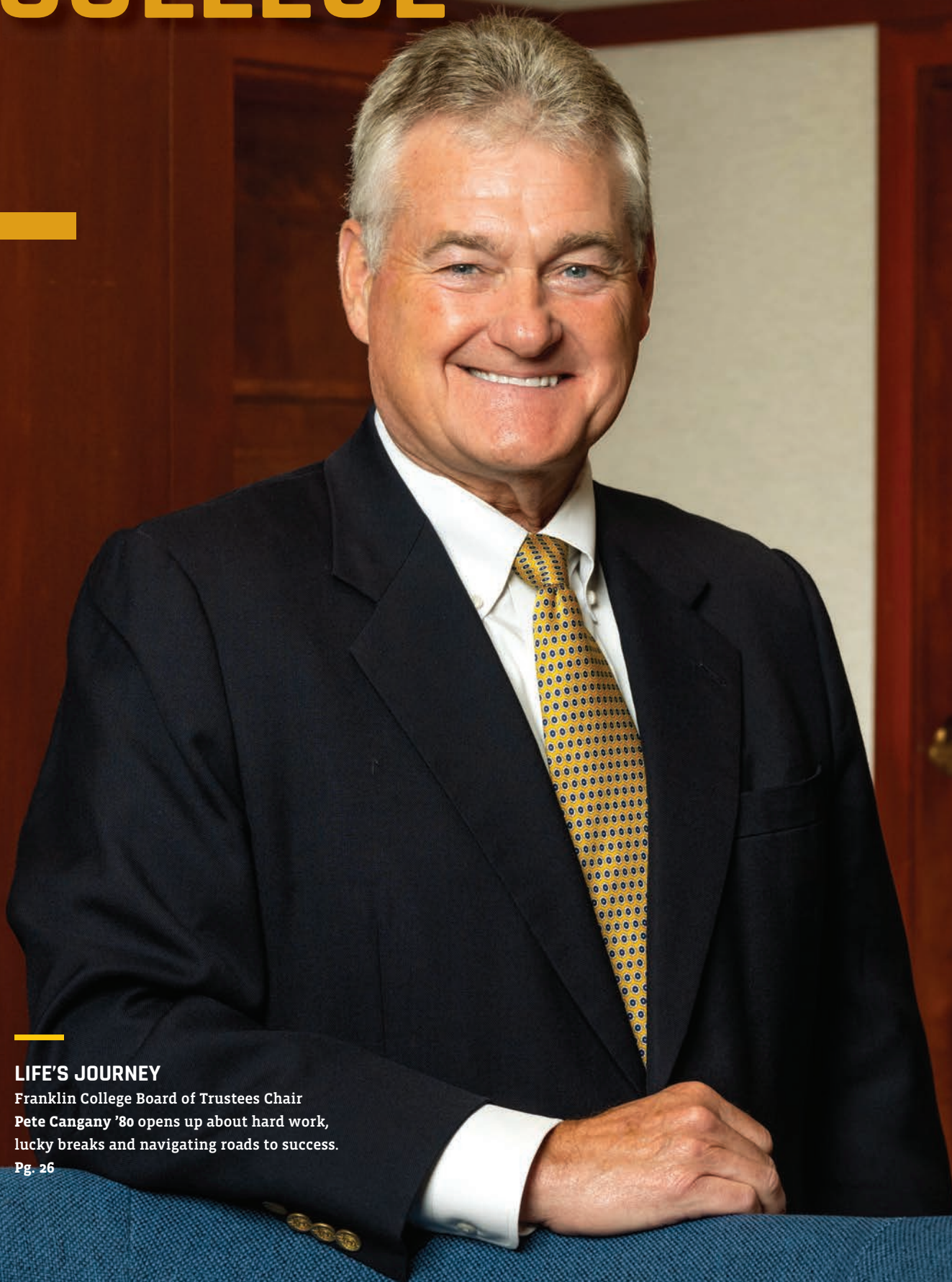


FRANKLIN COLLEGE

MAGAZINE | WINTER 2024



LIFE'S JOURNEY

Franklin College Board of Trustees Chair
Pete Cangany '80 opens up about hard work,
lucky breaks and navigating roads to success.
Pg. 26



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Alumni and Friends,

As you peruse this issue of the *Franklin College Magazine*, you will find stories that reflect the impressive successes of our students and alumni. When we speak of the distinctive student experience at Franklin, we envision precisely these types of achievements and the heartfelt acknowledgments of the influence of college faculty, staff, classmates and alumni. What happens on our campus is unique and transformational, and our goal is to continue to refine and expand the student opportunities for generations to come.

I want to particularly highlight the profile of Board of Trustees Chair **Pete Cangany '80**, his "Chair's Challenge" and the accompanying stories which highlight several endowed scholarships and their impact on former and current Franklin College students. You will recall that our recently-adopted strategic plan is a clarion call for growth — growth of the student body, growth of student resources and growth of the endowment. The latter two directly enable the first, and all three require the engagement of our loyal alumni and friends.

As Chair Cangany notes, the access to and affordability of a college education is critically important and increasingly challenging. We want to make the impactful Franklin student experience available to all the qualified young men and women who aspire to be Grizzlies. As we seek to increase the size of each entering class of new students, it is obvious that fewer college-age students and heightened competition for them requires that we make more scholarship support available. Similarly, as we work to improve the retention of current students, academic support and other student services are increasingly expensive to provide.

As Franklin and other private colleges realize that tuition revenue alone will not adequately fund a quality experience for students, we look to our alumni and friends to help us grow the institutional endowment, especially in the form of student scholarships, to more substantially drive the progress we seek for the future. The vast majority of Franklin alumni received scholarship assistance to enable their education and all the subsequent life enhancements which ensued from that experience. I am confident that many, many of those alumni and many non-alumni friends want to help us make the same opportunities available to future Franklin students.

Chair Cangany himself is one of those students for whom scholarship assistance was critical to his ability to attend Franklin. He and his wife, Ann, continue to repay that good fortune by funding scholarships for today's and tomorrow's Grizzlies. His challenge reflects one of the highest priorities of our strategic plan, and I hope you will consider how you can make your own impact on the future of this great institution.

It has never been more important for our country's young people to earn a quality college education like Franklin provides, and we have never been more committed to making that opportunity accessible and affordable. I hope you will embrace the "Chair's Challenge" and help us ensure a bright future for Franklin College and the wonderful students who will become successful and proud graduates. Thank you for making your difference in our and their futures.

Sincerely,

KERRY PRATHER
FRANKLIN COLLEGE PRESIDENT

FRANKLIN COLLEGE

MAGAZINE | WINTER 2024

Volume LX, No. 1

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Franklin College Magazine

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Background

Founded in 1834, Franklin College is a residential liberal arts and sciences institution located 20 minutes south of Indianapolis. Franklin offers a wide array of undergraduate majors as well as master's degree programs in Physician Assistant Studies and Athletic Training. The unique curriculum merges classroom instruction with immersive experiences, research opportunities and study-away programs. Our goal is to prepare career-ready graduates for today's global professions and those of the future. Small classes enable students to thrive through personal peer interaction and mentorship from professors who challenge and inspire them to think critically and perform confidently. Students participate in a vibrant co-curriculum that includes 21 NCAA Division III sports, Greek life, musical and theatre productions, and more than 40 student organizations. As the first college in Indiana to become coeducational with the admission of women, Franklin welcomes diversity of thought, belief and person into a community that values equity and inclusion. Franklin College maintains a voluntary association with the American Baptist Churches USA.

Nondiscrimination Policy

Franklin College is committed to the principle and practice of equal opportunity for all its students, faculty, employees and applicants for admission and employment. For that reason, the College provides equal employment opportunities on the basis of merit and without regard to the individual's race, color, religion, gender, disability, age, national origin, marital status or sexual orientation, in accordance with state and federal laws and any other characteristic protected by law. The College prohibits, forbids and will not tolerate any verbal, physical or other conduct that belittles or demeans any individual on the basis of the above-listed statuses. All employees, managers, supervisors and job applicants are covered by this commitment. No person or employee, no matter his or her title or position, has the authority expressed, actual, apparent or implied to discriminate against any employee of the College. This policy applies to all terms and conditions of employment, admission to and enrollment in Franklin College, including, but not limited to, recruitment, selection, hiring, benefits, educational policies, admission policies, financial aid, scholarship and loan programs, housing, athletic and other College-administered programs and activities.

On the Cover

Franklin College Board of Trustees Chair **Pete Cangany '80** is retired from a successful 37-year career at EY and resides with his wife, Ann, in Bellevue, Washington.

PHOTO BY CHAD WILLIAMS



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IMPACTFUL LEADERS

Discover the significant contributions that Franklin College Trustees **Devin Anderson '86** and **Deana (Baker) Haworth '99** are making in their respective career industries and communities.

SENIOR YEARS



Seventy years later, **Kenneth Gates '53** and **Roger MacDonald '53** still liked to give each other a hard time! Their collegiate camaraderie was evident at the Old Gold Reception and Luncheon during Homecoming and Alumni Week. The men had not lived in the same zip code since they were college classmates, but the paths they took after graduation gave them



CHAD WILLIAMS

experiences in common. Both married their college sweethearts, were called to the ministry, built long-lasting marriages with their wives and were widowed. Sadly, only a few weeks after this photo was taken, the Rev. Gates died Oct. 16, 2023. We honor him and the Rev. MacDonald with this photo and their senior yearbook photos.

IN THE SPIRIT



Thank you to everyone who joined us for Homecoming and Alumni Week, our annual tradition of remembering the past, celebrating the present and planning for the future.

Once again, the College welcomed Grizzlies from near and far to join throughout the week for virtual activities and in-person gatherings centered around pride and nostalgia.

