports, "**Meredith Pastore Bleveans '90** and I have settled in Half Moon Bay, California, just over the hill from my job leading sustainability, utilities and infrastructure at Stanford. We are now empty-nesters, with son Will in his second year at UVA Law, son Jamie working for the LA Dodgers, and daughter Annie a sophomore at UC Santa Cruz. Inevitably, and oh so embarrassingly, I've taken up surfing. (Cue the Ventures' 'Wipe Out!')" **Sarah Bamford**

Seidelmann informs, "The last few years have changed everything. Losing both of my parents in three years really broke my heart, and seemed to cause it to grow three sizes. At our class Zoom featuring writers in February, I was reminded just how fascinating your lives are. It made me think of when I first arrived at Kenyon in 1985! Such a veritable feast of interesting and smart humans to get to know. I just got my first solo show in my new path of art. In October in Ely, Minnesota, the show is titled, 'Things That Make Me Feel Good Again.' It's humbling to begin again." Sarah's seventh book appeared in June, self-illustrated and exploring the topic of self-respecting boundaries. "Working on it truly changed my life. Miracles are possible."

1990s

1990

Laura K. Porter-Jones recalls: "Early in the morning of Feb. 11, 1990, a group of us 'borrowed' the key to the church bell tower, where I played 'Blowin' In The Wind' at approximately 2 a.m. to celebrate Nelson Mandela's release from prison. When we reached the bottom of the stairs, we were greeted by Kenyon's finest. (I still have a copy of the incident report.) Best part of the whole event was Phil Jordan in his bathrobe on the lawn of Cromwell Cottage. When we met with the dean a few days later, he told us he would have approved the event, had he known. Where's the fun in that?" **Jon Rakestraw** writes from the UK: "Married a Cornish maid whom

"I'm deep in the generative AI rabbit hole, helping companies use this amazing technology."

— **Paul A. Baier '88**, CEO and principal analyst at GAI Insights

not for the faint of heart! Beautiful scenery, lovely weather and an adventure every day! June took us to Mackinac Island, Michigan, for a family trip and a walk down memory lane. (Tracy's grandparents spent their summers there.) Then, in late August, we took another cruise with Tracy's aunt and uncle visiting Scandinavia, hitting ports of call in Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Germany and even a stop in Poland!" **Robert J. Zaiser** celebrated the

and recently launched an author's website (curoff.com).

1988

Paul A. Baier, West Newton, Massachusetts, says Kenyon "remains a warm memory. I'm deep in the generative AI rabbit hole, helping companies use this amazing technology. Harvard Business Review published articles about our framework, and our team is working hard to stay current with the relentless advances. Go, Owls!" **Joanne**

I met on the Cornish Celtic Way. Living in a shire-like village near Falmouth sipping Smuggler's Brew tea." **Matthew D. Roth** reports life returning to "somewhat normal in the Roth household, but busier than last year. Candee opened a book-keeping and accounting firm. My U.S. startup opened our Tucson facility making laser-machined optics. With the immense amount of laser fusion research going on, we're growing rapidly. The older kids are living life, and Sam (17) and Becca (15) are doing the whole driving thing and bossing their parents around — but are flourishing in post-COVID high school." Matt looked forward to seeing friends at the April 2024 physics reunion on the Hill.

1991

Carla Birnberg writes, "Apparently all my life paths lead back to Kenyon — although I *still* need to buy myself the KENYON IS NOT NEAR UGANDA tee and wear it to my office in Kenya. Thirty-four and a half years ago, **Samantha (Rosenberg) Sims** and I signed up for a weightlifting class with football coach Jim Meyer. I found my voice in the weight room and have never looked back. I've launched a free Substack, an homage to what I've learned from "Picking Up Heavy Things & Putting Them Back Down." Each time I write an article, I think of Coach Meyer shouting: 'GIGO! Garbage In, Garbage Out!'" Check out Carla's essay by that weighty title and more at carlabirnberg.substack.com. **Alison J. Black** reports that she is enjoying her term on the

Alumni Council and was excited to participate in the bicentennial. "I'm in my eighth year as class dean at Wellesley College. The beauty of the campus rivals Kenyon's. It's great to work in a liberal arts environment similar to what I experienced at Kenyon. We are looking for more folks in the Boston area to help plan alumni events (alisonblack22@gmail.com)." **Samantha Sims** relocated back to Baltimore after 12 years in Manhattan and 12 years in rural Connecticut. "Any Maryland peeps, hit me up at srose1316@aol.com! Feel free to make fun of the fact that I still have an AOL account. My daughter graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic and works as a UX designer for an event management company. I retired from lawyering a few years back and now enjoy my empty nest with my husband and basset hound Wentworth. I still talk to **Carla Birnberg** every day and hope to get to Texas to visit her — or cajole her into coming to Maryland to see my new house!" **Christine H. Schmidt** updates, "I'm now living in the foothills of the Rockies just outside Denver and loving the change after nearly 30 years in the city. I've been working remotely as the communications and marketing director of the American Ornithological Society since 2020 and couldn't be happier!" Chris frequently meets **Joy A. (Eckstine) Redstone '89** at her many art openings in Boulder and Denver. **Simon Yoo** reports that he and his family relocated from San Francisco to Honolulu. "While San

Francisco was a great place to settle back into life in the U.S. after nearly 15 years abroad in Tokyo and Hong Kong, my wife, Sumiyo, and I realized that we missed the tropical weather and wanted a more relaxed vibe in which to raise our kids. Given that I'm often traveling, Sumiyo chose Honolulu for its schools, weather, culture and ease of travel to Asia and the continental U.S. Our boys, Tai (15), and Jaidon (10), are

sleeping on the couch. I got his message. (I also informed Jaidon that most of my estate will be going to his older brother!)" Now an avid endurance athlete, Simon has competed in Ironman 70.3-mile distance triathlons, full marathons, and is — "shocking to my Kenyon friends? a pretty good long-distance swimmer." He hopes to complete a full 140.6-mile Ironman Triathlon before turning 60.

"It's great to work in a liberal arts environment similar to what I experienced at Kenyon."

— **Alison J. Black '91**, who is in her eighth year as class dean at Wellesley College

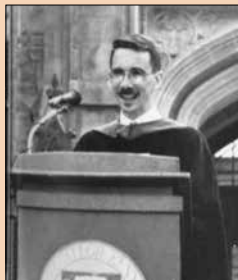
at a great prep school called 'Iolani and are big into sports." Simon celebrated a decade since founding Green Visor Capital, his venture capital firm. "We've funded several unicorns (billion-dollar startups) from the seed stage. While at times I wish I could slow down, that isn't going to happen anytime soon. We have too much to do, and I'm constantly on a plane meeting with founders and our LPs. We keep our office in San Francisco but are often all over the country and abroad. During the pandemic, I also made a commitment to my family that I'd take much better care of my health and overall well-being. Jaidon — only 6 at the time — drew a family picture for kindergarten that comprised his beautiful mom, big brother, Maltese puppy — and a corpulent dad,

1992

Andrea Paz y Miño Carty and **Shawn O. Carty '93**, Mountville, Pennsylvania, are thrilled that their son **Alex Carty '28** started at Kenyon this fall. "I am head of school at Lancaster Friends School, which is in its third year," Andrea writes. "I am incredibly proud of being a founder of this school and of our mission to create a more peaceful and just world through education." **Rebecca Hamilton Nino** reports, "It was such a delight taking my daughter to see Kenyon last summer as the very first stop on her prospective college tour. I was floored by the many new buildings — who knew we now have a West Quad? — and filled with memories from all the old standbys. Between traversing Middle Path, checking out the bookstore,

1990s

Highlights from on and off the Hill



1990

Bill Watterson '76 delivers an iconic Commencement address in which he tells graduates, "To

invent your own life's meaning is not easy, but it's still allowed, and I think you'll be happier for the trouble."

1991

At Honors Day, **Cornelia "Buffy" Ireland Hallinan '76**, becomes the first Kenyon alumna to be awarded an honorary doctorate by the College. Seven years later, she is the first alumna to be elected

chair of the College's Board of Trustees.

1995

Robert Allen Oden Jr. becomes president and leads the College until 2002.

The **Brown Family Environmental Center** (then known as the Kenyon Center for Environmental Study) opens on a sprawling former farm straddling the Kokosing River.

1998

Kenyon's Board of Trustees creates a dissertation and teaching fellowship, renamed in 2004 for Kenyon parent and trustee **Marilyn V. Yarbrough P'95 H'01**, a legal scholar who often addressed gender and racial discrimination in her scholarship and teaching. The first recipient is **Marla Kohlman**, who would later be appointed professor of sociology at Kenyon.



Anne Kathryn (Roberts) Moore '97, English major. Her yearbook page included the following quote from Jeanette Winterson's "The Passion": "And for the first time in my life I realized that I was the powerful one. I was the one who held the wild card."

I WAS THERE

Anne Moore '97

I often dream that I'm back at Kenyon. The dream is always the same. I'm simultaneously the adult I am now and the girl I was then, and I'm panicked. I can't find my dorm room because I'm on the wrong floor, or my key doesn't unlock the door that's not mine after all. Caples is Hanna, and Hanna is Leonard and although I know where I'm supposed to be, I'm unable to find my way there.

My favorite Kenyon memory is from my first year, when it snowed the day before second-semester classes. My roommate, Anna, and I walked through the snow from the side door of McBride to the bookstore's basement, where textbooks were sold. The snow lay undisturbed, and our footprints were the first to mark the way. I remember it was so quiet I could hear the snowflakes tinkling as they landed. Anna and I laughed and grabbed each other's arms when our feet slid out from beneath us every few steps. I remember being happy that day, the real kind of happy not defined by conditions.

Before my husband and I welcomed our first child, I excelled in a job I loved. But when our son, Archie, was born with Down syndrome and significant health issues, I prioritized his development over my own career. I left the workplace to stay at home and take on the significant work of raising a baby with a disability. We welcomed twins, Kit and Walter, before Archie's second birthday. I don't remember much about that year, but I'm certain I was stretched thin. Our twins just started their sophomore years of college, and Archie lives his best life here at home with his dad and me.

My Kenyon degree has served me in ways I never imagined. It turns out educated parents raise enlightened children who are poised to change the world.



1999

Lloyd Tyrell-Kenyon, Lord Kenyon and Sixth Baron of Gredington, delivers the Founders' Day address in honor of **Kenyon's 175th anniversary**.



James P. Storer Hall, **the new home of the music department**, is dedicated in October in honor of the generosity of the former Kenyon trustee and chair of the Campaign for Kenyon (1984-1989). It is the first Kenyon building designed by Graham Gund '63 H'81, one of the pre-eminent architects in the country.

Musical acts that rocked the College in the 1990s:

Ani DiFranco Displays Folk Talent



- 1993:** Anni DiFranco, *Gund Commons*
- 1994:** Blues Traveler, *Wertheimer Fieldhouse*
- 1997:** They Might Be Giants, *Senior Sendoff*
- 1999:** De La Soul, *Senior Sendoff*

taking the official admissions tour and even wandering around the cemetery, we had an idyllic afternoon. My daughter became officially smitten. As we popped into the dining hall, we had an odd little encounter with dozens and dozens of women spilling out of the Peirce doors all dressed to the nines in wedding dresses! Not sure what the occasion was, but it provided the perfect note of whimsy at the end of our day."

1993

Edward E. Curtis IV returned to Kenyon last fall to deliver the keynote address at a conference celebrating "Across the Worlds of Islam," the book he co-wrote with **Kate Blanchard '92, Holly Donahue Singh '00, Tess M. Waggoner '13, Max J. Dugan '14, Henry D. Brill '19,** 2016-17 visiting faculty Michael Muhammad Knight and Professor Vernon Schubel. **Koren L. (Kuna) Gately** updates, "Recently, I was able to hang out with **Jen Carter** in Atlanta while she was attending a conference. What a blast to reminisce about memories I haven't thought of in ... well, way too many years. Chris and I have been in Newnan, Georgia, for six years. I am full-on back in the swim world, coaching middle and high school swim at a local private school. Started my own mobile swim school called Aqua Elite Swimstitute (aeswimstitute.com). Never imagined doing private lessons in February in Georgia, but five swimmers started already." **Sarah O. Gimbel-Sherr**, Seattle, notes, "I have been

asked frequently this year about my college experiences and my friendships, and I am extremely conscious and grateful for all the Kenyon connections still strong and central in my life. I am very happily married to **Kenneth Gimbel-Sherr '95**, I have a regular book club with **Katie U. Snyder '94** and **Jen (Usher) Anderson '94** and socialize regularly with **Matthew A. Smolinski** and **Alfred C. Snyder '94**. I regularly spend time with **Elizabeth A. Brekhus**, a town mayor down in Marin. **Eliot E. Dam** popped in this year during a car rally to resolve an unfortunate ticket situation. I get to

director of administrative technology, I also sold the first two novels in a time-travel historical fiction series. 'Splinter Effect' will be published by Minotaur/St. Martins on March 18, 2025. Daughter Josephine will be a senior at Knox College, and my wife, Tess, and I welcomed son August to our family in 2022!" **Kelley E. Wilder** updates, "We've moved to Leipzig, Germany, and welcome anyone passing through to stop and say hello, or go for a run in the forest, which is endless here and very flat. I continue to teach in our online M.A. in photographic history and direct research at the

"Never imagined doing private lessons in February in Georgia, but five swimmers started already."

— **Koren L. (Kuna) Gately '93**, on starting a mobile swim school called Aqua Elite Swimstitute (aeswimstitute.com) in Atlanta

see **Michael E. Leland '94** when we visit Kenny's folks in Denver and **Jane K. Crawford** when I visit my dad in Montana. We visited and received visits from **Stevenson B. Bennett '96** and **Devin D. Wilson '95** in the last year. My daughter **Lola E. Gimbel-Sherr '25** is now a senior. Heck, even my yoga teacher, **Madzy E. Besselaar '88**, went to Kenyon! Long live the Lords and Ladies — I mean Owls!" **Andrew M. Ludington** informs, "The last two years have brought big news for me and my family. While Northwestern University still keeps me busy as the senior

Photographic History Research Centre at De Montfort University. It was great to learn that **Cat Kenworthy Allen**'s daughter has become an excellent distance runner — and to see them both last summer in New York. It made me long for a chance to visit Kenyon again. Can someone send some vibes from Middle Path across the pond, please?"

1994

Julian L. Boxenbaum was looking forward to the Reunion, lining up child care for "our 6-year-old twins, Stella and Matilda, and our 11-week-old dog, Ziggy

Bulletin | Class Notes

Sawdust," he wrote last spring. "Alessandra and I are still trying to get used to living in the burbs of Montclair, New Jersey, but we're happy we bought the house just before COVID hit. I've had the great fortune to see **Jeremy D. Willius, Temple B. Stites Jr.** and **Nick J. Tyner** with some regularity. They are all doing well for a bunch of

Over 15 years, I held various roles at BMW Motorcycles, including serving as the U.S. spokesperson/ambassador for their off-road brand, the GS, and later as the editor-in-chief for the BMW Riders Association. During this time, I collaborated with **Ethan M. Powsner '80**, my assistant editor. I pursued further education in cybersecu-

Arlington, Virginia, in late 2023. After nine moves in three countries since we got married, it's nice to be at our last — or just latest? — stop. We're loving being closer to family and both old and new friends, and enjoying all that the D.C. area has to offer."

1995

J. David Hicks, Bristol, Tennessee, updates, "The circus that is the Hicks family continues to roll along. Cindy and I expect to be grandparents — eldest offspring Alex and his wife have told us they are expecting this fall. That's both exciting and, in an odd way, depressing, as I refuse to believe I am that old. Offspring No. 2 (Daniel) graduated from Rhodes in May. Stephen finished his first year at Carson-Newman and made a hundred-mile trek on the Appalachian Trail this summer, while Luke finished his sophomore year of high school. Meanwhile, I've signed up for another Ironman, my first in five years (and I'm 45 pounds heavier!). So yeah, not much going on around here."

1996

Grace Davie lives in Port Washington, New York, with her 16-year-old son and "a certain college sophomore (**Sascha Shapiro '27**) who periodically returns from Gambier, Ohio, with laundry and delightful stories to share about his amazing professors and spirited classmates." **Sam Grobart** warned: "Lords! Ladies! Owls! I'll be visiting Gambier this August as my first-born child. **Kate Grobart '28**, will be starting her hilltop adventure! The dynasty begins! Prepare

the bookstore for her four-year residence!" **Andrew S. Richmond**, Belpre, Ohio, updates, "Our new business venture, Meander Auctions, is going very well and keeping my family busy. We've had four auctions and sold antiques and art to folks across the country and around the world. It's great to be back in the auction business ... but now working for myself!"

1997

George L. Hawkey left Microsoft after 13 years for NVIDIA. "I normally don't feel like I'm living in a sci-fi scenario," he shares, "but I'm now focusing on AI and the industrial metaverse. So sci-fi it is. The role has been an exciting shift, and it's moving a million miles an hour. We moved from Seattle to the Los Angeles area. It's been since August 1993 that I've lived near my parents and siblings in Pasadena. Happy my kids will finally have extended family surrounding them." Over the summer, George went to France to celebrate with friends and family as his wife, Bénédicte, earned her M.B.A. from HEC Paris. **Aaron B. MacLeod** updates, "Semi-retiring to southern Portugal with Jack (husband) and cats."

1998

Shannon D. Conrad informs, "I had a great time at Reunion last year — it was great to see many of you! I live in Portland, Oregon, with my husband, Brian, and children Kieran (12) and Raina (9). My small acupuncture and Chinese medicine clinic is now licensed as a psilocybin facilitator; Oregon is the first state to legalize

"My small acupuncture and Chinese medicine clinic is now licensed as a psilocybin facilitator."

— **Shannon D. Conrad '98**, of Portland, who notes that Oregon is the first state to legalize its use for therapeutic purposes

geezers. I occasionally see **Chris G. Calvosa** in NYC, though he is in full-on 'baby jail' right now. Be strong, Cal! Parole is only several years away." **Martina E. Faulkner** wrote, "While I continue to love my work as a publisher finding talented authors and unique voices to bring to the world, I have returned to my passion for writing with three nonfiction books being released this year. The first — 'A.T.O.M.I.C. Thoughts' — will be out this summer, and already has received great feedback from folks working in mental health and higher education." Martina was planning to return to the Hill for Reunion with **Patty A. Lea** via a road trip from Chicago. **Jane R. Schluter** updates, "Here is my post-Kenyon life in a nutshell: I lived and worked in Italy as a model, at an international law firm and for Miramax.

ity, obtaining my Sec+ certification. I am now engaged in a project aimed at bringing Formula 1 to a new host country. Over the years, I saw **Cristin D. Bishara** while she resided in Sanibel, Florida, where my parents also lived, and I ran into **Colleen H. Grazioso** at the Sugarbush ski resort. **Maria M. Kelley** and I saw each other when she lived in NYC. My two boys are 15 and 17. My older son thrives at his boarding school, recently returning from a school trip to Zimbabwe; my younger son earned a varsity football letter as a freshman and is in all honors classes. I add a few more countries to my list every year and pursue new languages." **Chad J. Withers** reports, "After being away from the East Coast for over 25 years, we finally returned, moving from Illinois to

its use for therapeutic purposes. I've also just been voted onto the board of trustees of the Multnomah Athletic Club, the largest athletic and social club in the state and where I spend a lot of my free time."

Jack Justin Dreher updates, "After 20 years in Nashville, earning my Vanderbilt master's in clinical counseling, I moved back to southern Ohio to open my own private practice. I work strictly via telehealth and see clients throughout Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee. I primarily focus on working with men and men's issues, but I also work extensively with military members, law enforcement and first responders, as well as their families, doing trauma and family therapy." This fall, Jack began a yearlong training in Catholic anthropology, working toward a certification in Catholic counseling. "In my spare time, I volunteer with my parish and a local men's homeless shelter and spend weekends exploring Ohio in search of good food and music."