This year's highlights included the Old Gold Reception and Luncheon recognizing those who graduated 50 or more years ago and the Hail to Franklin Alumni Awards presentation and reception honoring individuals for their exceptional accomplishments and college support. The Roy E. Tillotson Alumni Golf Tournament also returned, and an alumni art exhibit and tours of downtown Franklin's distillery, The Haberdasher, owned by **Brooks Bemis '13** and his wife, **Lauren (Casey) '14**, were new this year. The week culminated with tailgating around Faught Stadium and rooting for the football team as the Grizzlies beat the Bluffton Beavers, 31-24, for a Homecoming victory!

Coverage of signature events continues on the next four pages. Pictured here:



1. **Willesia Johnson '26, Erika Quintero '27, Monica Velazquez-Cortes '26 and Jordan King '27** show their spirit.
2. **Kennedy Stephenson '25, Makalyn Miller '25, Jenna Loudon '25 and Miranda Wilson '25** appear game-ready.
3. **The Grizzlies' Garrett Cora '25 (No. 2), Dylan McKinney '24 (No. 3) and Parker Hacker '25 (No. 65)** outplay the Bluffton Beavers.
4. His mother, **Erica Baker**, and aunt, **Gerrica Phillips**, show support for their favorite Grizzlies' defensive lineman, **Shay McRath '24**.
5. Tailgating together are **Tyler Placke '22 (MSAT '23), Easton Terry '27**, Master of Science in Athletic Training Program Director **Tiffany Franklin '07, Ed.D., Director of Graduate Health Sciences and professor of athletic training Kathy Taylor Remsburg and Ethan Bailey '17 (MSPA '21)**.
6. Associate professor of accounting **Emily Jones '09** catches up with **Adam Decker '97** and his wife, **Kendra (Gardner) '97**.
7. The 50-year reunion class members seated in front are **June Maple '73, Ken Fields '73 and Deborah (Miller) Kane '73**. Standing behind them are **Lyman Benner '73, David Miller '73, Gregg Happe '73, John "Dutch" Van Sickle '73, Dan Fawcett '73 and David White '73**.

PHOTOS BY JACIE (SHOAF) FARRIS '14 AND CHAD WILLIAMS



SPEAKING OF GRATITUDE

The Hail to Franklin Awards presentation during Homecoming and Alumni Week echoed with gratitude as honorees expressed appreciation for enduring friendships and valuable career skills gained at Franklin College.

Our collection of excerpts from the honorees' speeches highlights how the Franklin experience impacted their lives. Read the related press release at [FranklinCollege.edu/news](https://franklincollege.edu/news).

Shannon (Baunach) Anderson '95, Distinguished Alumni Award recipient, is a longtime children's book author. Her latest work, *"I Love Strawberries!"*, received the 2022 Picture Book of the Year award from *Good Housekeeping* magazine and Book of the Year from the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture. A Hollywood celebrity also selected the book to be featured on his TV show, "Bedtime Stories with Ryan" (Reynolds). Alongside her successful writing career, Anderson, drawing from 25 years in elementary education, is a sought-after speaker.

Anderson's acceptance remarks recognized faculty and friends for their impact. "Because of professors like Diana Bartnick Schmidt (faculty emerita of education), I learned how to be a good teacher and then passed that legacy to my oldest daughter, who teaches first grade. At Franklin, I also made many lifelong friends and gained more sisters through Tri Delta. I learned how to balance studying, working and finding time for fun, and I developed a love of playing with words through my first-ever creative writing course taken during a Winter Term (now Immersive Term). I will be forever grateful to be a Grizzly," she said. Anderson is the mother of two daughters, Madison and Emily, and resides in Lafayette, Indiana.

Maria Teresa G. "Terry" Bissonnette, M.D., Associate Alumni Award recipient, is a retired pediatric physician married to **Leonard L. "Len" Bissonnette '62**, M.D. United in their commitment to humanitarianism, the couple direct their medical expertise and generosity to support health care mission work, particularly in Terry's native Philippines.

They also honor Franklin College through their philanthropy, which includes two endowed student scholarships in pre-medicine and an endowment for engaged learning in the sciences. Further, they generously supported the launch of the Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies Program and endowed a scholarship to help students with program expenses. They were ardent supporters of the Science Center campaign and are consistently Franklin Fund supporters.

The Bissonnettes were unable to attend the awards event, but Terry provided remarks in absentia: "It is indeed an honor to be a recipient of the Associate Alumni Award. I graciously thank the Alumni Council for considering me. Len and I will continue to support Franklin College in whatever way we can."

Mike Leonard, Associate Alumni Award recipient, served as head football coach at Franklin College from 2003–19, achieving a 129–55 record with nine outright and two shared conference championships. Retiring with the second-most wins in Franklin's program history, he also secured the most Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference (HCAC) championships. Leonard, a seven-time HCAC Coach of the Year, was inducted into the Indiana Football Hall of Fame and honored with the National Football Foundation Distinguished American Award, both in 2021.

During his acceptance remarks, Leonard shared, "My chapter at Franklin College might never have happened if it hadn't been for something Kerry Prather (then the athletic director and now the president) said to me on the phone as he was asking me to interview for the head football coaching position. Basically, he believed in me more than I did in myself, and I am forever grateful to him. He not only changed the trajectory of my life but of my whole family's lives as well."

Today, Leonard serves on the Franklin College Football Touchdown Club Board of Directors. He and his brothers also created an endowed fund honoring their parents' memory and



The 2023 Hail to Franklin Awards recipients, selected by the Alumni Council's review of nominations, were Mike Leonard (AA '23), **Shannon (Baunach) Anderson '95**, **Matt Taylor '08** and **Don Treibic '65**. Maria Teresa G. "Terry" Bissonnette (AA '23), M.D., was honored in absentia.

supporting the Grizzlies' football program. He and his wife, Susan, reside in Franklin, Indiana, and are the parents of **Bart Leonard '12** and **Emily (Leonard) Bailey '17**.

Matt Taylor '08, Young Alumni Award recipient, is known as "The Voice of the Colts." Since joining the Indianapolis Colts football organization in 2012, he has produced and hosted a variety of TV and radio programming and today serves as the play-by-play announcer.

After picking up his award, Taylor said, "I owe a ton to FC for the head start it gave me in terms of on-air and technical skills that were invaluable. I called hundreds of games over four years, made mistakes and learned how to learn from those mistakes. I also learned how important relationships were between friends and teammates."

Taylor, a four-year football letterman and team captain in his senior season, also traveled extensively with the men's basketball and baseball teams, providing away-game broadcasts. He said, "After graduation, I didn't have to learn those skills on the job because

I already knew them, and I think that opened up a lot of doors for me." He added, "Franklin's staff and faculty were unbelievably supportive. They challenged me and gave me room to grow and make mistakes, and find out who I was personally and professionally." Taylor resides on the south side of Indianapolis with his wife, Samantha, and their daughters, Molly and Hayden.

Don Treibic '65, Hail to Franklin Award recipient, has played an integral supporting role in Franklin College athletics for more than 60 years. From student manager of the football team to 21 years as the game-day announcer post-graduation, he has been a loyal Grizzly. He is a proud founding member of the Franklin College Football Touchdown Club, a past Athletic Hall of Fame inductee and a former Alumni Council president. Alongside his wife, **Candy (Poindexter) '65**, he made substantial contributions to help enhance Faught Stadium and establish the Treibic-Poindexter Endowed Scholarship in Education.

During his acceptance remarks, Treibic said, "The things I have done for Franklin College over the years are

an attempt to repay what Franklin has given me, not only friends for life but the understanding that to live a good life fully you have to commit to be part of it and contribute to making life better."

A native New Yorker transplanted in Franklin for college, Treibic said he was then a "brash young man, 6 foot-4 inches tall, 130 pounds soaking wet, with an anvil on my back." Admittedly, he spent more time socializing than studying as a freshman. He credited the College's deans for guiding a positive shift in his trajectory and expressed gratitude for peers who formed his "Band of Brothers," making Franklin feel like a home away from home.

Among other life lessons, Treibic said, "I learned that one must face adversity and take responsibility for one's actions. I learned to strive for personal excellence and not to be afraid to compete. Franklin College gave me all that and molded me into a man . . . no longer 130 pounds." Don and Candy reside in Franklin, Indiana, and are the parents of **Paul Treibic '93**, **Adam Treibic '96** and **Christine (Treibic) Holcroft '97**. ■

PROS OF ATHLETICS

The Athletic Hall of Fame honors individuals who distinguished themselves in Grizzlies' athletic competition or in endeavors in support of athletics. The inductees also share a love for sports and the lasting benefits of athletic experiences. The *Franklin College Magazine* invited recent inductees to share perspectives about the pros of athletics in their life's journey. Their stories highlight the importance of lessons athletics taught them in self-discipline, leadership, goal-setting and teamwork.



Dan Fell '73

About the Athletic Hall of Fame honorees:

Dan Fell '73, of Indianapolis, a posthumous inductee, was a four-year starter for the Grizzlies' basketball team, playing 92 games, averaging 14.9 points and shooting 42.4% from the field. He helped get the Grizzlies to their National Association of Intercollegiate Athletic (NAIA) District Tournament appearances in 1971 and 1973. In his senior year, Fell led with 21 points per game, shooting 48.6% from the field and 87% from the free-throw line. The stats earned him the Grizzlies' Team MVP award, a spot on the Indiana Senior Collegiate All-Star Team and a tryout with the American Basketball Association's Denver Nuggets after graduation. Fell maintained basketball as a hobby and played in various leagues after college. His team won the Amateur Athletic Union National Champs Masters in the 35 and older category in 1994.

He retired as the president of Fell Search Inc., after a successful career in recruiting and placing executives with global food and beverage companies.



Mike Hall '69

Mike Hall '69, of Franklin, Indiana, is a longtime fixture in Central Indiana athletics, having coached five sports over a span of 52 years at three schools. He retired in 2021, concluding his 36-year tenure as the head coach for boys' track at Franklin Community High School, where he also led the boys' junior varsity basketball team for 18 seasons. Hall's athletic involvement at Franklin College includes serving many years as the official scorer at men's basketball games and working the clock at football games. He also is a past Alumni Council member and has been an adjunct professor at the College on four occasions.

As a student-athlete, Hall was a four-year starter at forward for the Grizzlies' basketball team, averaging 14 points and securing 967 career points. He also grabbed 557 rebounds, a top-20 program record to this day. The stats of his playing career make Hall proud, but he took away much more.

"I enjoyed playing basketball in high school but did not think there would be an opportunity for me after that. It was a big surprise to be recruited by Coach (Herman) Moyer at Franklin College, and I really enjoyed my four years as a Grizzly. I still had a competitive drive, and college basketball helped focus that. By taking part in a sport, I learned to manage my time wisely. My college athletic experience also helped prepare me for a career

in coaching. Through athletics, I met so many people and made connections that have lasted a lifetime,” Hall said.

Hall had several mentors at Franklin College. “Even though I only played basketball one year for him, Coach (Ed) Thompson has probably had the biggest influence in my life. He has always been available to me, even to this day, if I sought his advice about some coaching or life issue. I should also mention that Head Coach (Stewart “Red”) Faught, even though I did not play football, always had worthwhile advice regarding the coaching and teaching professions. I found myself referring to notes from his classes many times during my professional career.”

Dawn (Privette) McNew '87, of Lehigh Acres, Florida, excelled as a three-sport athlete at Franklin College, playing field hockey, basketball and softball. As a former high school basketball coach and current teacher at River Hall Elementary School in Florida, she champions athletics as a means for self-empowerment and community-building.

“Athletics emphasize the importance of one’s character and the opportunity to be a positive influence on others. Athletics also reinforce the meanings of team, such as family, sacrifice and support, and with that understanding, teammates are stronger together,” McNew said.

McNew closed her collegiate field hockey career with a 12-goal senior season and an NAIA All-District Honorable Mention. In basketball, she contributed to 55 program wins during her four years and helped the team qualify for the NAIA District Tournament in her junior and senior years. Senior year, she became the second player in college program history to make 100 assists in a season and still ranks second for a single season with 103. McNew also was a four-year starter for the softball team, playing centerfield and leading off for the Grizzlies. She helped Franklin qualify for the NAIA District Playoffs for four years, culminating with a runner-up finish her senior year.

Her collegiate softball experiences were particularly impactful. “I recall that the IUPUI (Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis) softball program always was very competitive and usually nationally ranked. We would often gauge our success on how well we competed against their team and some of the bigger schools. The times we defeated those teams during regular season doubleheaders or during tournament play were huge wins for us and reassured us of what we already knew; we were a well-respected, competitive and successful team. We were a team of total equals, with everyone doing her part for the good of the team.” ■



Dawn (Privette) McNew '87

PHOTOS BY CHAD WILLIAMS

Editor's Note: The 2022 Athletic Hall of Fame banquet was canceled following **Dan Fell's '73** death, on Oct. 5. The 2022 and 2023 inductees were scheduled to be recognized on Sept. 28, 2023, during Homecoming and Alumni Week, but the event was postponed due to a citywide power outage. The rescheduled banquet took place on Nov. 4, and all inductees' engraved portraits are now displayed in the Athletic Hall of Fame inside Spurlock Center.

AND HEARD SEEN



LOOKING BACK AT BENJAMIN

U.S. Sen. Todd Young was the Constitution Day convocation speaker on Sept. 11. His lecture, “Franklins in Our Midst,” recognized Benjamin Franklin as an entrepreneur, inventor and diplomat, who played a pivotal role in shaping the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. Young believes that legacy can help inspire a new generation of American innovators.

“Franklin used his precious time and talents to shape the course of his own era and the very course of human history,” Young said to a room full of students, faculty, staff and community members. “He left a model for all of us to do the same in ways big and small. I know that you, each and every one of you, will do your own part in your



own way to ensure that our nation and its Constitution stand and inspire long after we are all gone.” Young took questions from the audience following his lecture.

Constitution Day is a National Day of Observance that commemorates the signing of the historical document. Franklin College provides programming to encourage individual self-reflection on the impact of rights and responsibilities and as a reminder of the importance and value of respectful discourse with others, particularly those with different points of view.



2



3

1. Following his introduction as Constitution Day speaker, U.S. Sen. Todd Young shakes hands with Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College Kristin Flora, Ph.D.
2. Jana Forster and Tenpa Phuntsok sample food during Come to The Table at Franklin College. Phuntsok also participated in the event's panel discussion, representing Bloomington, Indiana's Tibetan Mongolian Buddhist Cultural Center.
3. Scientist and wildlife conservationist Pablo Borboroglu, Ph.D., is an authority on the world's penguins.

TACKLING TRAUMA TOGETHER

The second National Trauma Journalism Symposium was held Sept. 21-22, in partnership with and underwritten by the Trust for Trauma Journalism. Panel discussions and workshops addressed the psychological impact of covering traumatic events in journalism and delved into self-care for journalists and tips on trauma-sensitive reporting.

The symposium featured nationally recognized speakers, including Linsey Davis, "ABC World News Tonight" weekend anchor, and Javier Garza Ramos, founder of EnRE21Laguna. Guests included practitioners in journalism, public relations, law enforcement, psychology and health care, as well as students with interests in these fields and teachers from

surrounding high schools and universities. Pulliam School of Journalism Director **John Krull '81** and CNN Senior National Political Reporter **Eric Bradner '09** moderated the sessions, with panelists including Hannah News Editor **Emily Ketterer '20** and Hiron CEO **Deana (Baker) Haworth '99**, a Franklin College Trustee.

CONSERVING WILDLIFE

Pablo Borboroglu, Ph.D., founder and president of the Global Penguin Society and the 2023 Indianapolis Prize winner, was a guest speaker on Oct. 3. His campus visit was part of the Indianapolis Prize Lecture Series and focused on his lifelong work protecting penguins. Borboroglu's efforts extend to creating protected areas

and educating future generations of scientists and wildlife enthusiasts. He shared insights on conservation challenges and took questions from the audience. The Indianapolis Prize is a prestigious animal conservation award recognizing individuals who have significantly contributed to wildlife protection worldwide.

OFFERING NOURISHMENT

The Interfaith Understanding Through the Arts and Humanities series returned on Nov. 9 to help build awareness of world religions by highlighting the differences and similarities of various faith traditions. This year's event, called Come to the Table, featured an intercultural tasting reception, a lecture by soul food culinary historian Adrian Miller and a panel discussion with religious leaders from the Islamic, Buddhist and Jewish traditions, who shared insights about the role of food in their faith. The Interchurch Food Pantry of Johnson County was recognized for 40 years of service to the surrounding community through a proclamation from Mayor Steve Barnett and the City of Franklin.

Come to the Table at Franklin College was part of Central Indiana's 2023 Spirit & Place Festival celebrating community events that use the arts, humanities or religion to nourish the body, mind and soul. Sponsors included the Allen Whitehill Clowes Charitable Foundation, trustee emeritus **Bill Brown '61** and his wife, Sue Ann, professor emeritus of religious studies David Carlson, Ph.D., and his wife, professor emerita of English Kathy Carlson, Tom Hinshaw in memory of his wife, **Sandi (Corbin) '66**, **Bob Epstein '67** and his wife, Louise, Parkhurst Dining and the College's Wymer Lectureship Fund. ■



ENROLLMENT SPIKE

In a time when many institutions are grappling with declining enrollments and heightened competition, Franklin College continues to defy the odds. In September, the College recorded a nearly 9% increase in new student enrollment compared to the previous year. College leadership expressed pride in the achievement, which surpasses the initial goal for the Class of 2027 by 7.6%.

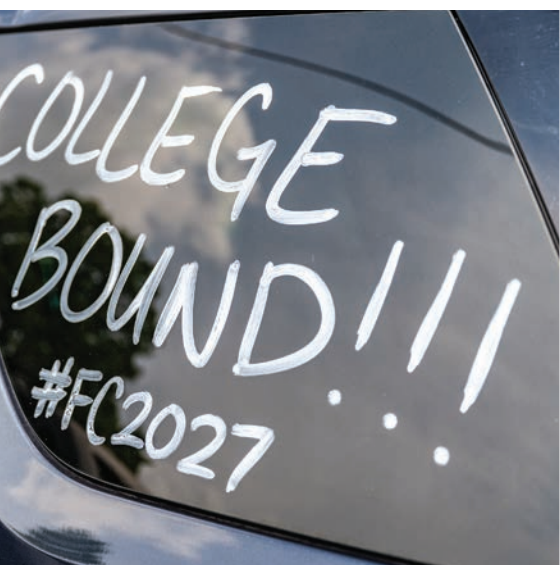
“We are very excited about both the size and quality of this entering class. In the current environment of declining demographics and decreasing rates of college matriculation in Indiana, surpassing our goal is an impressive achievement,” President Kerry Prather said.

The 296 new students represent one of the most academically prepared and diverse classes in recent college history. It is noteworthy that 23% of the class identifies as students of color or more than one ethnicity, demonstrating the College’s commitment to fostering inclusivity and diversity.

Vice President for Enrollment and Marketing Andrew Hendricks said, “We are proud to welcome such an outstanding group of new students to our campus. They have come here from different states and different countries for various reasons, and they are already showing an appetite for learning and increased engagement in

every way. We cannot wait to see what they achieve.”

The enrollment success can be attributed to a combination of factors, including a more robust presence with digital media, continued focus on providing student-athletes with a combination of high-achieving athletic and academic opportunities, a more comprehensive communication plan with students both inside and outside of Indiana and stronger connections between prospective students and the faculty who teach within their areas of academic interest. In addition, the College works directly with every student to leverage private scholarships provided by individuals and corporations who give support.