Brian S. Mason was finishing his first term as district attorney for Colorado's 17th Judicial District, a community of about 700,000 people on the northern side of the Denver Metro area. "I am up for re-election and will find out in November if the voters want me to serve another term. (They did.) My wife and our three wonderful children live active lives; I have trouble keeping up with them. Happy Birthday to Kenyon!"

Nathaniel J. McDonald, Chardon, Ohio, reports, "In January, I started my first term as a Munson Township trustee

after being elected in November 2023. This role really puts the local in local government. My family has lived in Munson Township, Ohio, since the 1800s, so it has been a new and interesting way for me to engage with the past, present and future of my hometown."

1999

Michael J. Klein informs, "Still chugging away here in Williamsburg, Virginia. Sylvie's turning from a delightful baby into a precocious and opinionated 2-year-old. It's been a pretty frickin' awesome ride thus far, and I can't wait to see what's next." The family hosted **Andrew D. Lebkuecher** and **Alys L. Spensley '01** and their three "absolutely fantastic kids" last February.

2000s

2000

Naomi Raquel Enright keyed the Centering Latinx Voices and Narratives Conference at Campbell Hall in Studio City, California, in March. "I read from my book 'Strength of Soul,' speaking to the nuance and complexity of identity, the power of language and the inextricable link between stories and systems. It is a thrill to be able to interweave my work as a writer, educator and consultant."

2001

Emily Guy Birken, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, reports, "My son Ari became a bar mitzvah on Aug. 26, 2023. As proof that he is his mother's son, his speech compared lessons from his Torah portion to characters from 'Lord of the Rings.'"

Vincent X. Jacobi and **Emily L. Warren '00** married last New Year's Eve in Portland, Oregon, with many Kenyon friends of more than 20 years in attendance. "It was a great night to celebrate, reconnect and bring in the new year. **Weston C. Pew '02** was our officiant, while Emily's father **Perry D. Warren '70** walked her down the aisle." Attendees included **Marela Zacarias '00**, **Aloyse M. B. Brown '00**, **Erika N. Feldman '00**, **Nicole K. "Nyki" Nesser '00**, **Karla D. Tibbetts**, **Lee J. Massey-Heekin**, **Adam**

Greek master iconographer George Kordis. "If anyone needs some retreat space, know that you are welcome at Saint Meinrad or my monastery in Ferdinand, Indiana."

2002

Margaret Y. Gilbert teaches English in Santiago, Chile, noting how fast the kids grow. "Sebastian is 14, Magdalena is 11, and Gael turned 7 in May. I started a nonprofit with a group of like-minded moms around alternative specialized education for youth with cognitive disabilities,

Reese and Henry. Go, Owls!" **James M. McHaney** moved to Minnesota, where he works remotely as a marketer for the Oakland-based conversion van company GlamperVan. As a native of Arkansas, he appreciated the mild winter. "Love seeing you and your beautiful families on Facebook and Insta and would love to host any of you if you're ever passing through the Twin Cities."

2003

Eric Ward updates, "After nearly six years as a research ecologist

"My family has lived (here) since the 1800s, so it has been a new and interesting way for me to engage with the past, present and future of my hometown."

— **Nathaniel J. McDonald '98**, of Chardon, Ohio, who started his first term as a Munson Township trustee after being elected in November 2023

W. Atwell, **Patrick W. Hanna**, **Meghan A. Salas Atwell '02**, **Peter Hurteau '02**, **Blaire C. Modic '02**, **Eric H. Hickey '03** and **Abigail A. Fammartino '04**. **Sr. Jeana M. Visel** continues to serve as dean of School of Theology programs and adjunct assistant professor of spirituality at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in southern Indiana. Through an Indiana Traditional Arts grant, she took on an icon painting apprentice and hopes to use the grant to support further studies working with

especially focusing on Down syndrome and ASD." Check out ProDown Chile (@pro-downchile). **Elizabeth P. Martinich** and **Jeremy A. Martinich '04** "had the pleasure of returning to the Hill to support the 50th anniversary of women's lacrosse at Kenyon," Liz writes. "Watched some great wins from both the women's and men's teams. We were lucky enough to catch up with the one and only Patrick Gilligan. Being back on campus was wonderful (and different) to be accompanied by our three kids, Charlie,

for the U.S. Geological Survey working on climate change impacts and ecosystem carbon cycling, I accepted a position as associate research scientist at University of Maryland to work with NASA Goddard on global methane cycling and other ecosystem carbon topics." Eric, his wife, Varsha Vijay, and their daughter Meenakshi relocated from Louisiana to Maryland. **Kathleen Moore** informs, "In November I moved from Ohio to the Bay Area to begin work as associate rector at St. John's Episcopal

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Church in Oakland. I served as student intern at St. John's during graduate school, so it has really felt like a homecoming. One of the highlights of 2023 was getting to spend a weekend in Gambier with 2003 classmates for our 20th Reunion!"

2004

Katie Jackson Cannon teaches spinning and weaving at the Kenyon Craft Center and is an affiliated scholar in the religious studies department, "participating in the Interfaith Partnership with a Buddhist perspective," she updates. "**Brian C. Cannon '05** and I have been taking care of our farm's sheep and bees, who happily made it

Marc left to be a full-time dad. Jenny works from home as part of a data and informatics team focused on wildlife health. With their Sheltie mix, Josie, they are enjoying lots of quality time together as Ricka grows. "Ricka was just over a year old when she overnighted in a Kenyon dorm room for the first time at Reunion!"

Jennifer A. Judson writes, "I'm happy to report I got to see more Kenyon faces in 2023 than I normally do. I had the pleasure of catching up with **Adam G. Lazarus** in Alexandria, Virginia, for a talk on his latest book, 'The Wing Men: The Unlikely, Unusual, Unbreakable Friendship Between John Glenn and Ted

Media award for best land systems submission. **Leeman Kessler** muses, "Time moves differently in Gambier than outside of it. It's been 24 years since Rachel and I arrived, 20 since we graduated, and nine since we came back to make this place our home. In those years we've witnessed this village change and grow, but an essential character of it has remained in place. That essence draws so many of us back here, year after year and decade after decade. We're so immensely blessed to call this place our home and are excited to share in Gambier's story with countless others." **Taryn A. Myers** had three journal articles published last year, "including one in collaboration with Kenyon professor Sarah Murnen," she informs.

2005

Lanier F. Basenberg describes her great 2023: "I got to see my Kenyon roommates for our semi-annual roommate reunion, I was given a teaching award and I had a baby! Even though all my degrees are in sociology, I have somehow ended up teaching in a multi-disciplinary program very similar to IPHS. Kenyon prepared me to raise more generations of thoughtful, creative and capable students, and I enjoy 'radicalizing' more of them every year by teaching them basic critical thinking." **Celeste D. Berteau** and her husband, Taylor, welcomed their second son into the world in Edinburgh, Scotland. "My eldest (5) has a funny mix of an American and Scottish accent now, which I find pretty adorable. We got

to see **Rosemary L. Karr** this spring, which was a real treat! We couldn't believe it's been 20 years since graduation. Let me know if you are ever on this side of the pond. It would be lovely to see Kenyon folk." **Tim Chenette** moved into "our dream house" in Logan, Utah, he writes, "which we've been designing and getting built for about four years. It's very exciting, and we look forward to never having any problems again!" **Daniel Z. Epstein** left Washington, D.C., after 15 years for Boca Raton, Florida, where he is now a full-time professor at the St. Thomas University Benjamin L. Crump School of Law. It's "the most diverse law school in the country," he informs. "Over 95 percent of the student body is Latin American, and 100 percent of the student body is on financial aid. I teach civil procedure, constitutional law, federal courts and administrative law. My scholarship focuses on how the enforcement of legal duties in our federal legal system depends upon the decisions of interest groups — not public officials' and not courts." **Cara P. McIlwaine** updates, "After Christmas, my family and I left New York and relocated to Cincinnati for an opportunity with Kroger. We bought our first home! We are acclimating to life and this big change and would love to connect with more Cincinnati and northern Kentucky alums. Our daughters are enjoying having more space to roam. Siobhan enjoyed her new first-grade class, and my baby Beatrice is walking everywhere! I miss

"I got to see my Kenyon roommates for our semi-annual roommate reunion, I was given a teaching award and I had a baby!"

— **Lanier F. Basenberg '05**, summing up the highlights from a great 2023

through the winter. We have plans to expand our mushroom-growing operation; the first crop of shiitakes were quite tasty! We love walks on the Kokosing Gap Trail and watching the bats and barn swallows catching bugs above our pond on warm evenings." **Jennifer (Glazer) Chipault** and **Marc F. Chipault** announce the birth of their daughter, Ricka Marsden Chipault, in April 2023. Marc and Jenny have been in Madison, Wisconsin, for 15 years. A laboratory microbiologist at UW,

Williams." On a Reunion planning weekend, Jen also reminisced with **Stephanie E. (Cutts) Cheney**, **Cynthia A. Cunningham**, **Anne Higby Ellsworth**, along with **Alexander S. "Sandy" Bryant '02**. "Otherwise, I'm still busy juggling my journalism career at Defense News (been there eight years now) and raising my two little boys with my husband Jim in Arlington, Virginia." Jen won two journalism awards in 2023: a Society for Professional Journalists award in breaking news, and a Defense

seeing **Sarah H. Daily '02** when we would walk our kids to school in NYC."

2006

Kaley P. Bell will continue to be based in New York but with an office in the northwest corner of Connecticut, now that, after 12 years at St. Bernard's, she is transitioning out of her role as director of secondary school advising and building her own advising firm, the Bellwether Advisors. Remote work allows her to take on clients around the country and world, and also to spend more time in the Adirondacks, where she sits on the board of trustees at Silver Bay YMCA (joining **Howard M. "Matt" Crusey '99**), part of the NextGen of the Lake George Land Conservancy. "If you know of anyone considering boarding school or an independent day school for high school, drop an email to kaley@thebellwetheradvisors.com." **Emilee Kristin Harvey** shares, "I always read our Class Notes with a mix of emotions. There are things I'm grateful for during my time at Kenyon, and many things I try not to remember — like the trauma of losing a roommate to suicide my first semester. Unlike many of you, I don't have lasting friendships from my days on the Hill. Most of my four years were spent in the library, on the soccer field or figuring out who I wasn't, rather than who I was. What I am grateful for are the doorways that Kenyon opened for me that have led to a richer and fuller life than I could have possibly imagined when I was 22. I think fondly of Professor Heidt's

George Eliot class and her delicious homemade cherry pie. I'm thankful for Professor Hicks' challenging classes and her help putting me on the path to my first post-college job at the NIH. But I left Kenyon more confused than when I arrived and without the deep and lasting relationships I craved. Twenty-five years of perspective have transformed that confusion mostly into appreciation. I've had the privilege to travel the world, live overseas and find my way back home to Ohio, where I'm raising three beautiful boys (2, 4 and 6) with my amazing husband. I work from home, leading a customer success team for a health-care tech firm, and start most days with a walk around my suburban neighborhood. From the outside looking in, I'd imagine it appears a simple life at best, and lack of living up to my potential at worst. For me, it's a life that's rich in love, the joy and challenges of the day-to-day; one that's rooted in my faith in Jesus and blessed by the hope of what may come next." **Bethany (Shopland) Hurley** notes that she "had the pleasure of singing 'Kokosing Farewell' with the Chamber Singers when they came through Erie, Pennsylvania, on their spring tour. It brought back so many good memories!" **Sarah E. Spiegler** submits: "It's been a busy year here in our small town of Beaufort, North Carolina. Jacob and I welcomed a beautiful baby boy in January 2023, Averett James Boyd-Spiegler! A few months later, I decided to run for public office.

In November. I was elected town commissioner of Beaufort! Averett's first birthday turned out extra special, as it was also the day of my first official town commission meeting." Sarah still works full-time for N.C. Sea Grant at N.C. State, and Jacob works with the N.C. Coastal Federation. **Jon**

5 — my younger brother, **Mark A. Peterson '08** officiated — and live in downtown Detroit." **William O'Keefe** sent in an almost-haiku: "Kenyon Owls take flight! Feet pounding on Minneapolis streets. Run for joy and race." The Kenyon Owls Running Club, led by Will, **Sarah (Watkins) Lee, Sarita**

"I think fondly of Professor Heidt's George Eliot class and her delicious homemade cherry pie."

— **Emilee Kristin Harvey '06**, sharing highlights from her Kenyon memories

A. Stein, New York City, and his wife, Lauren, welcomed into the world a daughter, Lily Grace Stein, on Oct. 15, 2023.

2007

Ali E. Kittle writes, "Life in Denver is great! We welcomed our second kiddo, Luca, in fall 2023. He brings a lot of joy and laughter, and it's been so gratifying to watch his sister interact with him. Despite seeing many more pre-dawn hours than we'd like, it's been fun adjusting to a family of four, though my car will never be the same. We planned lots of zoo and hiking for the summer, including leading a four-day horse pack in Leadville." **Kathryn M. Peterson** works at an elementary school in Detroit as a K-5 literacy coach. "Our students are majority ELL students whose native language is Spanish," she explains. "So I regularly use things I learned in my psychology courses to help my students and staff. I got married July

K. Kundrod '13 and **Jesse E. Goldfarb '13** invites all to join their spirited runs. **Lauren C. Ostberg**, Hadley, Massachusetts, is trying to visit the 48 continental U.S. states before she turns 40. "If you would recommend particular places of interest in South Dakota or Oklahoma, please share." She also notes that **Benjamin F. Taylor** "started playing the octave mandolin, and it's a very positive human/instrument relationship. The kids are currently into kung fu, pranks and the Yiga clan (from Zelda)." **Robert R. Warnock IV**, Chicago, updates, "Generally, work is good and a bit nerdy, which I enjoy. I also sit on the board of a fintech in the UK focused on the underserved in the EU." Bob and his wife, Emily, welcomed their first child (Quinn) to the world in 2020 during the pandemic. "Oddly, those COVID years, with a baby growing into a wee toddler, were some

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of the best of my life — it made us very close and provided perspective on a number of items. Sadly, we then lost our first family pet, a cat (Gambit). After several months of searching, we took in two refugee kittens (Cosmo and Kit Kat), amazing additions to our family.”

2008

Shea M. Davis is one year into a new job as an academic advisor at Ohio State University. She has enjoyed working with undecided

Zachary S. Frank reports, “Recorded and currently releasing singles leading up to my debut EP, ‘Season 1: Taking Chances,’ fully released on May 28 under the artist name zfrank. Find me on Spotify et al. (@thezfrank on socials). Finally putting that music major to use 16 years later. Keep tabs — many albums to follow!” **Ann M. Shikany** marked her third year serving in the Biden-Harris administration at the Department

her sister’s wedding in Kent, Ohio. **Ann Pedtke** and **Patrick B. Smyth** update: “Our daughter Lily Beatrice Smyth was born in November 2023, and we are leaning in to life as New York City parents. Patrick enjoys giving the baby increasingly silly nicknames, and Ann takes her out on long walks to spot hawks and owls and get to know her local urban green spaces. We look forward to raising Lily in the ‘World’s Borough’ of Queens, where our neighbors and local business owners already know her well and she is surrounded by a village of family and friends.” After six months of leave, Ann returned to her role as deputy director of citywide special events at NYC Parks, where her office is in a turret of the Arsenal in Central Park. “Basically, I get to work in a castle in a park.” In Patrick’s new remote role as staff developer relations engineer at software security startup Chainguard, he creates workshops, curriculum and open-source resources for developers. **Sarah (Prendergast) Wallace** and **Zachary S. Wallace** announce the addition of baby Hazel Elizabeth to the family. “Born August 2, 2023, Hazel has spent her days snuggling and laughing with her big brother, Finnegan. Finn turned 3 in March and is a rambunctious ball of fun. The whole fam is doing great in Cleveland Heights.”

2010s

2010

Peter Dumbadze and his partner, Claire, are “happily living in Park Slope, Brooklyn,” he reports, “with our dog,

Stella, and the myriad rats that have taken up residence in the ceiling above us. When we’re not combating rodent infiltrations, we are busy in the world of New York City architecture. I opened my own practice, Out of Shape Architecture, three years ago and am currently collaborating with a colleague on a mass-timber project in mid-coastal Maine. Outside my practice, I teach fourth-year undergraduate architecture students at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. I often remind my students that they are not as cool as I am, and that Saturday nights are meant not for schoolwork but for partying.” **McNeil F. Parker** informs, “I have continued to follow my football coaching passions to our new home at Bucknell University. Christine and I have truly enjoyed our time here in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, and have loved being a part of the college town. Nelle (5) brings infectious energy to kindergarten every day, and Kate’s (3) personality will always shine though in her many activities. Both girls are big into gymnastics and continue to amaze on a daily basis.” **Samantha M. Turner** sends hello from the Events Office here in Gambier. “Spring semester brought my usual ceremonies (Honors Day, Baccalaureate and Commencement) but also all of the added excitement and chaos of our bicentennial year and the Investiture ceremony (part of the Inauguration festivities) for President Kornfeld. The highlight was hosting a Galentine’s Brunch for a slew of

“I often remind my students that they are not as cool as I am, and that Saturday nights are meant not for schoolwork but for partying.”

—**Peter Dumbadze '10**, who teaches fourth-year undergraduate architecture students at the New Jersey Institute of Technology

students to help them find their majors. Being back on a college campus has caused her to reflect more frequently on her own college days. She’s also thankful that Kenyon had very simple diversification/general education requirements! Shea tries to visit Kenyon once or twice a year with her family and hopes that the Kokosing Gap Trail train will be enough to convince Remi (4) and Ada (2) to want to attend “Mommy’s purple school.” **Robert A. Dignazio** is athletic director at Barrack Hebrew Academy outside Philadelphia and lives nearby in Delaware County, Pennsylvania, with his wife, Morgan, and their two sons, Caleb and Asher.

of Transportation. “I started at chief of staff to the deputy secretary and am currently deputy assistant secretary for policy leading the department’s climate work. The 7-month-old baby boy I started with turned 3 in March! It’s been a huge help to have Kenyon friends going through similar family milestones at the same time.”

2009

Jennifer L. McKee and her husband moved back to Winston-Salem, North Carolina, from Maine. “Super-bummed to not be able to make Kenyon’s bicentennial Reunion,” but she was looking forward to passing through Gambier in May on her way back from

amazing women in my life, including **Megan C. Duffy '11**, **Alyssa R. Gómez Lawrence**, **Charlotte Bea Woolf '12** and my mom, physics Professor Paula Turner! Hope to see lots of friends from near and far for our 15-year Reunion in 2025!" **Elizabeth D. (Hancock) Vilt** and her husband, Skyler, welcomed twins Robbie Dodd and Poppy James Vilt in fall 2023. "Life these days is best described as joyful chaos, and we wouldn't have it any other way."