“A great deal of credit goes to our admissions and coaching staffs,” Prather said. “But in this day and age, our entire campus community contributes to student recruitment. I’m grateful to the entire faculty and staff, as well as our alumni, who assisted our efforts. Enrollment growth is one of the priorities of our new strategic plan, *Franklin Forward*, and this class represents a solid step forward in achieving that goal over the coming years.” ■

TWICE A HERO

A Franklin College student received recognition from Indianapolis-based WISH-TV and Johnson County’s *Daily Journal* for her quick thinking and preparedness during medical emergencies on two separate occasions, only a few months apart.

Emma McLeish '25 had the right instinct and training to be a lifeline for those in need. In October, McLeish performed CPR and used an automated external defibrillator to help a man who had collapsed on the floor and lost his pulse during a cardiac arrest at the church where she works part-time. Three months prior to that, McLeish was at the home of a family friend who suddenly went into labor. After calling 911, McLeish cared for the woman as the baby’s head began crowning. During their brief wait for the EMTs to arrive, the baby was born. McLeish said she had stimulated the baby to cry and put her on the mother’s chest to stay warm. At the last report in late October, the mother and newborn were doing well, and the man who suffered the heart attack was released from the hospital.

Both situations were a test of McLeish’s mental and medical preparedness, and professors at Franklin College are proud of how she responded. “Emma is not one to sit back and wait for someone else to take charge. Staying calm, demonstrating leadership and responding quickly are traits others can learn from her response in these situations,” said Kyra L. Noerr, Ph.D., associate professor of exercise science.



Emma McLeish '25 stands with Kyra L. Noerr, Ph.D., an associate professor of exercise science, and one of her educational mentors. “Dr. Noerr is genuine, actively listens and offers help whenever it’s needed, and I know she truly cares for my educational needs,” McLeish said.

McLeish said that her Franklin College coursework, including CPR and First Aid training, played a crucial role in her preparedness. Additionally, she credits her mother and grandmother, both nurses, for helping teach her how to handle emergencies. The nurses in McLeish’s family also influenced her career aspirations of becoming a physician’s assistant.

“I admire how much they care for people. I also have a passion to care for and help people who are in need. My hope during my career is that I can help people to the best of my ability and make a difference in someone’s life,” McLeish said. ■

SUBMITTED

ENTREPRENEURIAL TORCHBEARERS

By: Alona Gilpin '24, Pulliam Fellow

A group of students from Franklin College journeyed to the crossroads of invention and entrepreneurship during the European Innovation Academy (EIA).

Director of Professional Development and Instructor of Business Jeremy VanAndel accompanied **Nagib Afani '24, Matthew Arcari '24, Jack Burke '24, Zack Fichter '24 and Braden McGowan '25** to Porto, Portugal, for the EIA's summer program, July 16 – Aug. 4, 2023.

These students were the first-ever from Franklin to attend EIA, supported by more than 15,000 alumni and faculty hailing from more than 85 countries. EIA's mission, to educate future entrepreneurs and accelerate companies' digital growth, aligns with Franklin College's digital fluency initiative to help every student

graduate with comprehensive and transferable technological skills. Both the EIA and Franklin College develop joint partnerships with top business leaders and entrepreneurs to enhance programming and career opportunities for students. EIA has an active partnership with Google and other Silicon Valley icons.

VanAndel said that during the three-week, immersive-learning experience, Franklin students broke into separate teams with other students from around the world. Those teams were tasked with developing ideas to solve real-world business problems, backing

their ideas with prototypes, launching marketing campaigns and implementing business models before finally pitching their ideas to an expert panel of investors.

Burke, the lone Grizzly on a team that included students from California, Ireland and Spain, made it into the Top 10 with an innovative idea addressing packaging waste, an estimated 91% of which ends up in landfills and contributes to environmental damages. They came up with redesigned packaging using air-cushioning technology to facilitate reuse and help reduce waste. Only the Top 10 teams were given the opportunity to present to a wider audience and honored with prizes.

"Everyone who participated in the EIA was there to have fun and create something bigger than themselves. I took away insight about how difficult it is to start a business and came home with a stronger work ethic that I learned from the people in my group and also from the mentors there," Burke said. He enjoys using social media to stay in touch with the friends



ARTISTIC TALENTS SHINE

As Johnson County, Indiana, and the city of Franklin conclude one celebration of pride and history and make preparations for another historic occasion, commemorative logos by two graphic artists with Franklin College ties are helping brand and publicize the events.

Addie Csikos '22 is creator of the Johnson County Bicentennial logo, and **Eli Cochran '24** is the artist behind Franklin Parks and Rec's Eclipse Celebration logo.

Csikos' design was central to street signage, advertisements, banners and

anniversary merchandise produced throughout 2023. In October, the logo also was integrated into a seven-acre corn maze at Kelsay Farms in Whiteland, Indiana. The inspiration for her design was sentimental.

"I knew I needed to incorporate the courthouse as that is an integral part of Johnson County, and I grew up in town and went to summer camps at Franklin College so Franklin has always had a special place in my heart," Csikos said.

A distinct part of her design is the representation of fireworks. "Growing

he made during the experience. “I benefitted a lot from traveling abroad. It opened up new aspects in my life of how unique every country is and of the life experiences people from different places have.”

VanAndel sees the EIA experience as a catalyst for students’ personal and professional growth since they were not only learners but also problem-solvers, collaborators and creators, embracing the essence of entrepreneurship throughout the program. In addition, the international travel component helped students gain new perspectives, meet new people and see that there are different ways of doing things. He said that a student with international travel and study experience on their resume is more likely to stand out to prospective employers who recognize that traveling helps build relevant life skills.

“If you’ve had an international experience you’ve had to navigate what it’s like living in another country, you’ve had to figure out how to use their transportation system, how to convert currency and how to gesture your



Jack Burke '24, fourth from left, poses with his teammates from California, Ireland and Spain, after they made it into the Top 10 of an international competition in entrepreneurship.

way through ordering at a restaurant where no one speaks English,” VanAndel said. “These scenarios might be a good indication to future employers that students are lifelong learners, adaptive thinkers and confident communicators.”

One thing is for sure, students returned to Franklin with more than great memories of their experiences in Portugal, they also brought back newfound knowledge and perspectives to guide their endeavors as torchbearers of the digital era. Their travel and accommodations were funded by the College’s offices of global

education and professional development in conjunction with digital fluency initiative grant funding and engaged learning scholarship funds.

Students selected to participate in EIA underwent an application process that included a brief essay describing why the Portugal experience was intriguing and relevant to their future, and four of the students — Afani, Arcari, Fichter and McGowan — have recorded a podcast reflecting on their experience in the program. Listen to their podcast at tinyurl.com/ac43pv5n. ■



up, something that always stuck with me was the fireworks show Franklin put on for almost every celebration. Plus, my birthday is July 5, so the annual Franklin Firecracker Festival was and still is something I look forward to every year!” she said.

Csikos majored in studio arts, works as a graphic designer for Campus Classics in Indianapolis and freelances.

Cochrane’s design is the anchor of Franklin Parks and Rec’s social media posts building excitement about April 8, 2024. That day, the “Great North American Eclipse” will trace a narrow path of totality across 13 U.S. states. Predictions indicate that Johnson County, Indiana, will intersect with the path, making it one of the best places in the world for viewing.

Cochrane, pursuing a bachelor’s degree in graphic design, said his inspiration came from deep affection for the city of Franklin and the College.

“Incorporating Franklin College’s colors (blue and gold) and the iconic

presence of Benjamin Franklin into my work was a heartfelt gesture, symbolizing the influence that the College has had on my personal journey in this remarkable city. I aimed to express to the public that my time at Franklin College embodies the essence of the city of Franklin.”

He freelances and is a co-founder of Super Grippy Branding. ■

Follow Franklin’s eclipse happenings here:



GIFTS AND GRANTS

CREATING ADMISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to his consistently generous support of Franklin College athletics and the Franklin Fund, **Ken Dunn '51** has for many years underwritten and co-hosted an annual student recruitment and alumni networking event in Columbus, Indiana. His support of college initiatives in Bartholomew, Jackson, Jennings and surrounding counties is immensely helpful in fostering connections between prospective students, current students, alumni, faculty and staff. Ken's involvement, along with his daughter, Cathy Dunn, a Franklin College Trustee, also illustrates that alumni and friends, regardless of where they live, can support opportunities that help attract students, transform the admissions landscape and shape the future of Franklin College. You can help invest in the next generation of Grizzlies by hosting or underwriting a future event. Please contact Director of Alumni Engagement and Campus Partnerships

Emily (Habel) Olibo '95 at 317.738.8283 or eolibo@FranklinCollege.edu to discuss opportunities.

ADVANCING THE SCIENCE OF READING

Lilly Endowment Inc. awarded Franklin College a \$500,000 implementation grant as part of its two-phase initiative, Advancing the Science of Reading in Indiana (ASRI). The initiative aims to help interested Indiana colleges and universities expand and enhance the use of evidence-based instructional methods aligned with the Science of Reading (SoR) in their teacher preparation programs and significantly improve the reading capabilities of Indiana students. The ASRI initiative complements a statewide effort recently undertaken by the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) to improve reading achievement in K-12 schools by helping teachers implement SoR-aligned methods in their classrooms. Cindy Prather, Franklin College's

director of teacher education and teacher licensing adviser, said, "Franklin embraced scientific reading research and instruction several decades ago, and it has remained a fundamental component of our elementary education program. This grant will further support those efforts and strengthen the SoR expertise of our faculty and the preparation of our elementary education majors."

Franklin College previously received a \$75,000 phase-one planning grant from the initiative in December 2022. Those funds enabled the College to explore leveraging its knowledge and resources to benefit Indiana teachers and their K-3 students. The process included an examination of the most current SoR research and practices while collaborating with alumni educators to determine how best to prepare future teachers.

SUPPORTING 21ST CENTURY SCHOLARS

The Indiana Commission for Higher Education awarded Franklin College a \$79,508 grant as part of its 2023 College Success Program. The funds will enrich support for a priority student population, 21st Century Scholars. Franklin's efforts will include delivering tailored programming and hiring a College Success Coach to enhance student retention and success through targeted support, resource connections and on-campus services. In a related press release, President Kerry Prather said, "We are very grateful to the Commission for its support. Franklin College has been recognized nationally for enabling social mobility, especially for first-generation students. This grant allows us to expand and improve our support system for this

MAKE YOUR MARK
during **#GivetoGRIZ!**



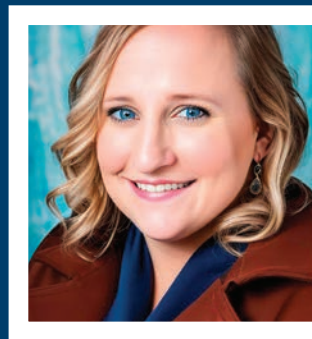
cohort of students, helping ensure their academic success and ultimately graduation.” Created in 1971, the Indiana Commission for Higher Education plans, coordinates and defines Indiana’s postsecondary education system to align higher learning with the needs of students and the state. Indiana’s 21st Century Scholars is an early-college promise program designed to make college more affordable for eligible students.

PROMOTING DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

The Franklin College Alumni Council Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Award was established in April 2021 to support underrepresented students and foster inclusivity on campus. Recently, Council members renamed it The **Yolanda Askew ’90** DEI Award in memory of her impactful work advancing DEI at the College and beyond. Askew, a Franklin College Trustee, also was a founding member and later president of the Student Association for Support of Minorities (SASOM). The DEI efforts she began practicing during college continued throughout her life and career, and she was recognized with a Distinguished Alumni Award in 2021. The DEI Award, now named in her honor, assists students who demonstrate a compelling need for funds to enhance their Franklin College experience, covering expenses like immersive learning and travel. The Council’s goal is to endow the DEI Award at the \$25,000-level, and gifts toward the effort can be made online at [FranklinCollege.edu/giving/give-now](https://franklincollege.edu/giving/give-now). ■

EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

The Indiana Academy of Physician Assistants (IAPA) named Franklin College assistant professor of physician assistant (PA) studies and clinical coordinator Jennifer Simmons, PA-C, as the Educator of the Year in November 2023.



SUBMITTED

Simmons received the award at IAPA’s Fall Continuing Medical Education Conference and was hailed for her dedication to PA students and positive impact on Franklin College’s Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies (MSPAS) Program. Simmons joined the Franklin faculty in 2021, bringing a professional background in family medicine and urgent care/occupational medicine.

Simmons said, “In the few years that I have been a professor, I have learned as much from the students as the students have learned from me. I have grown with the good and the bad. I am still learning to this day how to best serve our students. The truth is that these exceptional humans have helped me to grow as an educator. I owe this award to them and my team (of colleagues). The fact that the students took time out of their very busy schedules to nominate me for this award fills my heart with pure gratitude. I am just in shock.”

The MSPAS Program at Franklin College is made possible by a nearly \$1 million grant awarded from Lilly Endowment Inc. in 2012, as part of its Initiative to Promote Opportunities Through Educational Collaborations. The College also received program support from private donors. Franklin College has long stood for excellence in health and science education and offers a Master of Science in Athletic Training Program in addition to the MSPAS. ■

NEW TRUSTEES ON BOARD

Four individuals, including three alumni, were recently elected to the Franklin College Board of Trustees.

They will engage with the full board in establishing policy and guiding strategic efforts to ensure a prosperous future for the institution. President Kerry Prather is enthusiastic about how their professional expertise and dedication to education will contribute to the advancement of Franklin College's mission and benefit students.

"Each of these individuals brings a wealth of experience and expertise to the leadership of our institution. I look forward to working closely with them and their board colleagues as we implement our new strategic plan and pursue exciting initiatives focused on growth of the student body and growth of resources," Prather said.

More about the new trustees:

David Byers is a B787 captain and quality control-check airman for United Airlines. He holds a bachelor's degree in aviation technology from Purdue University, where he is a President's Council member. His memberships include the Airline Pilots Association and Alpha Eta Rho aviation fraternity. Byers resides in Franklin, Indiana, and is president of the Lakehurst Homeowners Association.

William E. "Bill" Cox '81 is the owner and principal consultant at The Triskele Group, specializing in advisory services, information technology leadership and software solutions for complex business environments. With a background in health care executive roles, Cox offers global expertise in executive management, business turnaround, mergers and acquisitions, corporate strategy and governance. He holds a bachelor's degree in biology and French from Franklin College and a master's degree in business management from Purdue University. Cox and his wife, Karen, have two sons and reside in Greenfield, Indiana.

Julie (Bever) Gilmore '93, Ph.D., is the vice president and global head of Gateway Labs by Lilly. With more than 20 years at parent company Eli Lilly and Co., she has held several leadership and scientific roles in research and drug development, including head of information sciences and clinical operations for Lilly Europe, global head of scientific communications and global head of portfolio management for the neurodegeneration and pain early phase portfolio. She is passionate about mentoring and advising students

DIGITAL FLUENCY ADVISORY COUNCIL EXPANDS

The Digital Fluency Advisory Council, led by Franklin College Digital Fluency Director Andrew Rosner, has welcomed eight new members committed to helping connect students with relevant digital-learning opportunities and serving as a pipeline to jobs that best utilize the training and education provided at Franklin.

Council members engage with the college community by advising on the digital landscape in Indianapolis and beyond, conducting mock interviews in collaboration with the career services staff, serving as guest speakers and co-teachers, hosting student interns, screening internship stipend applicants, identifying financial support sources and organizing educational opportunities in the tech ecosystem.

The new members are:

Aleks Davis, CEO of B2S Life Sciences

Merillat Flowers, senior vice president of engagement at TechPoint

Darcy Lee, CEO and founder of Vita Nova Consulting

in graduate school programs and serves on boards for Biocom California, Mozart Therapeutics and DTx Pharma. She earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Franklin College. She also holds a doctorate in biophysics from Purdue University and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in drug transport at Indiana University School of Medicine. Gilmore has a son and daughter and resides in San Francisco.

Kristin (Lynton) St. Pierre '96 is the executive vice president of St. Pierre Family Funeral & Cremation, overseeing 11 Central Indiana locations as well as Indiana Pet Cremation Services based in Johnson County. With a background as a licensed advanced planning professional, she brings two decades of experience as a senior territory manager at Pfizer Pharmaceuticals, earning accolades in sales and service. She holds a bachelor's degree in biology from Franklin College. She is a *Southside Business Exchange* "Women in Leadership" honoree and past board member of Center Grove Choirs. She and her husband, Paul, have two sons and reside in Bargersville, Indiana. ■



David Byers



Kristin (Lynton) St. Pierre '96



Julie (Bever) Gilmore '93



William E. "Bill" Cox '81

Alison Lightner, adviser for High Alpha Innovation

Andy Medley, co-founder and chief revenue officer at PERQ

Connor Nash '16, global experience analytics manager at Securitas Technology

Eric Stanley, founder and CEO of M2N

Chris Woolery '88, senior manager for analytics and business intelligence at Republic Airways

The returning members are:

Linda Calvin, J.D., chief impact officer at Reboot Representation

Stephanie (Mayes) Cox '03, CEO of Lumavate

Jennifer Merrell, CEO of Uncharted LLC

Munashe Mugonda '18, senior data engineer and technical product owner at Cummins Inc.

Brandon Platt '10, owner and CEO of 4D Digital Media

Find more details about the Council members at FranklinCollege.edu/news. ■

FALL REWIND



Highlights of the Grizzlies' fall athletic season include individual and team conference honors, as well as updates to the College's record book.



1. Women's soccer player **Katelyn Duff '24** (middle) celebrates a goal on Senior Day with teammates **Maddie Alexander '23** (No. 2) and **Jada Tooley '24** (No. 18). Franklin beat Defiance 6-0 on Senior Day.
2. The Grizzlies celebrate a Homecoming blowout of Bluffton by serenading fans with the fight song.
3. Men's cross-country runner **John Asplund '25** has an impressive run during the Grizzly Invitational.

PHOTOS BY CHAD WILLIAMS

By Ryan Thomas, Assistant Athletic Director for Communications

These achievements reflect the hard work, dedication and talent within the athletic community, from the student-athletes to the coaching staff to the athletic trainers and cheer squad. The best way to keep up with the Grizzlies throughout the year is to follow your favorite teams on social media. Also, find team rosters, schedules and full-length stories at **FranklinGrizzlies.com**. This season recap highlights memorable moments for both the student-athletes and the college community.

FOOTBALL

Fifteen football players were named all-conference by the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference (HCAC), and defensive end **Jireh Ojata '24** earned HCAC Defensive Player of the Year recognition. Ojata

joins previous honorees **Zack Corpe '14**, **David O'Rourke '12** and **Dan McManus '08** in earning the league's top defensive award.

Ojata, also named First Team All-HCAC, was joined by running back **Garrett Cora '25** and offensive lineman **Ethan Corwin '24**. Cora turned in one of the best offensive seasons in program history, tying the single-season record with 17 rushing touchdowns and racking up 1,419 yards to finish with the second-most yards in a season in Franklin College history.

On Dec. 11, Cora became the fourth player in Grizzlies' program history to earn the All-American honor from the American Football Coaches Association.

Earning Second Team All-HCAC honors were offensive lineman **Parker**

Hacker '25, linebacker **Hayden Kermode '25**, defensive lineman **Isaac Lawrence '24**, defensive lineman **Shay McRath '24**, tight end **Ryus Moore '24** and defensive back **DeMarion Newell '25**. Collecting honorable mentions from the league were placekicker **Gabe Crutchfield '25**, punter **Adam Guth '25**, quarterback **Kai Ross '25**, offensive lineman **Josh Sanders '25** and kick returner **Derek Thompson '24**.

MEN'S CROSS-COUNTRY

The men's cross-country team turned in another impressive season, capping the fall with a third-place finish at the HCAC Championships, followed by a top-half finish at the NCAA Great Lakes Regional. **John**

Asplund '25, **Jack Sells '24**, **Wyatt McCullough '24** and **Sam Wilson '26** earned First Team All-HCAC honors at the conference championships and individually finished in the top 14.