2011

Elana B. Carlson notes, "By the time this comes out (probably not, but maybe!), I will have opened a bagel shop in Kingston, New York! Fantzye Bagels will serve sourdough bagel sandwiches, coffee and more! **Troy M. Shaheen '10** is nearby and maybe more of you! Come visit." **Liza Chabot** welcomed **Hannah B. Withers**, **Katherine D. Kremer**, **Brianna Parry** and **Rose M. Proctor '10** to her home in Durham, North Carolina, last fall for her wedding to Pavle Matak. "Even former professor Ivonne García and her husband, Lance, came to be a part of the small ceremony and sign our wedding papers," she writes. "It was one of the best weekends of my life, and I was thrilled to have so many wonderful people show up for us. Since then, we're happily continuing our hectic life together in Durham, where we have lots of room for visitors if you're ever passing through." **Carling M. FitzSimmons** and her husband, Miles, welcomed their first child, Willa, in January 2023. "Becoming a parent is

the hardest/best thing I've ever done," she shares, "and I've been especially grateful to my Kenyon-friends-turned-parent-friends, who have reached out to support, celebrate and commiserate with me. When I'm not researching animal sounds for my toddler — what does an umbrella bird say? — I'm still singing, teaching and conducting. My professional women's ensemble (like Colla Voce, but older) released our third studio album this past fall and premiered a gorgeous new piece by **Nyandeng Juag '22**. I'm eternally grateful to Kenyon for fostering my love of music and continuing to connect me with inspiring, creative people." **Christopher R. MacColl** married Julia Li in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 7, 2023, and was thrilled to have the support of **Sarah B. (Cook) and William L. Kessenich**, **Jonathan Weil**, **Robert O. Carpenter '10** and **Clinton J. Kugler '10** at the ceremony. "Followed that up by becoming the first lawyer to successfully subpoena Donald Trump to testify as a third-party deponent for official acts as president ten days later," Chris noted. "Then left for our honeymoon to New Zealand. Things have quieted down a bit since. Still living in northeast D.C." **Sam Mashaw** embarked on a second year working full time as a psychotherapist via telehealth. "In November 2023, I got engaged to my wonderful partner, Dave, and we have enjoyed the challenges and privileges of becoming homeowners this past year. If you're in the New Haven area, be in touch and I will

"I've been especially grateful to my Kenyon-friends-turned-parent-friends, who have reached out to support, celebrate and commiserate with me."

— **Carling M. FitzSimmons '11**, who reports that "becoming a parent is the hardest/best thing I've ever done"

direct you to the best Thai food the city has to offer!" **Ryan J. Poh** and his wife, Shannon, welcomed their first son, Alexander James Poh, into the world on Nov. 29, 2023. "We are doing great, living in Dallas, and at Sazerac I have been working in brands — Fireball, Buffalo Trace and Southern Comfort, amongst hundreds of others."

2012

Lily D. Barrett and her husband, Jake, are now back home in Boston, where Lily works as a software engineer and, with her twin sister, runs Read My Lips Boston, a pop-up bookshop specializing in diverse romance novels. **Caitlin Cook** describes "a big couple of years! My one-woman bathroom graffiti musical, 'The Writing on the Stall,' sold out its debut run off-Broadway at Soho Playhouse in the fall of 2023 and toured the U.S., the UK and Europe. I love seeing alumni after shows. Come say hi! I also got engaged in Cancun to my best friend and long-time writing partner, A.J. Holmes. When we're not touring together, we live in Brooklyn with our two cats, Max and Spiro." **Matthew W. Davis** relocated back to New York

City after several years in California. "I am currently working on a new performance commission for the High Line and Frieze New York. The work, titled 'Die No Die,' premiered May 1-3 on the High Line in New York City." Matty was featured on the cover of BOMB magazine, which ran an extensive interview about his work with two-time Pulitzer-finalist Chloé Cooper Jones. **Garrett S. and Arielle A. (Ismail) Fields** welcomed another addition to the family, Henry McDaniel Fields, born March 2023. "He and his older brother, Philip, keep everything lively and wonderfully chaotic. We relocated to St. Paul, Minnesota. Garrett joined the U.S. attorney's office, where he prosecutes primarily drug trafficking and fraud cases. Ari is in the fourth year of her Ph.D. program, teaching classes and writing her dissertation." **Lucas T. Ivey** welcomed a second child, a boy named Gerald O'Reilly Ivey, on Sept. 27, 2023. "He goes by Reilly, and he's the happiest baby around." **Vivian J. Buchanan Jablonski** and her husband welcomed a son, Ollie, into the world in May 2023. "He loves being

outside, listening to music, and is obsessed with balloons. While in utero, Ollie met **Emily E. Rapp** for brunch down in Boston, had lunch with **Sophia E. Yablon** and attended **Melody C. Travers'** wedding in Austin, and danced the night away with **Caitlin Cook**, **Alexandra P. Klein** and **Kelly E. Anderson**. Now out in the world, he's enjoyed hanging out with **Rachel Keller** and her little ones and can't wait to meet more Kenyon friends!" **Jessica F. Marroquin** is living her best "Upper West Side mom life," she writes, with **Jacob P. Weiner '15** and their daughter Addie, born July 2023. "I've been working as a learning experience designer at Amazon Ads and make the jump into UX design soon." **Amelia McClure-Dunbar** reports, "My husband and I welcomed Isabelle Grace Dunbar on Nov. 28, 2023. She joins big sister Charlotte, who adores her." Amelia is vice president at the Corydon Group, Indiana's largest independent government affairs firm, representing a number of state and national clients. **Ryan I. Motevalli-Oliner** and **Brittany L. Thielke**, Columbus, Ohio, had

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their second child, son Nolan, in May. Son Emmett is excited to be a big brother. “Brittany is crushing it as an ELL teacher, while I am working in Kenyon’s admissions office,” Ryan reports. **Daniel J. Rooker** has been having “a wild ride,” he reports. “Closed my firm, Rook Financial, in May 2023 and transitioned clients to a startup called SLP Wealth. I am one of eight equity partners on a team of 28 aiming to change the financial advice landscape for Millennials and Gen Z, who make up a supermajority of our 1,100 clients. I’m also going to

Professor Mauck at Bowdoin Scientific Station, Kent Island, New Brunswick — has taken me to a new position with Birds Canada, managing our science and conservation work with indigenous groups and partners in northern Canada.” **Nicolyn V. Woodcock** enjoyed time on campus last February with Alumni Council alongside the Black Student Union 55th reunion planners. “We enjoyed perfect weather extremes — beautiful and sunny, 60 degrees on Friday, followed by a couple inches of snow Saturday morning and a high of

part of the coalition that passed Issue 1, enshrining abortion rights in the Ohio Constitution. We proudly signed on to a letter by ARC-Southeast affirming that reproductive justice includes Palestinian liberation. I encourage you to read it here: [arc-southeast.org/2023/10/24/rj-includes-palestine.](http://arc-southeast.org/2023/10/24/rj-includes-palestine/)” **Madeline A. Jobrack** writes, “I visited **Elizabeth G. ‘Libby’ Panhorst** in Cleveland, and we discussed how not enough people from our year write Class Notes, so here I am! I am alive and well, living in Columbus, Ohio, with my dog, my cat and my spouse. Over the last several years, I have been at Columbus State Community College teaching English as a second language to adults and running an after-school program for English language learners from second through fifth grade. I’ve also been teaching myself to knit, and I’m taking ice skating lessons! Maybe a new Olympic event?” **Lindsay K. Lynch** published her debut novel, “Do Tell” (Doubleday Books, 2023). “Since then,” she notes, “it has been a USA Today best-seller, an Indie Next selection by the American Booksellers Association, and I was featured on the ‘Today’ show with Hoda and Jenna, alongside my mentor, Ann Patchett. It’s been a hectic year of traveling for events and promoting ‘Do Tell,’ but incredibly gratifying! Thank you to all the Kenyon alumni who have reached out and read my book. It means the world to me.” She looked forward to decompressing — and starting another novel! **The Rev. Gregory Stark**

graduated from his research master’s program at KU Leuven and moved from Belgium to the UK to start a Ph.D. in divinity at the University of Cambridge, “studying the poetry of AIDS, mourning and a queer theology of grace,” he updates. “I currently serve as assistant chaplain at Emmanuel College, Cambridge.” **Christina A. Taliercio** sent the following: “Tina lives in Salt Lake City, Utah, with her fiancé, Matt, and three cats, T-Dog, Olive and Waffles.” They were married in Moab, Utah, in May 2024 (the cats regrettably were not involved in the wedding). She spends most of her free time hiking and biking in the mountains, and works as a pilot for Alaska Airlines.

2014

Brielle A. Giomini “experienced a plethora of exciting milestones within the last few years,” she updates. After competing her predoctoral internship and postdoc in southern California, she married “her soulmate, Lindsay Giomini, in sunny Laguna Beach.” Brielle earned her doctorate in psychology from Spalding University and is now a licensed clinical psychologist, specializing in working with the LGBTQIA+ community. She and Lindsay moved back to Cleveland this spring, where Brielle works in private practice. **Natalie Thielen Helper** and her fiancé moved back to her beloved home state of Hawai’i. “Overjoyed to be putting down deep roots in Hilo on the Big Island, where I work in fundraising for the nonprofit news outlet Civil Beat. Won’t miss the winters but will very

“I am one of eight equity partners on a team of 28 aiming to change the financial advice landscape for Millennials and Gen Z.”

— **Daniel J. Rooker '12**, who closed his firm, Rook Financial, in May 2023 and transitioned clients to a startup called SLP Wealth

try to turn my consulting side hustle into a property management company in Chicago. Quetz and I welcomed Evan Savage Rooker to the family. He’s our first, and is quite the little savage! We feel blessed and grateful to bring a little boy into this world, and now my days stop at 4 p.m. sharp for playtime with Evan.” **Graham H. Sorenson** and his wife welcomed a son into the world in July 2023. “We live near the Bay of Fundy in New Brunswick, Canada. My passion for birds and conservation — which started at Kenyon and grew during a summer research position with

30 degrees!” She is also working on regional plans for the Cincinnati-Dayton area. “Be on the lookout if you’re around, and get in touch if you’d like to help!” **2013** **Colleen M. Damerell**, Cleveland, updates, “I have worked in abortion care almost my entire career since leaving Kenyon. I now manage an abortion practical support program for Ohio Women’s Alliance, a statewide reproductive justice advocacy group led by Black women and focused on the well-being of Ohio women, gender-expansive people and families. OWA was

Crossword Answers from inside back cover

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much miss living in New York City and hanging out regularly with **Benjamin L. Neuhaus** and **Shannon P. Kelley Chelsea (Katzeman) Kwan** and **Christopher Kwan '16** celebrated 10 years together on Nov. 10, 2023, and nine days later welcomed a beautiful baby girl, Kirby Josephine Kwan. She joins joins big sister Gemma, age 2. **Catherine P. Lloyd** moved back to her hometown, Geneseo, New York, after nearly a decade in San Francisco. She and her husband are raising their son Augustus close to a large and loving network of extended family. Catherine now works at GiveWell, a research nonprofit dedicated to global health. **Rebecca M. Oran** earned an M.P.H. in behavioral economics at Harvard and now leads the behavioral science team, or “nudge unit,” at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts. “My team is responsible for designing ‘nudges’ to encourage healthy behaviors. Confusingly, despite leading a team in Boston, I’m still based in D.C. where, in my free time, I’m enjoying all the nation’s capital has to offer.” **Gordon A. Slater** was excited to fly to LA for **Isaac P. Jay**’s wedding. “Can’t wait to celebrate Isaac and catch up with lots of Kenyon friends, especially Woody, who is a wonderful man.”

2015

Edward “Max” Karakul updates, “I graduated from law school and moved to The Hague to intern at the International Criminal Court and the Kosovo Specialist Chambers. I’m hoping

to find a permanent job in international criminal law when the internships are over and would love to stay in the Netherlands.” **Emily M. Sussman** and **Edward G.H. Baxter** married in September 2023. “We were lucky and privileged to spend the events leading up to the day with our wonderful friends and family, many of whom are alums. We still live in Brooklyn with our extremely loud feline son, Kugel the cat, and always look forward to seeing any Kenyon friends who pass through NYC.”

2016

Emily A. Sakamoto and **Thomas K. Reardon '17** bought a house in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Thomas joined a law firm in Durham as an attorney, and Emily works remotely as a director for a New York-based PR agency. **Noah T. Williams** updates, “Still happily living in Brooklyn, New York, with my wife, Lacey, and our adorable cat, Frankie. In 2023, I founded a small video production company called Out of Office Films. Enjoying the challenges and joys of being a small-business owner!”

2017

Benjamin F. Grannis shares, “As we round the corner into another year, I reflect on my experience at Kenyon and all of the open minds that fill campus. What great perspectives we were blessed to be around as we studied, from professors to Peirce staff to maintenance workers. Everyone who surrounds us throughout life makes our journey richer, and it’s up to us to make them part of our story and us part of theirs.

Thank you, Kenyon, for all the amazing memories and great people you attract and enrich.” Ben spent the winter in Yellowstone and is pursuing becoming a park ranger. “Go, Owls (and bison)!” **Emily C. Hogoboom** updates, “I’ve been living back in New Jersey for the past couple years with my border collie mix, Marvel, whom I adopted early in the pandemic. This spring, I’ll be racing in my first marathon in Jersey City, supported by some close friends and former classmates like **Jenna R. Cartusciello '18**. Summer before last, I made it back to campus for the first time to celebrate **Sarah M. Lloyd** and **Alexander W. Seaver**’s wedding, and it was a blast staying in the NCAs with lots of friends from our college years. Hope to make it back again soon!” **Tianqi Luo** is in the UK at Cambridge, studying for an M.Phil. in digital humanities, a subject “introduced to me by Professor Elkins. I’m just so grateful for the learning and the friendship I have formed at Kenyon. Years later, I am still living its legacy. Also a highlight: teaching Chinese to **Aldis Petriceks**, again a continuation of my time as Chinese AT at Kenyon. I keep running into Kenyon people even at Cambridge.” **Claire M. Naughton** launched a small business in France, where she has lived since 2018. “CN Writing & Consulting specializes in offering tailored SEO content and marketing strategy solutions for companies in the expat and travel space in Western Europe. I’m also actively growing my blog, on which I write about life as an expat, living in France and navigating

international relationships” (see themillennialabroad.com). A recent post explores “Tips and Tricks for Americans Dating in France”; in July, Claire married Thibault, “my Frenchie.” **Reagan L. Klinger-Neviska** married her partner, Zion, at Rising Park in Lancaster, Ohio, on Nov. 10, 2023. **Katherine E. King** was one of their witnesses. **Aldis H. Petriceks** sent in this note written in a café in Medellín, Colombia, where he was completing a psychiatry rotation at la Universidad de Antioquia: “He spends his mornings in the hospital thinking about delirium; his late afternoons reading, running, and thinking about Borges (who, though Argentinian, has become associated for him with all the Spanish language); and his evenings dancing as though his life depended on it. **Tianqi Luo** helps him to continue speaking Chinese, and he has taken his first stuttering steps toward Latvian — not for the vanity of mastery, but for the consciousness of his own intellectual poverty, as though more evidence of this were needed. Signed, Campus Safety Overlord.” **Benjamin T.A. Raji**, Silver Spring, Maryland, celebrated a fourth wedding anniversary. “My leadership roles at DHS/CISA keep me more than busy during the day, while music and church gets my focus off-hours.” Benji led a team at Union Church as its production director but stepped down to focus on music and business. He was on the Hill in February to help plan the 55th Black Student Union reunion. “A lot has changed on campus — that new library is something

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else! — and yet, not much has changed at all. Had a chance to kick it with the current Men of Color exec board. We're planning our first-ever (and 10-year) MOC reunion for spring; would love for any MOC alumni interested in planning to hit me up."

2018

Ian R. Burnette has co-lead research dissemination for MAPS, an NIH-NIDA Center of Excellence helping scientists develop more effective interventions for substance use disorder and HIV, across labs at Michigan, Harvard and NYU. "When I took Sergei Lobanov-Rostovsky's Science Writing course in my final semester

in April. After finishing at the Ohio State University College of Dentistry, Lukas began working in Hudson, Ohio, as a general dentist. "Our family continues to grow! Being a dad will be my best achievement in life regardless of how the rest of my life unfolds!" **Nicholas A. Navari Jr.** updates, "On Jan. 9, 2025, the original musical 'Local Singles,' for which I wrote the book, music and lyrics, will open off-Broadway for a five-week run at the Players Theatre, one of the oldest off-Broadway houses in New York City, following productions in Pittsburgh, Denver and Charlotte. Off of the success of the show, I will be writing my next musical at Berklee College of

up of Kenyon grads, as a producer and director," she updates. "We are getting ready to film a short film in Columbus with **Rachel E. Billings '22**." Currently, Kaylin's short "PARTNR" has over 52,000 views on DUST's SciFi Shorts (youtube.com/watch?v=adjfEXBBKwl), and her short "The House My Mother Left," filmed in Pomeroy, Ohio, in 2023, played at Cinema Columbus at the Drexel Theatre in April. Coming soon: a feature film thriller involving a haunted gas station. "Lastly, I got a dog!! Her name is Wini, and she's too small to make sense of how she exists." **Eve L. Bromberg** began an M.F.A. in dramaturgy at Columbia's

September and looked forward to adopting another rescue puppy as a furry companion to their chihuahua-terrier mix Pippin. **Devon J. Chodzin** reports, "I've spent the last two years in Philadelphia getting a graduate degree in city planning, and I've loved it! By the time you're reading this, I'll have moved to Pittsburgh to start a new job with National Zoning Atlas, coordinating state-by-state zoning code analyses." **Sarah J. McPeck** completed a Ph.D. in evolution and ecology at the University of Virginia and began postdoctoral research at the Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology in Germany. "While teaching a self-designed undergraduate seminar on the ecology of beneficial species interactions," Sarah shares, "I've been drawing heavy inspiration from my Kenyon experience." **Annelise A. Royles** informs, "I just met a fellow graduate at the Middlebury Bread Loaf Winter Institute! Chatting about Middle Path and the campus' evolution was such a comfort in a new state with a new group of people." In Baltimore, she is associate director of high school programs for Bridges at Gilman. "A new verve for poetry reminds me of discussions in Sunset Cottage." **Schuyler S. Stupica** earned a degree from the University of Michigan Law School while providing pro bono services to incarcerated people applying for commutation, or K-12 students facing suspension or expulsion. "While I am very sentimental about saying goodbye to my public interest

"When I took Sergei Lobanov-Rostovsky's Science Writing course at Kenyon, surviving as a poet in STEM was far from my mind, but the education has proved essential."

— **Ian R. Burnette '18**, who helps scientists develop more effective interventions for substance use disorder and HIV

at Kenyon," they write, "surviving as a poet in STEM was far from my mind, but the education has proved essential. People ask me if I am still writing for art. In January, I enjoyed a sunny visit with **Rose H. Paulson '20**, who is writing killer short stories and teaching at the University of Arizona, and when she asked if I still made poems I said 'um ...' and then after a moment, 'yes!'" **Lukas C. Calcei** welcomed a daughter, Isabelle Marie, into the world, and her little brother, John,

Music, where I will be getting my master's in writing and design for musical theater. Kenyon so instilled my love for the arts, and I would not be the artist I am today without the classes and artistic experiences I had on the Hill — despite majoring in economics with a law and society concentration! Kenyon gave me the confidence to pursue my dream!"

2019

Kaylin R. Allhouse moved to Los Angeles and joined d5, a "production company made

School of the Arts and is associate editor at CultureBot. "Perpetually grateful to wonderful professors both inside and out of my department (philosophy)." **Eva H. Buchanan-Cates** passed the CFP® Exam and earned her CFP® marks last December. She continues to work in Charlotte, North Carolina, with Placentric Financial Group. "If anyone is in the area, would love to grab a coffee and connect!" She and her boyfriend, Dhiren, moved into their new home in

community here, I'm excited to begin a career at the Colorado State Public Defender — and not have to do long distance anymore with **Ryan P. Muzzio '18!** **Arielle C. Tooeh** announces, "I have successfully defended my dissertation, which examines campus sexual assault and how students have led efforts to raise awareness around and support student survivors of campus sexual assault through advocacy models." Arielle is a clinical predoctoral fellow at USC's Engemann Student Health Center, focusing on mental health education and preventive programming. **Hannah C. Wendlandt**, finishing a Ph.D. at UT Austin, looked forward to returning to the Hill in March to give an alumni lecture with the chemistry department. "Can't wait to visit all my old haunts. Is Sunset Point still around?" (Ed.: Yes. It even has a Google review.) **Sasha T. Wilson** and **Mustafa Aziz** married in Pakistan in December 2021. In Massachusetts, where Sasha was the extracurricular program director at Lycée International de Boston, Mustafa finished a Harvard philosophy Ph.D.; in June, the couple moved to Islamabad. **Charles M. Woolsey** updates: "Hey, 2019! Last fall I quit my job and started following my dream of solo backpacking around the world! I've slow-traveled through Colombia, Peru, Bolivia, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam. So far it's been an exciting journey full of external and internal exploration." For more about traveling solo, follow along at charliestenminuteticket.com.

2020s

2020

Anna Deryck will graduate next year from the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine, where she is "majoring in horse," she informs. **Leah M. Dunbar** stopped by the Hill during an 8,000-mile summer road trip with a drum and bugle corps. In 2023, Leah went to Portugal with the Phillips Academy bands. "Still performing as part of Apricus Duo, a marimba duo whose unofficial start was my senior recital. Thrilled to catch up with **Kate Garrigan** and **Georgia Stolle-McAllister**. We finally got our Senior Sing with the 'Kokosing Farewell' encore!"

Garrick Schultz reports, "Teaching English in Taiwan, and loving every second of it!" **Catherine A. Smith** is in law school in Washington, D.C. "I feel like I'm living a dream life," Cat reports. "I live in a comfy apartment with my wonderful partner and our two cats, I am enjoying school, and I have some really incredible friends around me." **Lily N. Stachowiak** completed a master's in publishing and writing at Emerson College and started working for HarperCollins in New York. **Jane C. Zisman** successfully completed her degree in mortuary sciences.

2021

Philip A. Brain updates, "About two-and-a-half years ago, within days of graduating, **Harry F. Clennon** and I started Spectacles (Spectacles news). We wanted to tell 'stories that matter to democracy,' to share what we'd gained at Kenyon with the wider

world. Today, more than 6.5 million people have watched our YouTube 'mini-documentaries,' with over 100,000 subscribers. It's been very rewarding, and we're so grateful for the wide-ranging education we received at Kenyon that's enabled us to take on this multi-disciplinary and demanding

with my Kenyon crush and sweetheart **Judah Greenberg** on Nov. 9, 2023. We celebrated our union with an intimate courthouse ceremony in Oakland, Maryland, and we're planning a bigger wedding in the years to come!" **Emma R. Steinert** reports that she and roommates **Isabelle C. "Izzy"**

“We wanted to tell ‘stories that matter to democracy,’ to share what we’d gained at Kenyon with the wider world.”

— **Philip A. Brain '21**, who started Spectacles with **Harry F. Clennon '21** shortly after graduation

project." **Allegra G. Fass** updates, "After a year working at Washington College in Maryland (with **Annmarie Magnus '19**), I returned to SoCal and landed a position at Claremont Graduate University. All the physics I learned at Kenyon translates perfectly into a career in computer science and IT!" She started a master's in information systems and technology there and is "quickly becoming a specialist in (read: obsessed with) higher ed's favorite CRM, Slate, which we all used when applying to Kenyon, whether we knew it or not. I'm excited to attend Slate Summit and hoping to run into **Christopher Kwan '16**, who hosts many of the Slate training webinars I attend so frequently! Also looking forward to visiting **Schuyler Bunn** in Louisville. **A. Shaikh** writes, "I eloped

Michels and **Grace M. Kavanagh** are back in school together. "Shout out Columbia School of Social Work!" **James H. Sussman** was promoted to communications officer at the International Rescue Committee. "In the midst of expanding global armed conflict, economic turmoil and climate catastrophes, I'm proud to get to share the stories and advocate for the hardworking humanitarians and clients of the International Rescue Committee, from Gaza to Ukraine," Jamie writes from New York City.

2023

Sara N. Haleblan updates, "Since leaving Kenyon, I've been continuing my education at the University of Michigan, studying ecosystem science and management. It's so awesome to be surrounded by environmentalists constantly!"

Bulletin | In Memoriam

James C. Niederman '46 P'76 H'81,

a long-time member of the Kenyon Board of Trustees, died March 2, 2024, at the age of 99. A retired professor of epidemiology and public health at the Yale University School of Medicine, he served as a trustee at Kenyon from 1974 to 1997.

Born in Hamilton, Ohio, on Nov. 27, 1924, Niederman majored in chemistry at Kenyon, where he graduated in 1946. He went on to receive a medical degree from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in 1949.

Jim was an Osler Intern at Johns Hopkins, then completed his residency at Grace (now Yale) New Haven Hospital in Connecticut, joining the Yale Medical School faculty in 1955. There, his research came to focus on infectious mononucleosis, eventually proving that it was caused by the Epstein-Barr virus. He was the author or co-author of more than 100 scientific publications over the course of his career.

It was the closure of the Kenyon Review in 1969 due to financial difficulties that brought him back to Kenyon. While a student, he had known poet and critic John Crowe Ransom, who had founded the Review in 1939. The two often played bridge together. Working with a small group of other alumni, Jim was able to put the Review back on a viable financial footing, allowing it to resume publication in 1979, his son **Timothy Niederman '76** said.

"He considered that one of his major accomplishments," he said. "Dad was not a particularly literary person, but he always respected the value of good writing and absolutely cherished the Review."

Jim also served on the College's Medical Advisory Board, whose aim was to expand health services. For his numerous contributions to the College, he received an honorary degree in 1981.

His belief in all things Kenyon was strong, and he particularly appreciated that professors at the College embraced the mission to teach and serve students rather than focus on the promotion of their own careers.

Besides Timothy, he is survived by his children Derrick, Eliza Miller and Caroline; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife of more than 72 years, the former Miriam "Mimi" Camp, who died in January.

Charles W. Parton '48,

on Oct. 30, 2023, in Mill River, Massachusetts. He was 98. Before Kenyon, he had served in the Pacific theater in the U.S. Navy Reserve hospital corps as a pharmacist mate. When asked about military commendations, Charlie had written on his Kenyon application, "for rescue work in Hilo, Hawaii. Tidal wave on Apr. 1, 1946. Wheel!" After Kenyon, he graduated from the Yale School of Public Health and earned his M.D. at Cornell in 1952. From 1963 to 1965, he served as an associate director of the fledgling Peace Corps program in North Borneo. Charlie became a pediatric surgeon in Hartford, Connecticut, and ran the hospital's emergency department.

"After spending summers on the Vineyard for many years," his obituary read, "he and his wife,

SUBMIT AN OBIT

If you've recently learned of or experienced a loss in the greater Kenyon community, email editor@kenyon.edu. We will do our best to honor your friend or loved one's memory in a future issue of the Kenyon Alumni Magazine.

BERNARD "BERNEY" FUTTER '49 >

Berney was born in Berlin, Germany. "He always said he had a lucky life," his obituary read. "That started in 1938 when he escaped Germany with his parents and older brother, Ken."

Teena, moved to West Tisbury and took over ownership of Alley's General Store in 1980." For two years, Charlie continued working as director of Mount Sinai Hospital in Hartford, while also teaching at UConn's medical school and the University of Hartford. "He would return on weekends to help Teena with the store." In 1986, they sold the store and raised sheep in North Carolina. In 1992, he published "From Sanderson's to Alley's: A Biography of the West Tisbury General Store." In addition to his wife, Charlie leaves behind a large family and many friends.

Bernard "Berney" Futter '49,

on May 4, 2024. He was 95. Berney was born in Berlin, Germany. "He always said he had a lucky life," his obituary read. "That started in 1938 when he escaped Germany with his parents and older brother, Ken." In New York City, Berney graduated from Horace Mann and then entered Kenyon, where he majored in economics and played soccer. In 1950, he joined Futter & Co., a wholesale lumber company established by his father. He ultimately became president, retiring in 2009. "In between, he grew the company into one of the biggest independent wholesalers on the East Coast, competing with such giants as Weyerhaeuser, MacMillan Bloedel and Georgia-Pacific." He married Bunny Grossman in 1956, raised a family and enjoyed travel, the arts, skiing, tennis and time with friends in Westhampton Beach, New York. "Berney was a devoted family man and loved time spent with siblings and in-laws, nieces and nephews."

David Virgil Aldrich '50,

on June 15, 2023. He was 94. David entered Kenyon in 1946 with a strong interest in biology. He earned a Ph.D. from Rice University in 1954 and worked as a biologist in shrimp research with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. In 1966, he joined Texas A&M-Galveston's faculty, where he taught graduate courses in mariculture and estuarine ecology until his 1995 retirement. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Anita.

John D. Mulford Jr. '50,

on June 25, 2024. He was 96. A Delta Tau Delta, tennis player and economics major, he served four years as a Navy officer during the Korean War. From a sales career with Armco Steel, John founded Mulford Enterprises, a steel brokerage firm in Knoxville, Tennessee. In 1958, John met Natalie Caldwell Burton at an Ohio State-Michigan football game. They married and had four children, moving from Michigan to North Carolina and Delray Beach, Florida.

Later in life, John reconnected with Lee Phillip Bell and moved to Beverly Hills, California. "In 2018, they celebrated '180 Years of Lee and John' with a magnificent joint birthday bash at the Bel Air Country Club," his obituary read. "Upon Lee's death in 2020, John moved to Charlotte, North Carolina, to be closer to his children and grandchildren. The ultimate optimist with a positive outlook," John had "impeccable character and integrity, the quintessential gentleman (who) displayed a

dashing sense of style and maintained an elegant demeanor. He was an avid swimmer until early 2024. John loved taking family and friends out for milkshakes, sundaes and root beer floats at vintage ice cream parlors." Predeceased by his first son, John III, he is survived by his ex-wife; children Burton, Lynn and Whit; and many grandchildren.

Philippe A. Plouvier '50, on Dec. 15, 2023, in France. He was 94. A history major at Kenyon, he returned to his home country and had a long career in financial management. For decades, his French cars always sported Kenyon stickers, he once wrote the College. "I bought a few to last a long time. My calculation was wrong, as I got a new car" — this letter was written 35 years after he had graduated — "and used up the college stickers! Could you send me enough to last a few cars?" He is survived by his wife, Jacqueline."

William H. Schneebeck '50 P'88, on May 28, 2024, in Vero Beach, Florida. Bill was 95. At Walnut Hills High School, he co-captained the 1945-46 Cincinnati city basketball championship team and was ranked second in Ohio in high school tennis. At Kenyon, he played three years of varsity basketball and won the Ohio Conference tennis championship twice. He is in the Kenyon Athletic Hall of Fame. Bill later won five senior national doubles championships in the over-50 group, enjoying tennis into his late 80s. He golfed regularly with his many friends and hit his final hole-in-one at age 91.

A Korean War veteran, Bill worked for Midwestern Fidelity in Cincinnati since 1954, eventually becoming its president and then chairman until it was sold in 1980. He served on several boards and was active in several clubs. Bill also served a number of years on the Kenyon College Alumni Council.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 33 years, Nancy Parry Schneebeck, in 1988; and then his wife of 30 years, Judith Parker Schneebeck. He is survived by a brother, Robert; daughters **Lynne A. Schneebeck '88**, Lisa Hewett, Kathryn Ottenjohn and Anne Schneebeck; stepdaughters Kimberly Monroy and Jennifer Velde; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Ross B. Ward '52, on Oct. 1, 2023, in Bradenton, Florida. He was 95. Ross served in the 82nd Airborne Division of the U.S. Army in Trieste, Italy, before attending Kenyon. He studied pre-theology, married and was active in the Episcopal Church before retiring to Florida. He was predeceased by a son, Ross Blanchard Ward Jr. His surviving daughter, Donna Heath, wrote, "Thank you for the many years of providing enjoyment for my father each time the Kenyon Bulletin arrived in his mailbox."

Gordon E. Brown '53, on Aug. 15, 2021. He was 90. Gordon led an early Kenyon a cappella group — a predecessor of others, said **Lewis Portnoy '55**. After graduating magna cum laude, Gordon headed to med school at Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons. In the U.S.

Air Force, he was stationed in Germany. After a residency in general surgery at UCLA Harbor General, he practiced in Long Beach, California, before moving to Bishop, California, and private practice. A year in Birmingham, England, led to his bringing laparoscopic surgery home to Bishop.

"He was a man of great curiosity and a life-long learner. He particularly loved philosophy, for which he credited his professor at Kenyon. He studied history, languages and religious philosophy for his own enrichment. He was also a brilliant and artistic woodworker, designing and building furniture for our home," his wife, Christina Knauss Brown, submitted. Also surviving are a sister, Patricia Brown Herold; daughters Katharine M., Jacqueline E. and Tania J.; and many nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews, great-grandnieces and great-grandnephews.

Richard L. Tallman '53, on Oct. 26, 2023, at age 92. "From an early age," his obituary read, "Dick displayed an inherent curiosity and enthusiasm for understanding the natural world. This led him to pursue a life of academic excellence, at the same time becoming a skilled diver, tennis player and golfer." At Kenyon he studied chemistry and English, wrote for the Collegian, lettered in diving and led the team, made Phi Beta Kappa and — turning down a Fulbright in Germany — took a fellowship in the University of Wisconsin's physical chemistry doctoral program. "At UW-Madison, Dick met the love of his life, Joan Dilys Lacey." When Dick completed his Ph.D. in 1960, the couple moved to Pittsburgh. Working at Westinghouse, "Dick conducted groundbreaking research, garnered patents and wrote numerous papers regularly cited in his field." In Michigan, he worked for General Motors before finally relocating to Idaho Falls, Idaho, in 1977 to design ceramics for hazardous waste storage.

Dick shared his love of nature and outdoor activities, regularly exploring parks and traveling with family, taking his wife and daughters on many extended camping trips to parks throughout the western U.S. and Canada. In addition to his wife, he is survived by daughters Lynn and Jane; and three grandsons. He was preceded in death by his daughter Lisa and sister Beverly.

William R. Townsend '53, on Oct. 11, 2023. He was 92. He was a Sigma Pi and took a degree in psychology before spending three years in the Army. Bill was a financial advisor in New York City for some years but went back to college late in life to become an assistant teacher, job coach and substitute teacher in Connecticut. At age 83, he updated the Bulletin about his work at a nonprofit serving young adults with neurological disabilities: "I love it, as I am called on to think up methods to allow the members to perform required job tasks within their limitations. It's great for keeping the brain cells tuned up."

He loved swimming, sailing on Long Island Sound with family, riding his bike, exercising, walking along the beach or in the woods, taking photographs and reading. He fixed cars, boats, model trains and furniture, and he built

< WILLIAM H.
SCHNEEBECK '50
P'88

Bill won
five senior
national dou-
bles cham-
pionships in
the over-50
group, enjoy-
ing tennis into
his late 80s.

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community theater sets. Bill once owned a small boat shop in Westbrook called the Dinghy Place. Cancer made him a widower twice.

Bill is survived by seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Seymour J. Weissman '53, on March 26, 2024, age 92. Born in Brooklyn, Sy studied English at Kenyon. After college, he joined the Army, trained in film production and made movies of missile launches and other tests, later furthering his skills at the University of Southern California's Graduate School of Cinema. "His career in television and film was the creative outlet for his many talents as a producer, director and writer of network news specials, corporate films, public affairs pieces and commercials," his obituary read. "Photography, music, literature, storytelling, travel, poetry and humor were his life's passions. Before moving to Rochester, New York, in 2016, he lived for many years on Shelter Island, Long Island, with his wife, Elizabeth Durbin, who pre-deceased him."

He is survived by daughter Judith; sons Adam, Eric and David; 10 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Charles F. Coffey Jr. '54, on May 11, 2024, age 93, in Vero Beach, Florida. At Kenyon, Charles was on the undefeated 1950 football team. He continued his education at the University of Virginia and served in the Army in Korea as an officer working with artillery guided missiles. Charles worked as an advertising copy writer with numerous companies — Progressive Grocer, Cunningham & Walsh, J. Walter Thompson and Ted Bates, all in New York City. He was creative director, chair and CEO of the Weightman Group in Philadelphia until retiring in 1990. He then spent time fishing at his homes in Cat Cay, Bahamas, and Hermans Island, Nova Scotia. He is survived by sons Howard ("Butch") and Michael, six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

John T. Seaman Jr. '54, on March 28, 2024, in Valparaiso, Indiana. He was 91. John majored in political science, was a Beta Theta Pi and was business manager of the Collegian. Thanks to a postcard sent by his high school sweetheart, Barbara, the pair reconnected and were married on June 19, 1955. "They were inseparable until her death in 2022," his obituary read.

John served in the Air Force and then joined U.S. Steel as a blast furnace foreman in Gary, Indiana. He and his family lived in Crown Point, Indiana, for 27 years when John moved to Interlake Steel as general superintendent of the blast furnace area. In 1978, he joined Hickman, Williams & Co. in Oak Brook, Illinois, retiring in 1997 as its executive vice president and chief operating officer.

John was active in his community, fundraising to build the swimming pool in Crown Point, for example. He was deeply involved with alumni activities over multiple decades, including serving as Alumni Council president. John and Barb enjoyed skiing, sailing, opera and adventure traveling around the world, wintering in Arizona

ROGER ALLING JR. '56 >
When he and his wife, Dian, retired in 2006, the couple had helped train over 1,200 seminarians — 14 percent of the ordained clergy in the Episcopal Church.

but spending most of their final decade in a life care community in the northwest Chicago suburbs. He is survived by brother Mark; sister Deborah; sons John, Ken, Phil and Rich; 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Roger Alling Jr. '56, on Nov. 7, 2023, in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, 38 days shy of turning 90. From Kenyon, Roger went on to the General Theological Seminary and Saint Catherine's College, Oxford, serving many parishes in many roles: Christ Church, Williamsport, Pennsylvania; St. Mary's, Reading, Pennsylvania; as stewardship and evangelism officer for the Diocese of Connecticut; and as the 25-year president of the Episcopal Evangelism Foundation (later the Episcopal Preaching Foundation). When he and his wife, Dian, administrator of the Preaching Excellence Program conference, retired in 2006, the couple had helped train over 1,200 seminarians — "14 percent of the ordained clergy in the Episcopal Church," his obituary read.

"In 1968," the obit noted, "Roger participated in the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s final march for peace. He was personally asked by Dr. King to find a cross to carry from the White House to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery. Roger went into St. John's Episcopal Church across from the White House and asked to borrow its cross. Roger carried it alongside Dr. King, and they led the march to Arlington."

He is survived by Dian; sister Elise Grunder; sons Douglas D. Widmann, Phillip Alling and Bruce Alling; daughter Allison Widmann Spooner; seven grandchildren; two nieces and great-niece **Samantha F. Grunder '19**.

George B. Hallock '56, on Nov. 10, 2023, age 91. After his first semester, George was called to active duty and served in the Coast Guard from 1951 to '54. After returning to Kenyon to complete his English degree, he earned an M.B.A. from Rutgers in 1962 and became a credit reporter for Dun & Bradstreet. He worked for more than 20 years at Hoffmann La-Roche and ABB Brown Boveri as a credit manager. In 2001, the year George set up a charitable remainder unitrust, he told the Bulletin, "Kenyon was very good to me, and I want to give something back."

A dedicated Boy Scout leader, family handyman, and lay reader and treasurer at Watchung Presbyterian Church in Bloomfield, New Jersey, George valued serving the community. He was active in the American Legion, Shriners and the Masonic Lodge. "George appreciated the little things in life," his obituary read. "He found joy in walking the boardwalk to pick up the Star Ledger, sneaking Tootsie Rolls to his grandchildren and watching old Westerns, particularly John Wayne films. More than anything, George loved camping. His ideal setting was somewhere deep in the woods around a campfire with friends and family." He is survived by son Chip; daughter Cindy Raimondi; seven grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

John G. Hartong '56, on Jan. 7, 2024, after a brief illness in Tampa. He was 89. At Kenyon, he was a member of the golf and swimming teams and Psi Upsilon fraternity. He later attended the University of Illinois at Champaign. In 1958, John joined the Army's 1st Cavalry Division and served in Japan for two years. Upon returning home, he joined his father's roadbuilding company, George H. Hartong Construction. An avid golfer, he won a junior amateur championship in Illinois.