At the Great Lakes Regional, Asplund set a new program record in the 8K race at 25:15, breaking his previous program record by nine seconds. Sells, Wilson and McCullough also earned their way into the top-seven on the program's top-25 list with their efforts at the regional race.

WOMEN'S CROSS-COUNTRY

The women's cross-country team placed fifth at the HCAC Championships at the end of October, with **Haley Makowski '25** and **Ella Bashor '25** earning

all-conference honors. Makowski collected First Team All-HCAC honors for the third consecutive year with a top-14 finish, and Bashor became an honorable mention selection for the second year in a row with a top-20 finish.

VOLLEYBALL

Three women's volleyball players picked up Second Team All-Conference honors, with **Miranda Wilson '25**, **Hope Moring '26** and **McKenzie Schroeder '27** recognized among the league's top players. Wilson became a three-time all-conference selection with her nomination while Moring and Schroeder picked up the award for the first time in their respective careers.

MEN'S SOCCER

A trio of seniors, **Eddy Yousak '24**, **Jon Moore '24** and **Htoo Ray Moo '24**, ended the season as All-HCAC picks and earned the second all-conference honors of their collegiate careers. Yousak and Moore represented the Grizzlies as Second Team All-HCAC picks after finishing as the team's top two scorers. Moo became a two-time honorable mention selection after starting 16 times on defense.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

The women's soccer team returned to the HCAC Tournament in 2023 with three players collecting all-conference accolades. **Lauren Barker '27** was named First Team All-HCAC in her debut campaign, **Kinsey Price '24** picked up Second Team All-HCAC honors and **Kaitlyn Hewitt '24** earned honorable mention all-conference for the second time in her playing career. ■



Kinsey Price '24, a women's soccer player serving on Franklin College's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, asks NCAA President Charlie Baker about enhancing the DIII athletic experience.

PHOTOS BY CHAD WILLIAMS

GOAL EXCEEDED

Once again, supporters demonstrated tremendous backing for Franklin College's annual **#GRIZTuesday**. On Nov. 28, 2023, the College not only surpassed its 24-hour fundraising target but also achieved an impressive 21% beyond the goal, reaching a total of \$180,871. The funds raised on this day will contribute to the support of the athletic teams, esports, cheer squad and athletic training staff.

Vice President for Institutional Advancement Dana Cummings said, "We extend our deepest appreciation to all our donors and sponsors who wholeheartedly backed us on **#GRIZTuesday**. The overwhelming support from our alumni, friends, faculty, staff, students, parents, sponsors and community members was nothing short of remarkable once again this year."

Vice President Andy Hendricks emphasized the importance of **#GRIZTuesday** in providing a memorable college

experience for student-athletes.

"While academics are central to the experience at Franklin, athletics greatly enhance it, and our donors consistently show incredible support. Thanks to their generosity, our student-athletes will benefit from a well-rounded college experience, including unique leadership opportunities and valuable teamwork experiences."

The College used its social media platforms and other communication channels to promote **#GRIZTuesday** widely. While **#GRIZTuesday** is over, further support is welcome at **FranklinCollege.edu/give** or 800.852.0232. ■





NCAA President Charlie Baker reacts to a student in the crowd.



FIELDING the FACTS

Charlie Baker, current NCAA president and former governor of Massachusetts, has a diverse background in collegiate athletics. He is a former Harvard basketball player with a wife who was a Northwestern gymnast, and all three of their children also have competed at the collegiate level in football or field hockey. Despite his familiarity with the collegiate sports world, Baker faces a transformed landscape in his role with the NCAA. Since becoming president in March 2023, he has engaged extensively with conference commissioners, athletic directors and student-athletes to better grasp the contemporary challenges.

As part of GRIZ Lead, a joint initiative between Franklin College and Leadership Johnson County, Baker recently visited Spurlock Center for a Q&A session with student-athletes. He

addressed various pressing issues in today's collegiate sports landscape, including the impact of social media backlash on student-athletes, a national shortage of game officials, the challenge of low visibility and staffing shortages among DIII athletic programs and possible government regulation of name, image and likeness endorsements for student-athletes. Each topic is complex and requires a multitiered approach, he explained.

Kinsey Price '24, a women's soccer player serving on Franklin College's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, was one of several students to ask Baker a question. She inquired about how the NCAA plans to enhance the DIII athletic experience, and whether those plans include allowing athletic scholarships.

Baker proposed boosting the fan base aggressively through analytics to identify school and sports followers, tailoring content for targeted outreach. Additionally, he suggested securing local sponsors and expanding video streaming options for DII and DIII championship events. On the topic of scholarships, Baker deferred to DIII school leaders, acknowledging their expertise. He recommended cost-cutting measures, like collective equipment purchases among multiple schools, to potentially reduce attendance costs for students.

As the Q&A closed, Baker emphasized to students the "unique opportunity" they have to leverage their athletic experiences after graduation, noting that employers value skills such as teamwork, communication, problem-solving and resilience, all of which sports help instill. ■

ALL ROADS LEAD TO FRANKLIN

By Amy (Kean)
VerSteeg '96, Editor

When Pete Cangany '80 reflects on the winding roads of his life's journey, he finds they intersect at Franklin College. From his foundational undergraduate years to his long and distinguished accounting career with Ernst & Young (EY) and now as the board of trustees chair, Cangany's story is one of hard work and the transformative power of the Franklin College experience.

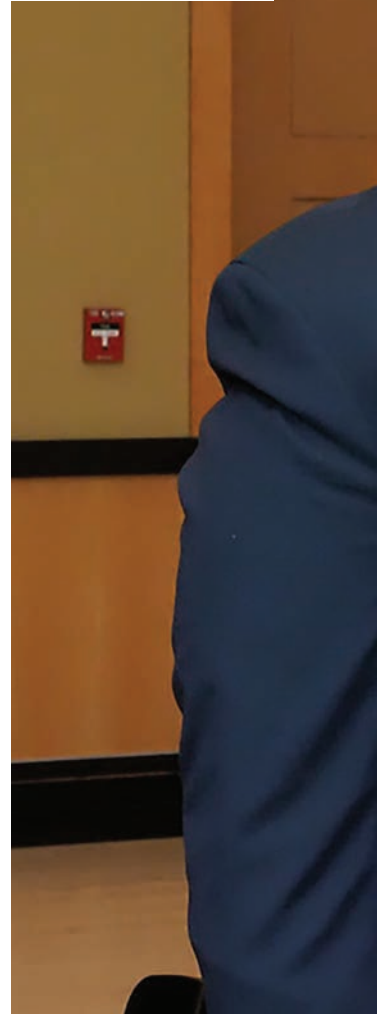
UNEXPECTED DETOURS

Cangany was one of eight children, experiencing his parents' divorce during his teenage years. Throughout his childhood, the family moved around, but he managed to start and finish high school at Indian Creek in Trafalgar, Indiana, serving as the senior class president and a football team starter. He made good grades and was excited to receive an acceptance letter from Tri-State University (now Trine), although he was not sure what to expect once he got there.

While Cangany was contemplating college, a challenge from his high school government teacher altered the course of his life. Alongside his best friend, Dean, he took on the audacious task of bicycling from Alaska back to Indiana the summer after graduating high school. The trip, filled with navigational errors and unexpected twists, ended up taking longer than anticipated. By the time they were halfway back from Alaska, the duo considered it too late to attend college, and they decided to take a gap year.

To save money, Cangany, as he had many times before, worked as a mechanic at his father's Indianapolis repair shop. This time the toil and grime took a toll, and self-doubt about getting back on the right path to college was weighing on him. The day Cangany was trying to loosen a bolt under the hood of a delivery truck when his wrench slipped causing him to bust his knuckles and erupt in frustration was pivotal. Witnessing the scene, Cangany's father, usually a stoic, reassured him it was time to pursue his college aspirations.

As a first-generation student from a financially strained background, Cangany's decision-making was significantly influenced by three factors: his buddy, Dean, was enrolling at Franklin College, he had been to some "cool concerts" on campus, including REO Speedwagon, and academic scholarships and federal aid in the form of Pell Grants made Franklin affordable. Cangany was uncertain about choosing a career, but he recognized his aptitude for math and figured he could start by





Above: **Jim Due '82** (HD '22) retired as the board of trustees chair in October 2021, passing the gavel to his successor, **Pete Cangany '80**.

Right: Ann Cangany and her husband, **Pete Cangany '80**, attend a donor recognition event at the College.



PHOTOS BY CHAD WILLIAMS

taking business classes. Ironically, Dean never made it to Franklin, taking a different college path.

NAVIGATING CHALLENGES

During his first semester, Cangany lived in Bryan Hall, but he soon discovered a sense of belonging with the men of Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) and moved into the fraternity house. It was a defining period of self-discovery and growth, and involvement in SAE became a central part of his college experience. He held leadership roles within the fraternity, played intramural sports and forged lifelong friendships. **Mike Deffner '80** and **John Dixon '80**, who were instrumental in his choice of a major in accounting, remain two of his good friends today.

Deffner's father also made a lasting impression on Cangany who remembers him as a welcome presence at the SAE house and a career inspiration since he owned an accounting practice. "He was someone I wanted to emulate," Cangany said. As Cangany was beginning to realize an accounting career was his calling, some academic bumps in the road put his scholarships in jeopardy.

"It was pretty intimidating when **John Chiarotti '67** (then an instructor of business and economics and now deceased) called me into his office to discuss 'my alternatives,' but my conversation with John was anything but intimidating. Our discussion motivated me to buckle down, and my grades got much better."

Cangany acknowledged that liberal arts courses were the most challenging for him, but now realizes the key role they played in his workforce preparation. He stressed that, even in a specialized field like accounting, soft skills are critical.

“People think of accounting as only black and white, but you also need to know how to actively listen, communicate effectively and write well.”