In 1973, he retired to Crystal River, Florida, where he won championships at two clubs and notched 10 holes-in-one. He served on the vestry at St. Anne's Episcopal Church and was on the Crystal River zoning board from 1974 to 1988. John was very proud of his membership in AA for 35 years, leading weekly meetings for years. He is survived by his wife, Barbara (Bobbe) Yeisley Hartong; sister Barbara Hartong Belt; sons John Jr., David, Tom and Sam; stepdaughter Lori Zeller; stepson Todd Yeisley; a sister and sister-in-law; 14 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and three nieces.

Theodore Evans Bradbury '57, on June 7, 2023. He was 87. After Kenyon, Ted began his career at Beneficial Finance, becoming a branch manager. He joined his in-laws' business, General Auto Supply, in 1966. In 1988, he joined the Bath (Maine) Iron Works shipyard's procurement department, retiring in 1997. He served on Bath's City Council and school board and co-chaired its bicentennial committee. His work to end world hunger became his most active expression of faith, beginning in 1988 when he joined Hand-to-Hand and started the Bath Area Food Bank. He and Pat, his wife of 65 years, were avid travelers, visiting all 50 states and all presidential libraries up to Bill Clinton's. In addition to Pat, he is survived by daughters Allison McCarthy and Diane Thresh, sister Ruth Girolomo and three grandchildren.

Robert B. Kohn '57, on April 20, 2024, in Tacoma, Washington. He was 88. Bob was active in ROTC and joined the Air Force. While stationed in Guam, he met and married Joan Richmond. After discharge from the reserves with the rank of captain, Bob settled his family in Federal Way, Washington, where for decades he taught English and coached swimming. He created Contract Based Education, the first program of its kind in the district, which served youths struggling with life challenges and helped them become successful graduates.

"Bob had a boundless passion for learning and the written word," his obituary read. "He was a voracious reader, finishing multiple books a week" and active in his book club for more than 30 years. "A gifted writer and intellectual, his energy and curiosity served as an inspiration for his children and grandchildren." Bob loved hiking and swimming, once ran the Seattle Marathon, completed difficult treks through the Cascades and Olympic mountains, and later took up sea kayaking on weeklong trips in the British Columbia wilderness with his son.

JAMES D. MORGAN '57 >

Jim designed and built the Morgan Apartments behind Peirce Hall—sometimes called the "Milk Cartons" by students.

Bob and his wife, Kristie Langlow, enjoyed a lifetime of travel, particularly to Hawaii, Mexico and Europe. At their home in Hood Canal, Washington, they enjoyed mountain views and "welcomed visits from eagles, pileated woodpeckers, foxes and apple-snitching deer," he shared with the Bulletin. After many years there, they relocated to a condo, where Bob volunteered his time educating Medicare recipients on how to navigate the complexity of their coverage. Besides his wife, he is survived by daughters Hana Kohn Eskra and Laura Kohn Wood; son Tim; his wife's sons Scott and Evan Farley; and seven grandchildren.

James D. Morgan '57, on Nov. 2, 2023. He was 89. Jim earned a master's in architecture from MIT and taught for over 45 years as a professor at NYU, where he won the "NYU Golden Dozen" teaching award in 2012. Jim's "long history of design, activism and teaching went back to 1972," an NYU website noted. An author and relentless advocate, Jim helped design the Rosehill residence for AIDS patients and, with the Brooklyn Friends School, he developed schools in rural Tanzania.

On the Hill, he left his mark as well. In the 1960s, Jim was Gambier's "resident architect," he wrote to the Bulletin in 2000. Jim designed and built the Morgan Apartments behind Peirce Hall—sometimes called the "Milk Cartons" by students (they won a design award in 1965).

However, "By November 1963, I had already completed what may have been the most important work I accomplished while practicing in Gambier," he wrote almost 25 years ago, referring to the counsel and advice he had offered to an aspiring architect, Graham Gund '63 H'81, ultimately helping him find his way to grad school at the Rhode Island School of Design.

For over 60 years, Jim kept in touch, returning to lecture or visit. In the words of his daughter Sarah, Jim "had an unbridled determination throughout his life that served him till the end." He is survived by daughters and grandchildren.

Kurt R. Riessler '57, on March 18, 2024. He was 88. A Delta Tau Delta, Kurt played football and was an All-American in lacrosse. He served in the Air Force and married Janet Vannatta of Mount Vernon, Ohio, in 1958. From human resources work with Fruehauf Industries in Cleveland and then with Warner & Swasey, he relocated to Galesburg, Illinois, and finally to Aerostructures Industries in Nashville, Tennessee, from which he retired as VP for human resources.

Kurt and Jan traveled the world, and he "treasured Naples, Florida, and sunsets on their deck overlooking the Gulf of Mexico with a cigar, martini and good family and friends," his obituary noted. "But spending time with his children and grandchildren was what he really loved." He is survived by daughters Karla Jacobson and Kara Mehigan, and six grandchildren.

Thomas M. Crawford '58, on July 6, 2023, in Eugene, Oregon. He was 87. Tom was born in Pittsburgh. A Sigma Pi, he majored

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in chemistry and worked for the Collegian. He is survived by his wife, Mary Beth.

John W. Davis '58, on Sept. 9, 2023. He was 87. A philosophy major, he earned both an M.A. and M.S. from SUNY-Buffalo in 1967 and 1970. He worked for CompHealth in Buffalo and later for the state of Florida. He is survived by his wife, Sharon.

Allan A. Edwards '58, on Feb. 1, 2024. He was 87. Allan met Doris Green when both were age 5; they attended high school together in Michigan and were married for 65 years until her death. Allan attended Kenyon for two years, transferring to Wayne State University in 1956 and completing both a bachelor's and master's degree in education. In 1958, he joined Livonia Public Schools as a math teacher and baseball coach. In 1972, he was appointed to a research position with the district, where he remained until his 2000 retirement. He earned an Ed.D. and taught evening math classes at Schoolcraft Community College for 52 years.

Allan served on the boards of several church- and education-related organizations. He and his wife traveled to 49 of the 50 states, combining her interest in hand bells and his in numismatics. He is survived by sister Delores Keyser; sons Bruce and Clark; daughters Susan Haesler and Sarah Sobieralski; four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Richard H. Haude '58, on April 7, 2024, age 88. A German major who played baseball, he went on to earn a Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh and was a professor at the University of Akron from 1967 to 2000. Dick taught undergraduate and graduate courses in psychology and published his research in various peer-reviewed journals. A nationally renowned rare coin and bank-note numismatist as well, he had one of the nation's most diverse collections of rare Eastern European bank notes.

Dick hiked mountains across North America and Europe, and fished in remote destinations throughout the world. "Most important, his devotion to his family was unparalleled," his obituary read. He is survived by sister Julie Flieger; sons Daniel and Steven; daughter Karen; four grandchildren and girlfriend Rosemary Williams.

Sheldon A. Polster '58, on Aug. 22, 2023. He was 86. A biology major, Sheldon took his M.D. from Case Western and did his residency in pulmonary disease at Cleveland Metropolitan General Hospital. He practiced as a Cleveland-area physician for over 40 years. He is survived by sister Judith Zauderer; sons Daniel and Joshua; and six grandchildren

Allen B. Timberlake '58, on Dec. 7, 2022. He was 92. Allen grew up in Steubenville, Ohio, the youngest brother of economist **Richard H. Timberlake Jr. '46**, the Rev. **George P. Timberlake '47** and Margaret Wolcott Timberlake Young. Allen followed his

brothers to Kenyon, but after his freshman year returned home to work in advertising at Steubenville's Herald Star. He served as a radar mechanic in the Air Force from 1951 to '55. "On New Year's Eve 1952," his obituary read, "a mutual friend invited Allen to a party while he was home on leave, at the home of Nancy Myers, whom he had known since first grade." After dating and corresponding, they were married in 1954 by Allen's brother George. The couple moved to Gambier — Nancy worked in the infirmary and gave birth to a daughter, while Allen taught math at the high school and completed his physics degree, graduating cum laude. After earning a master's at Ohio State, in 1960 Allen began working at Battelle Memorial Institute in Columbus. The growing family moved to Massachusetts so he could take a position with Honeywell, and relocated again in 1973 to Columbia, Maryland, where Allen worked for Westinghouse until retiring in 1997.

"Throughout his life, Allen was a loving, loyal, generous son, brother, uncle, husband, father, father-in-law, grandfather and great-grandfather. He is known for his gentle spirit, sense of humor ... and passion for The Ohio State Buckeyes." Allen read widely on current events and "enjoyed classical music, especially when relaxing after work or on Sunday mornings." In addition to his wife, he is survived by daughters Carolyn Timberlake Dozat, Sandra Timberlake Macejik, Lisa Timberlake and Susan Timberlake Gentry; 10 grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and 13 nieces and nephews.

Richard K. Erdmann '59 on March 18, 2024. He was 86. A Beta at Kenyon, Dick majored in math. Upon graduation, he went to work for Republic Steel, soon moving on to Allentown, Pennsylvania, where he worked for Air Products and Chemicals. He earned a master's at Lehigh University and later enjoyed a long IT career with G.E. in the Washington, D.C., area, and then with IBM in Georgia. Dick and his wife, Christy, enjoyed retirement living in Highlands Ranch, Colorado, where he avidly took up pickleball. In addition to his wife, Dick is survived by brother Jack; son Tom; daughter Lisa Hann; five grandchildren; and cousin **Byers W. Shaw Jr. '72, P'09, H'20**.

John W. Liska Jr. '59, on Oct. 23, 2023. He was 86. After Kenyon, he earned a chemistry Ph.D. from Case Western Reserve University and enjoyed a long career in chemical sales with Ciba-Geigy. John was "most proud of his volunteer work with Junior Achievement, Kiwanis and Habitat for Humanity," his obituary read. "He loved fixing things, troubleshooting and teaching the rest of us how to do things." He is survived by his wife, Shirley; a sister, Dorothy Hunter; daughters Sherry Lane and Catherine Liska; stepchildren Brad Peterson, Tracey Noble and Troy Peterson; and 15 grandchildren. It was John's desire to not have a funeral but to have his ashes laid to rest at the Kokosing Nature Preserve.

< RICHARD H. HAUDE '58

A nationally renowned rare coin and bank-note numismatist, he had one of the nation's most diverse collections of rare Eastern European bank notes.

John E. Winesdorfer '59, on Nov. 27, 2020. He was 83. John earned a Johns Hopkins doctorate, became a biology professor and, eventually, retired as the provost of Olympic College Shelton Branch in Shelton, Washington.

Ross H. Gelbspan '60 H'12, on Jan. 27, 2024, age 84. "Truth-teller, poker-player and beloved husband and father, editor of Pulitzer prize-winning journalism and friend to many," his Boston Globe obituary read. The world will remember Ross as a trail-blazing reporter on climate change.

Ross worked for 31 years as a reporter and editor at various newspapers, including the Philadelphia Bulletin, the Washington Post, Village Voice and Boston Globe. He conceived, directed and edited a series of articles on job discrimination against African Americans in Boston, which won a Pulitzer Prize in 1984, and he published a 1991 investigative book on the Iran-Contra scandal. His 1997 book "The Heat Is On" received national attention after President Bill Clinton told the press he was reading it; climate champion Bill McKibben wrote, "Until you've read this book, you're ill-equipped to think about the planet's future." Ross followed up that huge success with "Boiling Point" in 2004. A New York Times obituary described him as "an investigative journalist whose reporting on climate change exposed a campaign of disinformation by oil and gas lobbyists to sow doubt about global warming."

When he learned of secret fossil-fuel payments for stories denying climate change's connections to industrial activity, "It really cost me sleepless nights," he told the Bulletin in 2006. "I kept seeing the indifference and lack of response and decided to see what I could contribute through writing and my communications skills."

In December 1957, as an editor of the Collegian, Ross wrote about the "intellectual inertia of the modern student ... (who) has been taught to accept rather than examine." In 2012, returning to the Hill for an honorary degree, he was recognized for his "agility in moving between the arenas of science and public policy, eloquent communication of complex and often disturbing issues, and unwavering quest for the truth."

While covering the first U.N. Conference on the Environment in 1972 in Sweden, Ross met and later married Anne Charlotte Broström — known affectionately to many as "Tottie" — who spent 25 years developing affordable housing for homeless families in Massachusetts. She survives, as do his sister Jill and daughters Thea and Joby.

The Rev. Peace-Cottage "P.V." Varghese George M. Div. '60, on June 22, 2024, age 95. P.V. was born in Kerala, India, the eldest of seven children. Graduating from the University of Bombay, he arrived in Gambier in 1957 to study theology at Bexley Hall Seminary. For six decades, P.V. served Congregational churches in Vermont, New Hampshire and Syracuse, New York, alongside his wife of 55 years, Carol Hunter. He is survived by daughters Leela and Sarah; brother Oommen Varghese; sister Saramma Easow; and three grandchildren.

< ROSS H. GELBSPAN '60 H'12

He conceived, directed and edited a series of articles on job discrimination against African Americans in Boston, which won a Pulitzer Prize in 1984.

George Cole Scott Jr. '60, on Oct. 25, 2023, in Richmond, Virginia. He was 86. George was on the Hall of Fame 1956-57 men's swimming and diving team but transferred to Whitman College. After a four-year stint in the Coast Guard, he graduated from the University of Washington. "While there," his obituary read, "he met his wife, Leslie, in a journalism class, and found they had more than homework assignments in common. They married in 1969 and shared life together for over 54 years."

An investment advisor who pioneered coverage of the closed-end fund industry, George and his friend Erik Bergstrom ran Bergstrom Capital, listed on the American Stock Exchange. George published The Scott Letter: Closed-End Fund Report and a book on closed-end funds, "Investing in Closed-End Funds: Finding Value and Building Wealth." A world traveler who circumnavigated the globe twice, he continued working actively in his 80s until December 2019. Besides his wife, he is survived by daughters Jane Scott Barnett and Anne Scott Carter; son John Cole Scott; sisters Marjory Scott Luther and Kippy Maitland-Smith; brother Roger Clark Martindell; three grandchildren; and niece **Katherine Blair Luther '88**.

Norman R. Hane '61, on Jan. 23, 2024. He was 84. After earning his University of Chicago Ph.D., Norm taught American literature at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, for 24 years. A poet as well as a teacher, he published a book-length collection of his work, "Riding into the Solstice," in 1994 and an award-winning chapbook, "Outliving," in 2015. His work appeared in numerous poetry journals. From his first collection: "I want the gathering dark to remember / the press of my palm on every last chilled pane." He is survived by his wife, Barbara Croft Hane.

The Rev. Larry J. Hofer '61, on May 28, 2024, in Milford, Delaware. He was 84. Larry majored in history and received his master of divinity from Trinity Lutheran Seminary in 1964. He served parishes in Pennsylvania and Chicago and was a campus pastor. In 1987, he was ordained a priest. He served several parishes in Pennsylvania, ending at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in State College, where he worked for 14 years until his retirement in 2008. Retiring to Delaware, he held various positions in the diocese. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Susan; daughter Kristen Parker; son Eric Hofer; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

John Resnis '61, on June 13, 2024. He was 85. Born in Krustpils, Latvia, John journeyed through life with "resilience, love and a deep commitment to his family, faith and heritage," his obituary read. "Upon immigrating to the United States, he embraced the Latvian community wholeheartedly." After graduation, he served in the Army Chemical Corps from 1961 to 1964. In 1972, he married Ilze K. Mucnieks in Lakewood, Ohio, embarking on a life centered on their three daughters. John worked as a chemist for Diamond Shamrock Metal Coatings, applying his passion

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for chemistry and dedication to his profession.

John cherished fishing trips and singing folk songs honoring Latvian traditions. "Devoted husband, father and grandfather." In addition to his wife, he is survived by daughters Larisa, Kristine and Silvija; brother Pete; and two granddaughters.

Victor A. Schur '62, on Nov. 16, 2023. Vic was 83. A Bayer quality-control engineer, he later became a self-employed quality consultant. A lover of "good food, good books and good conversation," his obituary read, he was a "grill-master and a collector of exotic mustards, cheeses and hot sauces. He passionately tracked the weather. He loved dancing at weddings and b'nai mitzvahs and was always there to visit the sick and comfort the bereaved. He would watch birds for hours and stroll through the Chicago Botanical Gardens as often as possible." Vic was an active member and leader at Beth Tikvah Congregation for over 50 years, serving as temple president and on numerous committees. "He relished being a contrarian and insisted on doing things the right way. He enjoyed cruises and traveling, but he most loved being at home to watch the evening news with his fireplace going, sitting next to his 'bride.'"

He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Eileen; daughter Roberta; son Richard; and four grandchildren.

William A. Gill '63, on May 18, 2024, age 83. Bill was raised in Sandusky and Cleveland among a family of builders. The John Gill and Sons Co. built Cleveland's Hanna Building, Allen Theatre, Federal Reserve building and Terminal Tower, as well as the Washington, D.C. Post Office building and the Missouri State Capitol. At Kenyon, Bill was an economics major and competed as a swimmer. "Inspired by his love of blues and jazz music," his obituary read, "Bill and his college friends would host traveling blues musicians such as Jesse Fuller and Lightning Hopkins for campus performances." Bill returned to Cleveland and became a stockbroker. He was a member of both the Hermit Club and the Tavern Club.

"Those who knew him could attest to him being one of the greatest storytellers of all time," the obituary noted. "His charm and quick wit could captivate any audience. Bill was an old-world gentleman: generous to those in need, gracious and humble, and unwaveringly devoted to family and friends." He is survived by wife Maureen; daughter Kate; sons William, Charlie and John; brother Kerm; sister Sue Riley; seven grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Alfred D. "Kipp" Barksdale '64, on Sept. 26, 2022. Kipp earned a Ph.D. in chemistry from Case Western and did postdoctoral studies at the University of Minnesota, where he taught until 1982. As a private chemistry consultant, he worked as an expert witness, workplace safety advisor and quality-control specialist. When his daughter could find no place to play soccer, Kipp founded the Minneapolis United youth soccer club in 1984, and he helped run

ALFRED D. "KIPP"
BARKSDALE '64 >

When his daughter could find no place to play soccer, Kipp founded the Minneapolis United youth soccer club in 1984, and he helped run it for 40 years.

it for 40 years. With the St. Mark's Cathedral choir, Kipp toured England. He is survived by his wife of over 50 years, Susan; son Chris; daughter Ellen; and several grandchildren.

Paul D. Heleniak '64, of Mesa, Arizona, on March 4, 2017. He was 74. His last retirement was from the city of Mesa's parks and recreation department, Dobson Ranch Golf Course.

Arthur E. Kronenberg Jr. '65, Aug. 22, 2023, in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin. He was 78. At Kenyon, he was an Alpha Lambda Omega, sang in Chapel Choir, and played soccer and baseball. "A former Navy officer, longtime CPA, faithful Packers fan, trivia aficionado and classic rock devotee," Art was a longtime and active member of Wauwatosa Presbyterian Church. He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Karen Olson; daughters Sara and Susan; and two grandchildren.

The Very Rev. Jack C. Potter M.Div. '65, on Jan. 3, 2024. He was 87. After Bexley Hall Seminary, Jack was ordained a priest. He served in Providence, Rhode Island; Ardmore, Pennsylvania; Cincinnati; and his home state of Indiana, including parishes in Crawfordsville and Lafayette. From 1982 to '90, Jack was rector of Grace Episcopal Church in Tucson, Arizona, and from 1990 to 2002 dean of the Cathedral Church of St. Mark in Salt Lake City. "Wherever he served," his obituary read, "he was beloved by his parishioners, began many new ministries, and was an incredible teacher and preacher. Jack loved gardening, camping, fishing, hunting and world travel. He loved animals and kept birds, rabbits and dogs — lots of dogs!" He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Patricia; four sons; four daughters; 10 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Douglas L. Schmucker '65, on Feb. 2, 2024. He was 80. A Phi Kappa Sigma, he played football and basketball and ran track. Doug earned a Ph.D. from Clark University, moved to San Francisco in 1972, and spent the next 42 years at UCSF and the San Francisco VA Medical Center as a professor of anatomy and a principal investigator in cell biology and aging, his obituary read. "Doug was passionate about education and served as the director of Prologue for first-year medical students and mentored multiple postdoctoral fellows throughout his career. He authored hundreds of scientific publications and was an invited speaker at numerous international conferences."