To this day, the senior seminar Cangany took with economics professor George Launey, Ph.D., remains memorable. “All the things I learned over the three previous years came together in that class. We had these case studies to examine, write papers about, present on and defend, and we had to critique each other . . . even our friends,” Cangany said. The most valuable lessons he learned from the seminar were the art of constructive criticism and respectful discord.

Another influential professor, Dave Neitzel, had taken leave from EY to work on furthering his professional tax certification. While pursuing a master's degree in tax he taught accounting part time at Franklin College. By the midpoint of Cangany's senior year, having already undertaken two internships, thoughts about post-graduation life were starting to occupy his mind. Serendipitously, Neitzel orchestrated interviews with EY recruiters for six Franklin College students. Out of the candidates, EY hired both the late **Rob Ray '80** and Cangany.

RIGHT DIRECTION

That was the start of a 37-year career, with Cangany retiring as a partner from EY in 2017. His consistent professional excellence led to a succession of promotions, opening up new career roles as the years progressed. In his remarkable tenure, he oversaw EY's account with Amazon, engaging regularly with Jeff Bezos. The continued opportunities, coupled with his family's readiness to relocate, propelled Cangany's career forward. He even managed to earn his Master

of Business Administration at the age of 51. Following leadership positions in Washington, Texas and New York, with their three children now grown, Cangany and his wife, Ann, relocated to Bermuda. There, he assumed the role of managing partner, overseeing the significant growth of EY's local practice.

“Bermuda was a melting pot with many young, eager employees from around the world wanting to grow their resumes, and it was very challenging and rewarding work,” Cangany recalled.

Other notable moments in Bermuda included getting to know two Franklin students who visited the island. **Laurin Holzinger '17** came for a marine biology internship, while **Anna (Murdock) Larson '15**, a NCAA DIII national champion in the 800m-run, came to assist in training a local athlete.

“As Grizzlies, we all had an immediate connection, and Ann and I enjoyed hosting them,” Cangany said. He also greatly enjoyed displaying a Franklin College flag at their Bermuda residence every Saturday, expressing solidarity with the Grizzlies' football team competing back in Indiana.

His long and proud association with Franklin College has included serving on the Alumni Council and teaching finance courses for students over the Immersive Term. In 2008, he was appointed as a college trustee and held the position until October 2021, at which time he assumed the role of board chair. He acknowledges that he didn't immediately agree to the opportunity.

“I took some time to think it over, to get better acquainted with President (Kerry) Prather and to consider how I could engage effectively in the role, and I realized my business background would help give me a voice

in some of the important and timely conversations surrounding Franklin College's future,” he said.

FUELING THE FUTURE

Moving forward as the board chair, Cangany would like to help reshape the College's business model from one of primarily tuition-driven revenue to one that emphasizes more philanthropic-driven revenue, growing the endowment and increasing resources for student scholarships to help lower their cost of attending college. Philanthropy is a major part of his and Ann's lives, and they have provided support for a variety of Franklin College needs over the years, including endowed student scholarships, athletics and the annual fund. The couple generously supported past capital campaigns and recently made a significant pledge toward the Fitness Center's restoration. They also documented the College in their estate plans with a Horizon Society commitment. Beyond service and philanthropy, the couple's connection to Franklin College is deepened by two nieces, **Emily (Grant) Cangany '11** and **Casey Cangany '23**, both proud graduates.

Cangany is dedicated to ensuring that upcoming generations enjoy the same transformative experience that he, Emily and Casey had the opportunity to receive. Enthusiastically, he has issued a philanthropic challenge to alumni and friends, providing further details beginning on Page 29.

As an alumnus continuing his journey, Cangany is humbled by the profound positive impact that choosing Franklin College has had on his life. Recalling the series of fortunate events and lasting connections over the course of his journey, Cangany said, “All roads lead to Franklin College.” His story is a testament to persistence and a powerfully transformative college community. ■



BOARD CHAIR'S CHALLENGE

Elevate the endowment, support scholarships

Dear Alumni and Friends,

I've been on the Franklin College Board of Trustees since 2008 and honored to serve as board chair for the last two years. During this time, I've had a front-row seat to many successful board efforts. There were also a few efforts that, despite good intentions, failed to produce intended results, and there were some whiffs and some flat-out debacles. Despite their outcomes, one thing every decision had in common was the intention to strengthen the College as we prepare our students to succeed in tomorrow's world.

In many respects, those efforts have resulted in visible results. Consider, for instance, that the 2022-23 *U.S. News and World Report* on best colleges ranked Franklin College 44th among 196 institutions nationwide in the Top Performers for Social Mobility category, and Franklin was the only Indiana institution in the category's top 25%. As noted by President Kerry Prather, the recognition reflects both the strategy and commitment of the College's faculty and staff. In a press release, he said, "We continue to develop innovative strategies to help meet the needs of all our students, with a particular focus on helping first-generation students achieve success."

I find this recent recognition very satisfying because that "student" was me some 40 years ago. Many of you reading this probably fall into that same category or know of someone close to you who was a first- or second-generation student who needed that special something to launch them into a more successful life. While the College continues to achieve success in developing future leaders, the business model for small liberal arts institutions has become increasingly more expensive. This is a fact that the Franklin College Board of Trustees has begun to strategically consider as we approach our 200th year of providing excellence in education.

Despite assistance from federal and state grant programs, which is significantly smaller than at taxpayer-supported state schools, the tuition-dependent revenue model upon which Franklin College has relied simply cannot provide enough resources to ensure a successful college experience for all students. While endowed scholarships provide additional assistance, prospective students are often still left with the decision to incur student-loan debt that will

follow them for years after graduation. Whether unwilling or unable to incur personal indebtedness, many students simply choose to forego a college education, a decision that data shows costs them in excess of \$1 million in earnings over their lifetime.

College isn't for everyone, but everyone should at least have the option of deciding whether or not to attend without the worry of unmanageable student loans facing them upon graduation. Although the average Franklin College student graduates with debt far less than what is reported in the national media, any debt to a 21-year-old just entering into the workforce seems daunting. That is the driving factor behind my invitation to you to participate in the Board Chair's Challenge.

As you may be aware, Franklin College maintains a financial endowment of approximately \$90 million, consisting of assets invested in financial securities, real estate and other instruments. The investment yields a return that provides the College with \$4.5 to \$5 million annually to fund scholarships, operational expenses and professorships, while the principal exists in perpetuity. The generosity of those who gave before us is forever appreciated, but if we are to continue to make a positive impact on the lives of current and future Grizzlies, the endowment needs to do more to support the College. And it can.

The endowment is the philanthropic tool to sustain Franklin College for the future. For example, if our endowment grew by \$25 million, it could generate approximately \$1 million per year in additional funds for student success. I challenge you to think about what impact you could make on the future of our College. Will you make a pledge, cash gift or estate plan that includes Franklin College? Perhaps you could explore more than one option. The point of the Board Chair's Challenge is to do something — to make a bold commitment. With approximately 10,000 living alumni and many friends, we have an opportunity to make a transformational impact on our world by investing in the future of Franklin College.



Pete Cangany '80

The Overstreet Women's Fund for Scholarship and Internship, established in 2021 by alumnae from the mid-to-late 1960s, exemplifies impactful action. Originating from their experiences at the historic Overstreet House near campus, these women consider the living and learning community a foundational and memorable part of their college journey. More than 50 years since graduating college, the women, of various Greek affiliations and backgrounds, continue to organize mini-reunions across the country and create new rituals to celebrate their milestones. Led by **Candy (Barnes) Pierce '69**, the alumnae also remain dedicated to supporting motivated Franklin College women, fostering connections and making a difference through their fund. Recognizing more such efforts in future *Franklin College Magazine* issues would be exciting!

While my wife, Ann, and I are longtime donors to the Franklin Fund, we made a decision a few years ago to also establish a family scholarship fund to help students with financial need, and we continue adding to the fund every year. In addition, we recently documented Franklin College in our estate plans, confident that when the time comes, the funds will be used to make a significant difference for future Grizzlies. Our decision is grounded in our firsthand observation of how carefully Franklin College manages its resources and respects the wishes and goals of its donors.

Although the Board Chair's Challenge isn't a component of a large-scale campaign, it holds significant importance as a grassroots initiative to encourage each of us to remember from whence we came and the roads that opened to us because of our education. The goal is to provide that nudge you may need to actively give back so that others with the same dreams we held as undergraduates can choose to pursue a degree from Franklin College. So, will you join us in making a bold commitment to the future of Franklin College?



PETE CANGANY '80

FRANKLIN COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHAIR

LOOKING AHEAD

Over the next several pages, you will read about endowed scholarships that have significantly benefited students, past and present. The generosity of alumni and friends makes each scholarship possible and is essential to helping students further their college goals and career aspirations. Growing the endowment to provide additional scholarships and resources is vital to sustaining Franklin College's mission as a place that empowers students through an experiential education, grounded in the liberal arts and sciences, and promotes impactful careers and meaningful lives. The Board Chair's Challenge is an opportunity to help lead the way and affirm our historic position that all deserving students should be given a chance to attend Franklin College.

As you are inspired to make Franklin College a priority in your charitable giving, please consider contacting the Division of Institutional Advancement for assistance, 800.852.0232.

DR. JERRY L. CURNUTT '64 ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

The **Dr. Jerry L. Curnutt '64 Endowed Scholarship** honors its namesake. Curnutt thought he might like to pursue a career in dentistry but hesitated to enroll at a large university, where he perceived building personal connections with professors and classmates would be difficult. Checking out opportunities at smaller schools led to Franklin College, which offered a variety of science courses and enabled his scholarly pursuits while keeping him close to family in Tipton,

Indiana. At Franklin, he met his sweetheart and future wife, **Beverly (Parker) '66**, at a football game.