A lifelong Steelers fan and a great dog lover, Doug shared his home with many Scotties, Westies and Labs. He and wife Joan traveled the world, "with favorites including Australia, Scotland, Tahiti, Ecuador, Botswana and Cambodia, though Doug was certainly happiest in Bolinas, California, where he lovingly cared for his home and garden." Besides his wife of nearly 40 years, he is survived by Joan; children Ian and Devon; one grandchild; and his two Westies, Hamish and Fiona.

Robert M. Stutz '65, on Oct. 2, 2023, one day before his 80th birthday. Bob was a long-time resident of Upper Arlington, Ohio. A Delta Tau Delta at Kenyon, Bob explored international studies before moving on to Ohio State and eventually earning a master's in city and regional planning. He started law school at the University of Cincinnati, but that was interrupted by enlistment in the Army during the Vietnam War. A non-commissioned officer in intelligence for three years, he completed an M.B.A. while serving. Bob ran Stutz and Associates, a successful home-inspection business in Columbus, for almost 30 years. After retirement, he owned an antique dealership known as Dovetail Joint Antiques. Throughout his life, Bob enjoyed fishing trips with friends and family, especially to Parry Sound, Ontario, Canada. Bob and his wife of 56 years, Kathy, enjoyed attending Jack Russell terrier trials with their dogs. He is survived by Kathy, sons Rob and Ted, daughter Betsy and sister Ginger.

Koichi Ohara '66, in Kobe, Japan, on April 27, 2023. He had been recovering well from cancer surgery two years ago, his friend John Satoru Hamada submitted. Koichi, who had been a managing director at Nisshin Trading Co., attended the 50th Reunion in 2016.

Wayne D. Beveridge '67, on Dec. 14, 2023, at home in Augusta, Georgia. He was 78. Originally from Cleveland, Wayne graduated cum laude with a chemistry degree and then went to Case Western Reserve University for medical school, specializing in neurosurgery. During his final year of residency, he was drafted. At Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu, he met the love of his life — his devoted wife of 44 years, Kristina "Kitty" Beveridge.

Wayne became an associate professor of neurosurgery at the Medical College of Georgia and served the Augusta community in his private practice for over 40 years. "Augusta and its people quickly became his proud hometown and extended family," his obituary noted. "He was a man of few words but many thoughts. He would do absolutely anything for anyone — except attend a party. He loved his patients, adored his family and found peace in the North Carolina mountains. A coffee connoisseur, avid collector, Japanese maple enthusiast, but most of all a wonderful husband, father and grandfather." Wayne "strongly believed hard work, kindness and generosity were the strongest building blocks of a person." Grateful for his education, he quoted Dr. Seuss: "You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose." He is survived by Kitty; son Scott; daughter Megan; two grandchildren; and nephews **Andrew C. LeGros '78** and **David G. LeGros '86**.

Casper A. "Skip" Crouse Jr. '67, on March 18, 2024. He was 79. An English major, Skip was active in drama, stage managing and producing

< WAYNE D.
BEVERIDGE '67
"He would do
absolutely
anything for
anyone —
except attend
a party."

the winter 1965 production of "Macbeth" and fall 1966 production of Robert Lowell's "The Old Glory." He enlisted in the Army, serving from 1968 to '71 as a combat and psychiatric medic who treated Vietnam War casualties at Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu. After discharge, Skip completed a master's at Harvard in teaching English. Settling in New Hampshire, he married Pamela Gray in 1984, earned a special education certificate, taught at Kingswood Regional High School and eventually taught English, world history, psychology and AP English literature at Moultonborough Academy for 27 years. Skip directed several plays before retiring from teaching in 2012. Addressing Moultonborough graduates at a commencement, he once offered, "Put down the technology. Nothing can replace eyeball-to-eyeball interaction."

In addition to his wife, he is survived by daughters Abbie Clark, Aimee Savard Bentley and Katelyn Ashley Crouse; son Casper Adam Crouse IV; four grandchildren and a nephew.

Robert L. Davidson Jr. '67, on Nov. 20, 2023, in Kettering, Ohio, age 79. Bob served as a captain in the Air Force, completed an M.B.A. from the University of Dayton, worked for Prudential-Bache Securities, and ultimately became a senior VP, financial consulting, for Westminster Financial Cos. He was an avid golfer and enjoyed fishing. "Bob never missed breakfast (especially at Bob Evans)," his obituary read. He made meaningful connections through Rotary Club, rooted for the Cleveland Browns and, approaching the 50th, wrote the Bulletin that he wanted to "go to Dorothy's for a beer." He "loved his family dearly, especially his grandchildren, (and) was so proud when they graduated from Oakwood High School, making them the fourth generation in the family to do so."

Bob is survived by daughters Sarah Martin and Catherine Franklin; son Robert L. "Trey" Davidson III; brother Roger; sisters Anne Garrish and Susan Meyer; nine grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Lawrence A. Gale '68, on April 18, 2018. He was 72. He played soccer and ran track. Larry completed an M.F.A. in photography in 1972. In Santa Cruz, California, he was a retired owner/producer of his own video production company. He frequently spent time in Bali, Indonesia, "trying to find a way to live life fully and inexpensively," feeling "very fortunate to be in love with his wife, Le'a Lieux."

The Very Rev. Elbert "Kyle" St. Claire II '68, on March 26, 2023. He was 77. Kyle transferred to Haverford and then went to Yale Divinity School. Ordained a priest in 1972, his longest tenure was at St. Philip's Episcopal Church, in New Hope, Pennsylvania, from 1983 to 2005. "Throughout his life, Kyle read broadly on topics such as theology, psychology, literature, history, science, fantasy, poetry and Native American culture," his obituary read. "Kyle counseled alcoholics and drug addicts and conducted many weekend retreats in New Jersey and Pennsylvania."

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After he retired in 2010, he held interim jobs in Morrisville and the Somerton part of Philadelphia while the parishes searched for new rectors.”

In retirement, Kyle wrote two books — a collection of poems and short stories, and a novella. Kyle loved vacationing with his family on an Alaska cruise or weeklong cabin gatherings, where he taught his grandchildren how to bait their hooks and catch fish. He and his wife of 50 years, Tam, took Canadian railway adventures and visited national parks together. Besides his wife, he is survived by son Elbert K. III; daughter Ann W.; sister Alice P. St. Claire; four grandchildren and a niece. Though he had left the Hill early, he submitted, “I value my years at Kenyon and read with interest the events in the alumni magazine. I remember you all well.”

Robert R. Leighton Jr. '69, March 24, 2024. Rob was 77. After Kenyon, he joined the Navy and served in Vietnam aboard the USS Henderson. “Upon returning from active service, Rob married Kathy Eustis and returned to Sewickley, Pennsylvania, where they raised their children and where he lived until his passing.”

In 1976, he earned an M.B.A. from the University of Pittsburgh. He worked at Steelite, a small family-owned business of which he became president; in 2015, he retired after 40 years there. Rob served on the Quaker Valley school board, was a member of Allegheny Country Club, coached soccer, and for 62 years was an active member of Sewickley Presbyterian Church. “He was an avid skier, paddle and tennis player, an occasional golfer, and loved running and walking the streets of his beloved community,” his obituary read. “He was known to add the skip to his walk and was a force of nature on the dance floor.” He is survived by his wife, Libby Andrews; son Scott; daughters Frances and Christine; brother Christopher; stepchildren Jennifer Habel, Rebecca Habel and Jeffrey Habel; and seven grandchildren.

Mossman Roueche Jr. '69, on June 14, 2024, in London. He was 76. A classics major, he completed an M.A. from SUNY-Buffalo. He was a published scholar of Byzantine mathematics and philosophy who worked for many years at the European transactions department for HSBC bank, and chaired Montagu Pension Trustees Ltd. He later became director of trustees of Lambeth Palace Library. He is survived by his wife, Charlotte.

Gregory D. Seeley '69 P'93 GP'18, on Nov. 17, 2023. He was 75. An economics major, Greg earned his J.D. from American University in 1972. He married his high school sweetheart, Claudia, in Avon Lake, Ohio. Together, they welcomed two children into the world: **Matthew Kenyon Seeley '93** and Melissa Katherine. In 1978, Greg and his father and partners established the Cleveland firm that became Seeley, Savidge, Ebert & Gourash. Greg became “a respected and well-connected member of the Cleveland business community,” his obituary read. His “work ethic and unfettered efforts on behalf of his clients

RANDOLPH ST. JOHN JR. '70 >

“Randy’s mantra was to always have an STLFT — Something To Look Forward To.”

became part of the firm’s DNA and lives on within us,” wrote his law partner Keith A. Savidge. “I was privileged to be Greg’s partner for 49 years.”

Greg loved golf, travel, reading and “his cherished summer retreats at Linwood Park in Vermilion, Ohio. For over 40 years, he enjoyed the annual family vacation in Ogunquit, Maine. He visited children of friends and family as Santa at Christmas — a fitting role as he was always charitable and enjoyed making others happy.” In addition to his wife and children, he is survived by six grandchildren, including **Benjamin Gregory Seeley '18**; and a great-grandson.

Randolph St. John Jr. '70, on Oct. 28, 2023. He was 75. “Upon graduation from Kenyon,” his obituary read, “he worked at Knapp Shoe Store in Rochester, New York, selling shoes while obtaining his master’s and applying for English teaching positions at independent schools. Shortly thereafter, a call came from **Jack Horner '50**, headmaster of the Harrisburg Academy, who said he could not let another Kenyon grad go by.” Randy taught there until 2017.

He served as soccer coach, bus driver, crossing guard, dean of studies, summer school director, head of upper school and assistant headmaster, and on the school’s board of trustees. The Randolph St. John Teaching Award was named for him. “In 46 years of teaching, he challenged teenagers to think deeply about life’s big questions. He truly loved going to school every day.”

He expressed his deep love for food by baking chocolate chip cookies with his granddaughters. “Over the years, he perfected pizza, ribs, gumbo and a bread famously known as ‘dad’s bread,’ which was not complete without homemade honey butter. Randy’s mantra was to always have an STLFT — Something To Look Forward To. STLFTs kept Randy going after his cancer diagnosis. He is survived by Cindy, his wife of 52 years; daughter Alexandra; son William; and two grandchildren.

Joseph B. Mick '71, on May 18, 2024. He was 75. After Kenyon, Joe earned a master’s in accounting from Bentley University and a J.D. from Suffolk Law School. He served in the Air Force as a missile launch officer at Ellsworth AFB. Joe lived in Natick, Massachusetts, for 30 years, working for the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, rising to assistant district administrator. “He loved reading military history, traveling to visit historic sites, photography, video and board games, Boston sports, and adored his pet basset hounds,” his obituary read. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Marilyn; and brother Wendell.

William C. Watterson '71, on May 1, 2024. He was 74. A teacher, scholar and treasured colleague, Bill was Bowdoin College’s Edward Little Professor of the English Language and Literature Emeritus. Bill joined its faculty after completing his Brown University Ph.D. in 1976; he retired 39 years later. He taught courses on

Shakespeare, pastoral literature of the English Renaissance, contemporary American poetry, film and poetry writing, chairing the department from 1988 to 1990. His poetry appeared in various publications, including the Kenyon Review. "A polymath, Bill brought his knowledge and appreciation of art, classical music, antiques and antiquarian books to bear in his teaching and in his personal life," wrote Bowdoin President Safa R. Zaki. "Two of his former students established a summer internship in the creative arts at Bowdoin in honor of Bill and his mother."

The final lines of a poem Bill published in *The New Yorker* in 1977, titled "Nightscape with Doves," read: "The great night falls / and you are nearer wherever the end is, / but right now meaning is a sound inexpressibly itself, / a trick much like the trick of happiness, / a completeness which knows / that the end of the book / is the last white page you go on revising forever." He is survived by his brother, Charles A. Watterson; and several nieces and nephews.

Sam J. Lett '73, on Jan. 11, 2018. He was 67. Sam went to law school at the University of Toledo and for many years was a partner at Lett & Lett. A past president of the Ashland County Bar Association and chairman of the Ashland County Democratic Party.

Jeffrey W. Shachmut '73, on Nov. 8, 2023. He was 72. After earning a music M.A. from Florida State University and an education M.S. from Indiana University, Jeff had made his home since 1979 in Conway, Arkansas, where he was associate dean of students at Hendrix College for 20 years. He returned to school for a theology degree and then served St. Joseph Parish in Conway for 17 years, teaching high school religion and spending 24 years as music director. Working with youth throughout his life, he had also been a counselor, sailing master and waterfront director at Camp Hawthorne in Maine. A devoted and loving husband, father, grandfather, teacher and church musician, Jeff touched the lives of campers, students, staff and parishioners, and visitors to the local soup kitchen where he volunteered in retirement. He is survived by his four children, twins Kyle Schachmut and Kyra Doran, and twins Brittany Black and Briana Tyler; brother Ken; and five nieces and nephews.

James W. King '74, on Dec. 12, 2022, in Portsmouth, Virginia. Jamie was 70. In 1983 in graduate school at Emory University, he met the love of his life, Consuelo, and they married in 1987. "Jamie was dedicated to wholeheartedly following the word of God," his obituary read. "He focused on learning and growing, praying and sharing Jesus every day. Jamie also loved learning about history, politics and football. Whatever Jamie's wife and children loved, Jamie made sure to learn more about it. Everyone who met Jamie knew that he was passionate about the truth and was never afraid to stand up for what he felt was right. The world has lost a loving and devoted man,

JAMES W. KING '74 >

"Everyone who met Jamie knew that he was passionate about the truth and was never afraid to stand up for what he felt was right."

but those closest to him know that he has long been ready to join Christ in heaven." In addition to Consuelo, he is survived by daughters Dinah King-Carter and Eileen Lamb; and two grandchildren.

Candace Stark Buchan '74, on Dec. 31, 2023, in LaGrange, Georgia. Candy was 70. After attending Kenyon, she had two children and worked in real estate and restaurant management for the In Clover event venue in LaGrange.

Hon. William A. Cassidy '75, on Jan. 6, 2024, in Peachtree Corners, Georgia. Bill was 70. Judge Cassidy retired from 30 years of service with the U.S. Justice Department, having served as a judge for the Board of Appeals/ Executive Office of Immigration Review; as a U.S. immigration judge in Atlanta and New York; and as an assistant general counsel at the Immigration and Naturalization Service in Washington, D.C. A political science major and swimmer at Kenyon, Bill took his law degree from the Cleveland Marshall College of Law in 1980 and had worked as a Cuyahoga County assistant county prosecutor.

"Bill was known for his quick wit and brilliant sense of humor," his obituary read. "He lit up a room and everyone wanted to be around him to listen to his storytelling, jokes, laugh and enjoy his charm. Bill loved to help others succeed in life and would go out of his way to provide assistance. More than anything in the world, he was devoted to his wife, Bonnie, and daughter Caroline Cassidy Carpenter. Bill had many interests and was modest about all of his awards and accolades. He was well-known for spoiling his Boston terriers with drives around the neighborhood. Besides his wife and daughter, he is survived by sisters Moira Almat and Sharon Acciarri; brother Eugene; and many nieces and nephews.

David Fedor '75, on Nov. 5, 2023, after living with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis for four years. He was 70. "His greatest joy was his family," his obituary read. "David eventually settled in Cleveland Heights with his wife, Katie, where they lived happily for the next 43 years. He loved his 40-year career at Lincoln Electric, which enabled him to travel to all but one continent and to play bridge with his colleagues every day during lunch. COVID brought on an early retirement, so he consoled himself with the purchase of his dream car, a carmine red Porsche 911, in which he loved picking up his grandchildren from school. Playing golf with his friends and sons, going to movies, completing word puzzles, and working on ever-present house projects were his other favorite hobbies. A Cleveland sports fan and long-time Guardians season-ticketholder, he enjoyed taking his sons and granddaughters to games."

In addition to his wife, he is survived by sons **Nicholas M. Fedor '03**, **Nathan D. Fedor '09** and Gabriel; daughters-in-law **Barbara Morgan-Fedor '04** and **Emma Mueller Fedor '09**; nephews **Benjamin M. Kimmel '99** and **Alexander F. Kimmel '08**; sister Cheryl; brother **Gregory F. Fedor '79**; and three grandchildren.

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Robin E. Smith '75, on Nov. 6, 2023, age 70. Robin began her editing career at the Times Herald in Norristown, Pennsylvania, where she spent 16 years. "She revolutionized coverage of girls' sports, bringing them to the same level as the boys in terms of coverage," her obituary read. In 1994, Robin moved to the Philadelphia Inquirer, which ultimately ranked her among its top three copy editors in sports department history. "Smitty," as she was affectionately called, "was known for her love of pet peeves — 46,177 at last count upon retirement. She was known to handle 30 stories in an hour. It is unclear if Robin ever saw daylight in her 30-plus years as a night sports editor." Robin was inducted into the Kenyon Athletic Hall of Fame as part of the 1973 women's lacrosse team and 1972 field hockey team. Besides enjoying sports — especially the Philadelphia Eagles — she traveled to Greece, Africa and France.

Jonathan K. Plummer '76, on May 26, 2022. Jon was 67. A studio art major, Jon earned an M.B.A. from Indiana University in 1985. He also studied art in Rome, Italy, and at Columbia University. For almost 15 years, Jon was executive chef at Heron Point of Chestertown, a senior living community on the Maryland side of the Delmarva Peninsula.

Paul "Jeff" Behrendt '77, on April 28, 2023, in Columbus, Ohio. He was 68. Jeff played football while at Kenyon, and then studied at Ohio State and Franklin University "He worked as an operations manager for UPS for 36 years, as sous and demo chef for Giant Eagle for eight years, and as a chef at Bistolino," his obituary noted. "Jeff had a passion for cooking and sharing food, whether around the table or campfire. One of Jeff's favorite hobbies was entering chili cook-offs." Jeff is survived by children Heidi, Eric and Lauren; sisters Cathy Fleming, Christine Behrendt and Colleen Marshall; brother Andrew Behrendt; and many nephews and nieces.

Caleb Carr '77, on May 23, 2024, in Cherry Plain, New York. He was 68. Author of the 1994 bestseller "The Alienist," Carr reckoned publicly with the childhood abuse he experienced in a turbulent household of prominent Beat Generation figures. After two years at Kenyon, Carr completed his bachelor's in history from New York University. He published 12 books, including "The Angel of Darkness" and "The Lessons of Terror: A History of Warfare against Civilians, Why It Has Always Failed and Why It Will Fail Again." A military historian, Carr taught at Bard College and occasionally spoke at writing seminars.

His books vividly portrayed the trauma of "thrown-away" children. Carr's Washington Post obituary noted that he lived in an upstate New York mountaintop retreat with an adopted cat, his sole companion from 2005 to 2022, who was the subject of his final acclaimed book, "My Beloved Monster: Masha, the Half-Wild Rescue Cat Who Rescued Me," published in April. He is

< ROBIN E. SMITH '75
"Smitty" was known for her love of pet peeves — 46,177 at last count upon retirement.

survived by his mother, Francesca Cote; brothers Simon and Ethan; and three stepsisters.

Jeffrey G. Spear '78, on Dec. 8, 2023. He was 67. A proud Deke and biology major who graduated magna cum laude, he became owner and funeral director at Hansen-Spear in Quincy, Illinois, with his wife. "He achieved his goal of helping people during a very difficult time," his obituary read. "Jeff was active in many community organizations (and) endeavors around raising or giving money to youth-based organizations." He liked skydiving, skiing and Chicago sports teams, and had run three Chicago Marathons, each in under 3½ hours. When traveling, "he always tried to carry a baseball and a pen in case an autograph opportunity appeared." Jeff was especially proud of his wife and sons, one running the funeral home, another a military and commercial pilot, and the third a professional basketball player in Estonia. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Theresa; sons William, Nicholas and Kristijan; brothers John and Robert; five grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Victor E. Cole Jr. '80, died Nov. 24, 2019, in Los Angeles. He was 61. **Ellen Turner** shared the news, and that Victor's family and friends have expressed how much he will be missed.

Nathan Wheeler Watkins '80, on June 3, 2023, surrounded by his loving family after a two-year battle with metastatic cancer. He was 65. At Kenyon, Nate played lacrosse. He transferred to Kansas State University, where he met his wife of 39 years, Sherry. He was owner and president of Bluestem Vending Service in Emporia, Kansas, for over 25 years. In his second career, with the U.S. Postal Service, he was voted vice president of the Kansas Rural Letter Carriers' Association. Nate enjoyed water sports, skiing, cycling, his boxer dogs and cheering on the Kansas State Wildcats and Pittsburgh Steelers. In addition to Sherry, he is survived by daughters Sarah Iris, Hannah Elizabeth Hiker and Sophia Margaret; and brother Matthew Wells Watkins.

Maurice Y. Mongkuo '81, on Feb. 20, 2021. He was 65. He completed his Ph.D. in 1989 at the University of Pittsburgh. A professor of public administration at the University of South Florida and then Jackson State University, he taught for many years at Fayetteville State University in North Carolina. He served as a consultant and technical advisor for several national governments on race and minority business enterprise development policies and programs, and published numerous books and articles. In 2019, he won a Fulbright to Altai State University in Barnaul, Russia, where he taught undergraduate and graduate students and held workshops on American public administration for four weeks. Maurice had attended the Black Student Union 50th anniversary reunion weekend with his daughter, also a Ph.D. He is survived by his wife, Carlene; daughter Meya; and son Tafrey.

Diana E. Williams '81, on Jan. 11, 2024. She was 64. She founded Prison to Employment Connection, a job-training program at San Quentin in California. She spent more than 20 years in nonprofit fundraising for the Environmental Defense Fund, Coral Reef Alliance and others. She held an M.A. in counseling psychology from Columbia University, was a certified life coach and served as a hospice counselor at Marin General Hospital.

In one of her final acts, she wrote an intimate memoir about her own death. Classmate **Doug Gertner** recommends the “amazing, if very sad, story of the unique new book ‘Traveling Solo.’ Diana navigated the symptoms of a mystery illness and her eventual decision to end her life with physician assistance in Switzerland in January,” Doug wrote. Learn more at travelingsolobook.com, and listen to one of her last interviews, about her agonizing choice in a conversation on what makes life worth living. Diana’s book opens with lines by Raymond Carver: “And did you get what / You wanted from this life, even so? / I did. / And what did you want? / To call myself beloved, to feel myself / Beloved on the earth.” Diana is survived by two daughters.

Margaretta G. “Daisy” (Gallagher) Archie '82, on May 7, 2023, in St. Louis. She was 62. An English major, she played field hockey and co-captained the lacrosse team. “Daisy Gallagher is one vital reason Kenyon’s women’s lacrosse team has been so good,” the May 6, 1982, Collegian observed. She graduated from the University of Richmond’s law school in 1990 and then served Loudon County, Virginia, clerking, researching and preparing for trials. “Daisy encouraged and delighted in her three children,” her obituary noted. “At her husband’s side, Daisy was a treasured and faithful member of the congregation of the Church of St. Michael and St. George. Within her beloved extended family of siblings and in-laws, nieces and nephews, aunts and uncles, and grandparents, Daisy was the adhesive agent, tying together family in California, New Hampshire, Colorado, Illinois, Washington, D.C., and beyond.” She is survived by her husband of 40 years, the Rev. Andrew John Archie, rector at St. Michael and St. George; daughter Ellen; sons Samuel and James; sister Ellen Warder Gallagher; brothers Arthur Connell Gallagher, John Francis Gallagher III and Francis Hopkinson Gilbert; and stepbrother Christopher Goodwin.

Birgitta I. “Birgit” Sutter-Davis '83, on Dec. 7, 2023, in Weston, Vermont. She was 62. Birgit was a class agent who was active in helping with phonathons and Reunion planning. She earned her M.B.A. from Columbia University and had a successful career on Wall Street before retiring in 2006 as global macro portfolio manager and principal at CRT Capital Group in Stamford, Connecticut.

In 2018, she and her husband made Vermont their permanent home. Birgit joined the

< DIANA E.
WILLIAMS '81

In one of her
final acts,
she wrote
an intimate
memoir,
“Traveling
Solo,”
about her
own death.

Londonderry Volunteer Rescue Squad and eventually became a paramedic. An active member of the Second Congregational Church, Birgit led Christian education for young people and served on the safety committee and as church treasurer. “She had an incredible generosity of spirit,” her obituary read, “and fulfilled her passion of helping others.” She is survived by her husband, David; her parents, Winston and Astrid Sutter; sister Kristen McCutcheon; stepdaughters Phoebe Weight and Chloe Hartman; nieces and nephews.

Glenn A. Weiss '83, on Dec. 22, 2022, in Monaco, where he had lived since 1995. He was 61. A Delta Tau Delta, a cross country runner and an economics major, Glenn earned his law degree from Boston University in 1986. He also studied at Magdalen College, Oxford University in England and the University of Salzburg in Austria. A member of the New York State Bar, he was authorized by the government of Monaco to provide legal services there. Glenn was also an adjunct professor at the International University of Monaco. He is survived by his uncle, Michael Goldstein, and five cousins.

Daniel A. Dessner '84, on Feb. 3, 2024, age 60. Dan wanted to become a doctor from the age of 7, and chose Kenyon for its “excellent reputation for getting its graduates into their medical school of choice,” his obituary read. He played varsity tennis, was a Delta Phi and “played drums in bands on campus called Eddie and the MFs and the MacGregors.” On day one at the medical school of his choice, the University of Cincinnati, Dan met fellow Toledoan Jonna McRury. They married on June 26, 1987, and went to St. Louis University for their residencies.

Dan spent 28 years with Toledo Radiological Associates, his “first and last job,” where he was its three-term president (2008 to 2014). Dan also worked at Columbus Children’s Hospital and directed pediatric radiology at Toledo Children’s, serving on its board until 2016. He helped many radiology residents prepare for their boards, trained other doctors, and “pleased audiences at conferences and seminars with his wealth of knowledge and his witty and amusing delivery.”

Dan played golf on courses “far and wide,” enjoyed wine with his local wine group, and appreciated finely constructed automobiles — “his first car was a Volkswagen Golf GTI, advancing to several Porsches and then his Ferrari Roma. He was also a philanthropist, contributing to causes that matched his values.” He is survived by Jonna, his wife of 36 years; his mother, Phyllis; sister Susan; and seven nieces and nephews, including **Andrew M. Sayers '09**.

Grant B. Edwards '84, on June 18, 2023. He was 61. After transferring from Kenyon to Tulane, Grant earned a master’s in social work and then a Ph.D. in counseling psychology from the University of Kansas. A partner at Responsive Centers for Psychology and Learning in Kansas City since 2007, Grant became clinical director in 2020. “For 23 years,

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he helped his clients create change in their lives through individual psychotherapy focusing on depression, anxiety, ADHD, oppositional behavior and relationship problems," the obituary noted. "Grant also had a special interest in therapy with adolescents and adults on the autism spectrum." He is survived by his mother, Linda; his brother Todd; his children Ben, Jamie and Cam Edwards; and his love, Theresa Couture.

Karen J. Friedland '85, on April 14, 2024. She was 60. Collections of her poetry were published as "Places That Are Gone" (Nixes Mate Books), "Tales from the Teacup Palace" (Cervena Barva Press) and a posthumous third collection. She helped raise millions of dollars in grants for small nonprofits — her "day job" for over 20 years. Her myriad posts on Facebook expressed her generous spirit, with a focus on peace, nature, art, beauty, ethical values, humor and kindness. Karen battled pain for 15 years, it seemed, through two knee surgeries, fibroid surgery, painful adhesions and cancer, but her spirit barely dimmed, and in her typical fashion, she turned it into art. Through her suffering, she remained strong and openhearted, sharing her experience so that others could learn from her example of grace.

"Not surprisingly, Karen responded to her cancer diagnosis in 2021 with a deep dive into dozens of books about disease, treatments, natural cures, spirituality, coping and acceptance," her obituary read. She is survived by her husband, Rich; mother, Linda; sister Susan; and dogs Layla and Cookie and cat Henry.

Tracy E. Brown '88, on June 27, 2024. She was 58. An English major, she earned an M.A. at Princeton and her law degree from Northeastern. In Boston, she joined Ropes & Gray in 2004 as a litigation associate, and later became a key advisor to firm leadership as director of attorney development and diversity.

"When not parenting or working, Tracy was cooking and baking meals for her family and friends," her obituary read. "Tracy's meatballs were legendary; her coconut cake, the stuff of dreams. Nearly everyone who encountered Tracy in both her personal and professional lives came away far better for it. Tracy made everyone — the lead actors and bit players alike — feel truly seen, supported and accepted."

Tracy is survived by her wife, Kyle Faget; her children, Cameron Cross, Zachary Cross, Avery Cross, Zoe Cross, Asher Brown and Elijah Brown; stepdaughter Kaitlyn Norcia; parents Robert and Nancy Brown; brother Daniel; sister Stephanie; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts and uncles.

Katherine Chiyoko Frame '88, on Aug. 28, 2023, age 56. Kate first came to Gambier as a child when her father, William V. Frame, joined the political science faculty. "In adolescence," her eulogy noted, "she was anything but punctual in completing her class assignments and obligations. In fact, Kenyon 'suggested' she take a break at the end of her sophomore year" related partially to

"her engagement late into the night with others, fascinated by classical political philosophy, especially Aristotle's 'Politics.'" After a break in Chicago, she returned and graduated with Highest Honors.

Kate earned a Ph.D. in high-energy physics at Michigan State University, held two postdocs at Oxford, and spent the bulk of her remarkable career at Los Alamos National Laboratory, "dedicating a notable part of it to nuclear non-proliferation," her obituary read. "Her highest achievement was to accept early in the course of her illness the terminal nature of it and to live and work in the meantime as fully as her education, experience and energy allowed."

David W. Seevers '88, on June 19, 2024. He was 58. An English major who "fell in love with literature and writing, especially poetry," his obituary read, David later "became a popular figure within his San Francisco poetry community. He was a longtime leader in the stock footage industry, eventually founding his own company, Thriving Archives, and becoming the chief marketing officer at Footage.net.

"David was a thinker and a seeker of knowledge who never settled for surface explanations and always challenged clichés. He loved literature, politics, music and art; he wrote beautiful poetry and was an enthusiastic sailor and skier. Yet, his greatest joy has always come from spending time with his family, friends and loved ones, engaging in spirited debates that his wry wit and effortless conversational style always enriched. He had a knack for turning ordinary moments into memorable exchanges, causing others to think deeper and laugh harder. David is survived by his wife, Joanne; two children; a sibling; nieces and nephews.

Peter J. Whitcopf '90, on Jan. 21, 2024, age 55. A chemistry major, Sigma Xi, swimmer and active in Hillel, he graduated cum laude and later earned an M.D. from the Medical College of Pennsylvania. He completed his residency in radiation oncology at the University of Virginia in 2001. He worked at various practices in Maryland, central Pennsylvania and Ohio. Preceded in death by his uncle **Edwin H. Knapp '55**, he is survived by former spouse **Megan B. Pomeroy '90**; children King and Morgan; parents Lynne and Dennis Whitcopf; sister Sarah Whitcopf Cannon; a niece and a nephew.

Tara L. Gervin '92, on Feb. 25, 2022, in Richmond, Virginia. She was 52. "Tara fought with enormous courage a long and debilitating illness," her obituary read, "but always displayed amazing optimism, strength and determination. A kind, generous and gentle soul who excelled at modern dance, Tara loved roses and enjoyed collecting antique dolls. Her enthusiasm was contagious." Tara ultimately graduated from Johns Hopkins University and was employed by a building services company for 20 years. She is survived by her parents, Alfred and Carol Gervin; brother, Christian; a niece and three nephews.

< TRACY E. BROWN '88
"Tracy's
meatballs
were
legendary;
her coconut
cake, the stuff
of dreams."

Edith C. Laird '92, on Feb. 12, 2024. She was 87. Born in Somerset, Ohio, and a longtime resident of Mount Vernon, Edie contributed to Kenyon for decades: Her charitable giving included the Edith C. Laird Scholarship Fund, Kenyon College Philander Chase Foundation, Owl Creek Conservancy, Emerson Laird Kokosing Gap Trail maintenance fund and Knox County Historical Society, and she held many board memberships. She chose to be interred in Kokosing Nature Preserve. She had served as the managing editor of the *Psychological Record*, based at Kenyon.

Edith enjoyed family, tennis, gardening, hiking, entertaining, travel, biking, classical music, opera and theater. "Both Edith and Dr. Laird were staunch supporters of classical music in Mount Vernon, and instrumental in keeping the orchestra program in the Mount Vernon City Schools alive," Joyce Lawson Miller wrote in an online tribute. "Today, the program is thriving with two high school orchestras thanks to your work 50 years ago." She is survived by her husband, Emerson L. Laird; daughters Alison Sparks, Amy Carbone, Tracy Russo and Marianne Patten; sisters Dorothy Mather, Eileen Hervey and Mary Merryman; brothers Robert Curry, Ronald Curry and David Curry; nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Benjamin J. White '94, on June 1, 2024. He was 52. Ben was a longtime and renowned economic and financial journalist — at the *Washington Post* (as David Broder's research assistant), *New York Times*, *Financial Times*, *Politico* and, finally, for the *Messenger* as its chief Wall Street correspondent. Ben could be seen frequently as a commentator on CNBC and MSNBC. "He launched the Morning Money column at *Politico* and grew it into a scoop-filled must-read for everyone straddling the worlds of finance and politics," read the In Memoriam for his sons' college fund. MSNBC host Stephanie Ruhle said a tearful on-air goodbye to him, summing up, "Ben was a truly good man, a proud father and accomplished reporter. I had the honor of being on television with him over 100 times over the years, and every time he joined us, he helped us achieve our main goal, to get better and smarter. That was easy for him because Ben White was the very best."

A 2015 *Bulletin* article marked @morningmoneyben among six alumni accounts to follow: "When economist Ben White '94 is not writing his daily Morning Money column for *Politico*, he's tweeting nearly hourly to his 28,000 followers about Wall Street, politics, sports, movies and television. His opinions are strong, his tone is snappy, and he is not afraid to engage in debates with Kenyon students — many of whom he met on campus as a speaker at the Center for the Study of American Democracy conference." (Ben continued tweeting on X into the spring of 2024 to 111,000 followers.)

Ben's brother Mark, in a eulogy, wrote, "Ben White knew how to make his excitement infectious. A light in this world has gone out. A light of truth-seeking, love, fun and kindness. A light so strong it had an intense force, an interior force that moved other things, by a power of will. When

he got an idea in his head, Ben White had a will that could move a mountain." He is survived by his partner, Sara; his sons Jacob and Rafi; their mother, Robin; and his brother, Mark.

Raymond J. Coatoam '05, on April 23, 2024, age 41. Ray had been a political science major, minored in Russian, wrestled, was in the Film Society and was a member of the Model United Nations team that in 2003 won best small delegation at the Harvard Model UN national championship. He later worked for the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee and completed a summa cum laude J.D. at the Cleveland State University College of Law in 2016 while working for Susan G. Komen for the Cure.

Ray "was a man of creative wit, prodigious intellect and voracious appetite who also possessed an ardent disregard for societal norms and the expectations of others," his obituary read. "He loved movies, television, books, intelligent discourse, innovative humor, food, making people laugh and simple living. He despised bullies, arrogance and those whom he felt flaunted advantages that they had not earned. Ray found his calling in law, which he excelled at and took great satisfaction in practicing. He was known to be generous with his time and knowledge and frequently helped those around him solve challenging personal legal matters in his spare time. Ray himself could also be challenging — at times intractable, inscrutable and a living contradiction of logic — but many people loved and respected him, regardless of whether he invited or agreed with such sentiments."

He is survived by his mother, Carolyn Terrell Coatoam; devoted companion Victoria Znidarsic; former wife Lauren MacLaren; brother Jon; and numerous uncles, aunts and cousins.

Robert J. Peach '06, June 23, 2023, in Indianapolis. He was 39. Robert, or "Indiana Peach" to his online audience, "or B, as the family called him, made a mark on everyone he met," his obituary read. "We remember him for his inquisitiveness and exuberance, his love of words and books, and for his compassionate soul, humor and intellect." At Kenyon, he played golf, participated with the KC Republicans, was an RA and co-edited the *Kenyon Observer*. In 2007, he wrote for *Commentary* magazine in Brooklyn before returning home to Indianapolis to work in the family business, Peach Medical, and as a chef at the Fresh Market. At the time of his death, while pursuing an M.B.A. at Butler University, he was podcasting, writing film reviews and publishing fiction and essays on Amazon. In his obituary, a friend wrote, "Peach, for those who didn't know him, was an exceptional writer, author, cinephile, bold and outspoken, aisle-crossing, righteously indignant, dark, troubled, passionate, true, loyal, spiritual and charismatic." He is survived by his mother, Judith; sister, Anne; and brother, Wylie.

Chris T. Willoughby '08, June 12, 2024, in Jupiter, Florida. He was 38. Chris was a history major who pursued legal studies, public

< BENJAMIN J.
WHITE '94

"He launched the Morning Money column at *Politico* and grew it into a scoop-filled must-read for everyone straddling the worlds of finance and politics."

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policy and humanities. He played basketball and served as president of Psi Upsilon. He once told the Collegian, "When I pledged, I had the time of my life, romping around campus and beyond, on epic quests for glory that we will never forget." He had worked as a congressional page in his youth, and after Kenyon he coached junior varsity basketball. In Florida, he was a senior advisor consultant at Lincoln Investment Planning. He looked after the endangered sea turtles who returned to nest in the beach across the street from his home each year, and he contributed to beach clean-ups and the Loggerhead Marinelife Center. "He was encouraged in recent years by the turtles' record-breaking nest counts," his obituary read.

"Chris approached his life with passion, always remaining cool and confident. He greeted everyone with a big, bright smile, and he had a natural gift of helping others build their confidence and self-esteem. Chris meant so much to so many people: a loving son, a passionate basketball player and coach, a tall and handsome man with a friendly and reassuring smile, a sincere friend to many, and a great listener with a selfless passion for helping others." Chris is survived by his mother, Pam; and his aunts, uncles and cousins.

Rebecca A. Handel '09, on Dec. 27, 2023. She was 37. A psychology major, Becca played on the soccer team. She had been a camp counselor and an active outdoorswoman. Becca came from a Kenyon family: Her father, the late **Daniel L. Handel '73**, was one of nine siblings who attended the College. Her 2004 early decision application essay began, "For my entire life Kenyon has remained my ideal school, even though my reasons and motivation for attending Kenyon have transformed. Looking back, my baby pictures show me as a toddler wearing a faded, stained Kenyon hat that was so important to me because of every time an uncle or aunt would smile at the soft cloth 'K' in the middle of the purplish hat. I was the child who stared at the massive purple flag with the white 1973 (the year my father graduated from Kenyon) plastered across it every time I went to the basement." She is survived by her mother, Anne; sister **Sarah K. Beatty '05**; cousins **Neville E. Handel '99** and **Colleen A. Handel '16**; aunts **Nora Handel Aton '84**, **Rachel Mohr Handel '94**, **Christine Schmidt '91**, **Karen Handel Walker '77**, **Margaret Williams '81**; and uncles **Jeffrey A. Walker '74**, **Kevin Handel '89**, **Mark Handel '95**, **Michael Handel '83**, **William Handel '80**, and **Stephen J. Reilly '92**.

Julia Jane Igoe '25, of Lincoln, Rhode Island, on May 26, 2024. She was 21. "A loving daughter and sister and compassionate, kind and inspiring soul to her family, friends and everyone she knew," her obituary read. At Kenyon, Julia was awarded a Distinguished Academic Scholarship and played soccer for three seasons. In 2021, she received the student-athlete award for the highest semester G.P.A. on the team. A sociology major minoring in English with a concentration in women's and gender studies, she was a

JULIA JANE IGOE '25 >
"Such courage, such passion, such love seems impossible to replace; yet cannot be extinguished. We take some comfort in knowing a spirit as brave and true as Julia's does not pass with her physical body."

member of Zeta Alpha Pi, the Student Athlete Advisory Committee, Athletes for Equality and Student Council. Julia interned for U.S. Sen. Jack Reed and then with Edelman Smithfield in its environmental, social and governance advisory group in New York. She recently had accepted an internship with Weber Shandrick, a New York public relations firm, and returned from a semester studying in Europe. She had hoped to teach in Spain on a post-grad Fulbright.

"We cannot really know or understand why Julia is gone," her obituary read. "Such courage, such passion, such love seems impossible to replace; yet cannot be extinguished. We take some comfort in knowing a spirit as brave and true as Julia's does not pass with her physical body." Survivors include her father, Paul; mother, Judith Gnys; brothers Dylan and Harrison; and two grandmothers.

FACULTY, STAFF AND FRIENDS OF KENYON

Margaret N. Banning, widow of Professor Cyrus W. Banning (philosophy department chair), on March 1, 2024. Two years ago, Professor Banning's former colleague Joel Richeimer told the Kenyon News Service of the important role Margaret had played in her husband's 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." In retirement, the couple had traveled widely. She is survived by daughter Julia Banning and a grandson. Memorial contributions may be made to Kenyon College.

Linda L. Barrett, on March 4, 2024. She was 60. Linda worked in dining service at the College for more than 35 years. She grew up in Bladensburg, attended East Knox High School and in 1985 started working at Kenyon, where she met her husband, Arlen. Son Chase, sister Ruthie Knoff and niece April McDonald continue to work at Peirce Hall. Knoff said Linda enjoyed walking out every day with her family. "It was really good having everyone together," Knoff said. "It will be strange with her not being there." Theresa Ewers, office manager for AVI Fresh at Kenyon, called Linda a model employee. "She was super sweet," Ewers said. "Always polite, always pleasant." A quiet woman who enjoyed spending time with her family — especially grandson Kash — Linda loved flowers and gardening, animals and music. "She was definitely the type that was more worried about other people than herself," Chase said. She is survived by Arlen, her husband of nearly 38 years; son Chase; brothers Raymond Mount, Wade Denney and Steve Denney; sisters Ruthie and Terry Schuhart; and Kash.

Carolyn C. Batt, Feb. 8, 2024, in Gallatin, Tennessee. She was 85. A retired associate registrar known for her intellectual curiosity and empathy, Carolyn served the College from 1974 to 2003. Graduates from those years hold diplomas that her hands created and had printed. **Liz**

Forman '73, retired senior associate in admissions and former acting registrar, called her a mentor. "She was brilliant — much more accomplished than she would ever admit to — and a wonderful friend, active community member and a very important and not-always-noted role model for administrators and staff, particularly so for the generation of women who found themselves as the first women to hold their position at the College."

She is survived by her husband of 63 years, Professor Emeritus (chemistry) Russell Batt; daughter Karen Kerrigan; and son Brian, who told the Kenyon News Service, "She was literally the smartest person I know, Dad being second."

A graveside service was held at her final resting place in the Kokosing Nature Preserve. "She walked religiously all over campus," Brian said. "It wasn't a purposeful walk. It was a reflective walk. She would be pointing out every building on campus, every tree, every stump — all of which held cherished memories of the village and College she loved so much."

Robert H. Goodhand, on Aug. 24, 2023, in Landrum, South Carolina. He was 91. Professor Emeritus Goodhand retired in 1991. He taught French literature, feminist studies, French critical theory and interdisciplinary studies, and advocated for international education. Bob was involved with the Kenyon-Earlham Program to France and the Great Lakes Colleges Association Middle East Program in Beirut. Bob is survived by his wife of 38 years, Pan; daughters Lynne, Kathleen and Megan; son David; stepdaughter Kristin Newton; seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his first wife, Judith.

Nancy Ingling, on Feb. 24, 2024. She was 82. A longtime Gambier resident, Nancy was director of foundation and corporate relations from 1996 until 2001. After retiring from the development office, she consulted at major universities and then wrote a historical nonfiction manuscript about discrimination against university women in the 1930s and the hardships of the Great Depression. College historian **Thomas Stamp '73** wrote, "Nancy loved horses, so she made sure her place outside Gambier had a barn and several acres of good pasture. Nancy loved being part of the life of the College, regularly attending events of all sorts. She grew up on and around university campuses — her father was a longtime and much-admired president of the University of Rochester. She was especially interested in musical performances and lectures on current events and political topics." She is survived by daughter Barbara and sons Allen and Tom.

Thomas V. Lepley H'13, on Jan. 20, 2024. He was 78. An apprentice electrician who rose to the role of director of facilities planning, Tom oversaw construction of the campus athletic center and Science Quad. A resident of Gambier, he joined Kenyon in 1970 and retired in 2013 after 43 years. Tom "came to know Kenyon better than almost anyone," his online remembrance noted.

THOMAS V. LEPLEY
H'13 >

An apprentice electrician who rose to the role of director of facilities planning, Tom oversaw construction of the campus athletic center and Science Quad.

A 2005 Bulletin story that dubbed him "indispensable" described his role as "something like a chief engineer, in-house consultant, strategist, planner, troubleshooter, penny-pincher and general manager all rolled into one." Lepley played the role of Santa all over Knox County, including in the Mount Vernon holiday parade, schools and even the homes of members of the Kenyon community — a practice that had begun when he was just 17, dressing up for his own family, his wife recalled. "That was a real passion," she said. "He had a Santa suit made for him." He is survived by his wife, Shirley; sons Kevin, Kyle and Kurt; brothers Jack and James; sister Christine Crouch; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Patricia N. McCulloh, on Jan. 19, 2024. She was 92. Married to Professor Emeritus of Classics **William E. McCulloh H'99** for 68 years, Pat was an accomplished artist and educator, and a pillar of the Gambier community. She had several degrees from Ohio State, including a master of fine arts in printmaking, and taught art at Kenyon from 1972 to '80 and occasionally thereafter. Daughter Ann McCulloh said, "She was immersed in art and color from a very young age, and she just absolutely infused everything she did with aesthetics, art and a love of beauty." Throughout her life, Pat produced paintings, prints, drawings and hand-made rugs. "She really loved inspiring and helping people who were serious about studying art. Something that really made her happy was seeing that spark in other people and encouraging it."

She is survived by her husband and daughter; son Michael; brother Bjorn Nilson; two nieces; and a nephew.

Charles E. Rice H'94, on Dec. 27, 2023. He was 93. Chuck was professor emeritus of psychology, husband of **Josephine B. Rice '79**, father-in-law of biology Professor Siobhan Fennessy (the Philip and Sheila Jordan Professor of Environmental Studies) and father of former employee Ted Rice. A resident of Gambier for half a century, Chuck helped create the After Kenyon Society for retired faculty and staff.

Chuck joined the psychology department in 1969 and retired 25 years later. His son Ted recalled his father's emphasis on creating a sense of community. "There was a phase where he and Mom would have pizza every Wednesday night with various new faculty," he told the Communications Office. For more than 30 years, Chuck was active with the College Township Fire Department. He co-founded a predecessor to the Summer Scholars program and served on the Knox Community Hospital Board. "He carried a lot of friends on their last trip to the hospital over the years, and that was hard on him," Ted said. Named Gambier Citizen of the Year in 1997, he wrote a memoir called "Last Call" about the evolution of volunteer fire departments and emergency services.

Survivors include his wife of 71 years, Jo; sons Ted and Charles; daughters Karen Pavlik and Elizabeth Forthofer; 10 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Events

You may be a Kenyon student for only four years, but you're a member of our alumni community for life.

Stay connected

Check out kenyon.edu/alumni/events for our lineup of events, including:

Swim Nationals Reception

Greensboro, North Carolina
MARCH 21, 2025

Tennis Reunion On-campus

APRIL 4-6, 2025

Save the Date Reunion Weekend

MAY 23-25, 2025

Reunion Weekend Homecoming

SEPTEMBER 26-28, 2025

Find us on Instagram:
[@kenyonalumni](https://www.instagram.com/kenyonalumni)



Lord Kenyon's Founders' Day visit

"I'm certain that my great-great-great-great grandfather would be blown away (maybe not the words he would have used) by the success of his investment, and the more I learn about Kenyon, the more I am, too."

Alexander Tyrell-Kenyon, Eighth Lord Kenyon and a descendent of the College's namesake, traveled to campus to help celebrate the College's bicentennial. During his visit, he offered praise ("I am so proud that my family name is spoken with respect and reverence with regard to this College"), advice ("buy a water flosser, it will change your life") and even a challenge ("get Kenyon College named in a major Hollywood film. There's a bottle of British whisky in it for whomever succeeds.") in his Founders' Day address.

Your gift to Kenyon matters.

(See pages 4-17 if you don't believe us.)

Visit gift.kenyon.edu today to keep Kenyon moving forward.



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Visit Kenyon online

For up-to-date information on events at the College, visit the Kenyon website at

KENYON.EDU

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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.



22

IN SHACKLETON'S FOOTSTEPS

Lindsey Bleem '05 knows what it's like to work in an environment "that will try to kill you." And you thought your office thermostat was rough.

16

'Delightfully untethered curiosity'

Professor of Chemistry Yutan Getzler admires the freewheeling inquisitive spirit of Kenyon students. (Also true of puppies, but they're lousy at chemistry.)

30

From Plato to Putin

U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Bridget Brink '91 traces her love of international relations to her time at Kenyon as a swimmer, Archon and scholar of political theory.

34

Two gentlemen outside Verona

Midway upon the journey of their lives, David Lynn '76 and Marc Millon '77 happened onto a "Dante Alighieri" performance with impeccable DNA.



FROM TOP: COURTESY OF LINDSEY BLEEM '05; SHUTTERSTOCK

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In good company

Who gives to Kenyon? Your friends do! Three out of every five alumni (62 percent) made a gift during the Our Path Forward campaign, which has built doors and opened them to countless talented students.

38

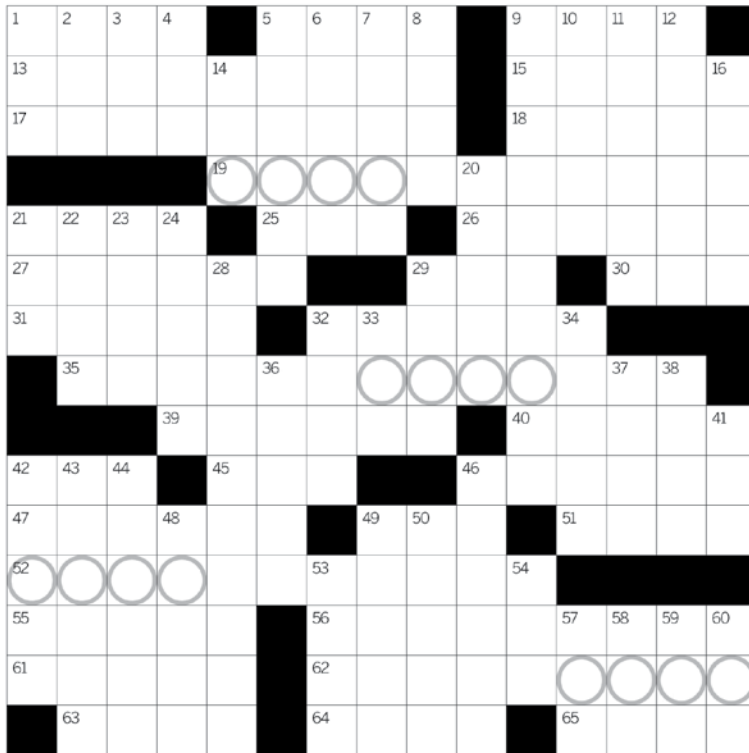
You can go home again

John J. Fallat '69 was moved by his return to campus after four decades away, giving us a perfect excuse to note that Reunion Weekend is open to all alumni, May 23-25.

Kenyon Crossword

An original puzzle created by David Bukszpan '02 for Kenyon Alumni Magazine readers. The answers can be found on page 58.

The Fools' Place



ACROSS

1. With 8-Down: "___ Lang ___" (certain wintertime song about remembering)
5. Lowers, as a light
9. Van Gogh's bro
13. Tiptoe off
15. Ohio's U.S. Senator Mark ___ (1837-1904), South Quad hall namesake once so influential he was known as the "President Maker"
17. Hotel and restaurant on Wiggin Street / "Come ___!"*
18. Infamous 1950's Ford model
19. The Rothenberg ___ (campus spot to get good service—but usually only on weekends)
21. Liberal group on campus?
25. President Kornfeld's youngest son, who had his mom co-host and play '80s music on his Hamilton College radio program
26. Turn the channel to
27. Robert ___ '40, who wrote, "Those blessed structures, plot and rhyme — / why are they no help to me now / I want to make / something imagined, not recalled?"
29. Loops in on an email
30. View
31. Compadre
32. Makes a movie / Make a sound like a Kenyon student?*
35. Coach of Kenyon men's basketball team since Spring 2023

39. Meal
40. Mushroom in some Japanese soups
42. "As I see it," in texts
45. Nine-digit no. on a college app.
46. Class before a class, briefly
47. Tiny neighbor of France / Lisa in Paris*
49. Justice Dept. division
51. Ties the knot
52. "Seabiscuit" author Laura, '89
55. Pizza or bagel topping
56. Go-arounds to get rounds / Tools to make round holes*
61. Past perfect, say
62. At the College, or a hint to solving the second halves of the starred clues
63. Song lists

64. Disney tune subtitled "A Pirate's Life for Me"
65. Poet ___ Grace '01, current Assistant Professor of English

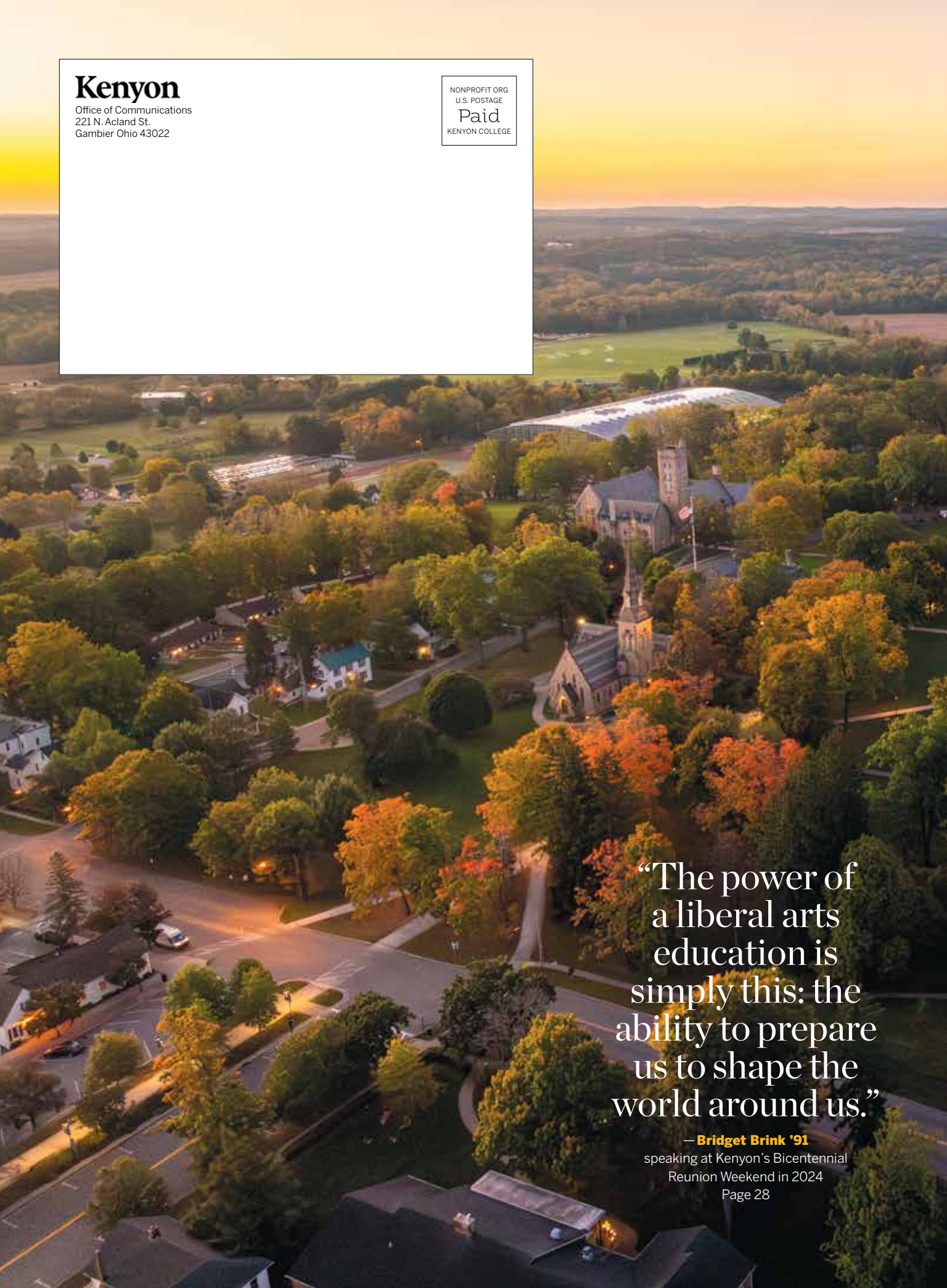
DOWN

1. Pose as Socrates?
2. An "A" in Intensive Introductory French?
3. Man's nickname hidden in "Medieval English"
4. "43022 ___" aka April 30, 2022
5. "The Book of ___" by E.L. Doctorow '52
6. Procrastinator's promise
7. Laura Ingalls Wilder's nickname for her husband, Almanzo
8. See 1-Across
9. Movie in which Paul Newman '49 says, "I'm the best there is. And even if you beat me, I'm still the best."
10. Wore
11. Follows
12. Cute College Bookstore buy for a member of Class of 2026?
14. The ___-i-noor diamond
16. Coeur d' ___ Tribe of northwest Idaho
20. Rank above Maj.
21. It might be put before the "carte"
22. CD- ___ (storage devices likely unknown to many current students)
23. Irritating ninny
24. "Night Moves" classic rocker Bob
28. Hot takes?
29. ___ Tower (San Francisco landmark)
32. Bridge
33. Cabinet dept. that includes the CDC and FDA
34. Bone-muscle connector
36. Big name in computer printers
37. Read closely, with "over"
38. List of courses, casually
41. Measures of brightness?
42. "God, when will they install ACs in these dorms?"
43. Des ___, IA (hometown of children's musician Justin Roberts '92)
44. How to watch Bicentennial reunion events you may have missed
46. Mexican Villa?
48. "All of you young people who served in the war. You are all ___ generation." — Gertrude Stein
49. Sink unclogging brand
50. The "pale blue dot," per Carl Sagan
53. Break-dancer, in slang
54. Dr. of hip-hop
57. Exclamation of discovery
58. "For today we raise the Mauve above the red and gray ... We've got the vim, we're sure to ___" (lyric from "Stand Up and Cheer," Kenyon's fight song referencing the traditional Thanksgiving football game vs OSU)
59. Honorary law deg. bestowed upon President Caples by the College in 1961
60. Crafty

Kenyon

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“The power of
a liberal arts
education is
simply this: the
ability to prepare
us to shape the
world around us.”

— **Bridget Brink '91**

speaking at Kenyon's Bicentennial
Reunion Weekend in 2024

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