Academically, Curnutt's interest in chemistry ignited and was shaped significantly by professor and mentor Tom Hodge, Ph.D. He double-majored in chemistry and mathematics, graduating magna cum laude, and later working in thermodynamics for the Dow Chemical Co. Remarkably, he earned seven patents to help create bold, new products at Dow

PAST RECIPIENT

Growing up with three siblings on his family's farm in Wanatah, Indiana, **Cary M. Guse '94**, M.D., recognized that becoming the first in his family to earn a bachelor's degree required diligence. "Scholarships were my only route," he recalled.

Throughout high school, Guse worked toward scholarships by excelling in four sports, holding leadership roles and graduating as valedictorian. When he voiced aspirations of a career in medicine, his guidance counselor recommended exploring Franklin College's pre-medicine offerings. Impressed by what he saw, Guse

dedicated himself to achieving excellence on the admissions essay and in the interview, ultimately earning a full-tuition Ben Franklin Scholars Award. "That changed the trajectory of my life," he said.

Guse's strong work ethic persisted in college, leading the faculty to recommend him for the **Dr. Jerry L. Curnutt '64 Endowed Scholarship** for outstanding juniors majoring in chemistry. "I felt very honored to be the first recipient, and it has been really special staying in touch with **Beverly (Parker Curnutt '66)** and hearing her stories about Jerry."

Guse graduated from Franklin summa cum laude, and his strongest supporter from start to finish was the late Tom Hodge, Ph.D., professor of chemistry. Memories of traveling to Florida with the Grizzlies' baseball team and Hodge, a volunteer driver, still make Guse sentimental. "He didn't want me to get behind in class so I had 14 hours of private instruction during the drive plus on the beach." Guse also shared, "Besides my dad, Professor Hodge was the most influential man in my life.

I was a pallbearer at his funeral." Prior to his death, Hodge was named a Franklin College associate alumnus and trustee.

Reflecting on collegiate athletics, Guse shared a valuable life lesson about transitioning from playing two sports to one, noting that support from his coach contributed to his confidence to pivot later in life. He is a proud Grizzlies' baseball team veteran of the '90s, describing it as a turnaround period for the program and a legacy of his generation. Now, having achieved the integration of athletics into his medical career, Guse's life has come full circle. He is an orthopedic surgeon at Southern Indiana Orthopedics in Columbus, Indiana, and serves as the head physician for several high school teams. Guse and his wife, **Kristi (King) '93**, have two children, Jenna and Jacob. They consistently support the Franklin Fund and athletics, and have documented the College in their estate plans. He also facilitates student internships and recommends new hires from Franklin. ■



SUBMITTED

during his career. Curnutt's untimely death at age 49 inspired Beverly to initiate a scholarship. "Everybody has their strategy of coping after they lose a mate and their way of staying connected with that person. A memorial scholarship was my way to honor him, keep his memory alive and acknowledge the help he received as a Franklin College student. I've been very pleased with the outcome over the years," she said. While Beverly provided the scholarship's initial funding, family and friends made subsequent

contributions to help further the impact. "Each gift added up, and I've been fortunate to continue it," she said.

Curnutt noted it has been "heartwarming" to receive thank-you notes from many of the scholarship recipients over the years, and she is delighted that the inaugural recipient (featured left) and his wife continue to mail her holiday cards and now share updates on their children's milestones.

PRESENT RECIPIENT

Celeste Edwards '25 had a "typical high-school experience" until junior year, when the pandemic disrupted life, canceling classes, her 17th birthday party and social events like homecoming and prom. Normalcy was a distant memory, and she lost interest in school. The college search brought a ray of hope. Thanks to a virtual program that connects high-achieving, low-income students to highly-trained undergraduate advisers, Edwards found Franklin College, a place she could envision starting fresh, thriving and engaging in memory-making activities. Realizing her academic strength in chemistry, she also looked forward to pursuing a major. She recently gained acceptance into the College's transition to teaching program and looks forward to being the role model she wished she had in high school.

"There weren't many teachers at my high school who looked like me," Edwards said. "I want to be an example to my students and to encourage diversity in STEM fields." Edwards aspires to lead her future classroom with "grace, compassion and kindness." Several faculty and staff

members at Franklin inspire her by their example. Edwards is particularly grateful for sociology professor Jason Jimerson, Ph.D., and assistant professor of chemistry Hilary Florian, Ph.D., who both create a learning environment where she feels valued and included. Florian has been instrumental in helping Edwards overcome lingering feelings of isolation from the pandemic and build connections with peers. In addition, Florian and Edwards have engaged in collaborative research and built a microscope together. Edwards was also among the students Florian took to Eli Lilly for an immersive experience. Meeting scientists and learning about pharmaceutical development was a highlight for her. "That was a real moment because I remembered being around that place as a kid, but I didn't think I'd ever be inside," Edwards said.

Edwards also found a mentor in Assistant Director for the Center of Diversity and Inclusion Kalyn Johnson. "I can spend an hour in her office and not be made to feel like I'm a burden, and she helps me find solutions to problems I would otherwise dwell on



AMY (KEAN) VERSTEEG '96

forever. She always reassures me that our voice as students is just as important as anyone else's, and she encourages all my dreams," Edwards said.

Beyond the classroom, Edwards serves as the Black Student Union president, Student Government Association vice president of administration, Sister to Sister secretary and manager for the women's basketball and soccer teams. She enjoys residing in the Arthur Wilson Black Experience House, sharing "I can be my authentic self." Scholarships will help enable her participation in traveling to Morocco and Spain over the Immersive Term. "I stress every day about the economy and lots of stuff besides college expenses, but scholarships and aid help take some of that burden off my shoulders and make it easier to focus on getting my degree," Edwards said. ■

During the mid-1920s, a young man by the name of John E. Bergdoll attended summer classes at Franklin College. Due to financial constraints, he could not stay but his time at Franklin made a positive impression on him, resonating through the next three generations of his family. First was his daughter, **Mary Lu (Bergdoll) Hanson '48**, then came Mary Lu and her husband Albert's son, **Martin Hanson '80**. Adding to the family's Franklin College legacy 75 years after her great-grandfather attended was **Allison (Huffman) Kruse '03**. Each one experienced Franklin at distinct junctures in both institutional and world history, creating individual yet shared experiences.

The family story would be incomplete without Orpha Bergdoll, wife of John and mother of Mary Lu, who never attended Franklin College but holds a place in its history. After her husband's death, Orpha kept a strong relationship with the College and demonstrated her caring ways many times. In addition to being named a charter member of the Old Main Society in 1990, she generously established the **John E. Bergdoll Memorial Endowed Scholarship** and the **Orpha Bergdoll Endowed Scholarship**. According to their great-granddaughter, Allison, one of Orpha's favorite activities was attending the annual President's Dinner to socialize with students and staff. Both family scholarships aim to assist deserving students with demonstrated financial need. Orpha's namesake scholarship stipulates her first preference: assisting students from South Central Indiana's Jackson County, specifically Carr Township.

On behalf of her family, Allison stewards the scholarships today. "My great-grandma always wanted Franklin College to be a household name in the township where my great-grandpa was born, so that was her thinking behind the criteria. But, most important to her was being able to help students that might be facing financial hardship and unable to go to college or finish a degree. Our family always has believed strongly that education should be accessible to people from all walks of life," she said.

PAST RECIPIENT

Lucas Windell '16 grew up working alongside his twin brother, **Jeremiah '16**, on their family's grain farm in Corydon, Indiana. He was active in high school chapters of National Honor Society and Future Farmers of America and played on the football team. His decision to pursue a four-year college education was catalyzed by a call from Franklin's then-head football coach Mike Leonard, followed by a visit from defensive coordinator Matt Theobald. The personalized outreach impressed the twins, and one of the overnight visit programs tailored to multicultural students ultimately helped convince them Franklin College was the right choice.

"We were 21st Century Scholars, and we were eligible for full tuition at

PRESENT RECIPIENT

SUBMITTED



According to **Genesis Munoz '24**, "College wasn't just an option; it was a necessity." She realized early that earning a college degree was the key to

her dream career in specialized health care, a choice greatly influenced by her mother, a nurse. Finding the right college was the first hurdle for the Seymour, Indiana, native.

"I was very stressed out in the process and didn't know where I was going to fit in. I was hopeful I'd find a place

Indiana's big universities, but the people we met at Franklin, from the coaching staff to faculty and students, made us fall in love with the College," Lucas said.

Franklin's private scholarships helped bridge the gap to affordability, enabling the twins to major in business management and play football as Grizzlies. Envisioning a future in banking, insurance or investing, the twins found an unexpected career path through another football connection, linebacker coach Aarik Gault. Networking with Gault led the freshmen to part-time employment at Advanced Agrilytics, where both interned and found full-time opportunities after graduation. Their farming background and data science skills

gained from college were valuable assets. Jeremiah's career as a precision agronomist continues there, and after a decade-long career, Lucas recently took a new role at Bayer Crop Science, as a customer business adviser, interfacing with agronomists, field reps, supply-chain specialists and farmers, to help strengthen the future of U.S. agriculture. Recruiters sought him and extended a job offer over the phone.

"When I think of where I am today, working for a Fortune 500 company that's one of the largest in the world, with a top-selling team, that's pretty special, and all because of my connections at Franklin College," Lucas said. He and his wife, Lauren, have a daughter, Margaret, and reside in Corydon. ■



SUBMITTED

that felt like home, but none of the colleges I visited were showing me what I wanted, until Franklin. The admissions staff was very welcoming and honest about what FC had to offer, and I found the tight-knit atmosphere I wanted."

She also found the opportunity to continue her softball career, with help from Grizzlies' head coach Angie Bain. "Softball has always been my go-to for fun and stress relief, and I knew I wanted to keep playing. Playing at FC has given me a steady foundation of teammates and coaches for emotional support, made me more accountable and enhanced my leadership skills. I've never in my life had a coach care as much about my wellbeing as Coach Bain."

In addition to excelling at first base and as a catcher, Munoz, twice named to All-Conference league teams, is proud of accomplishing her biology degree in only three years, with graduation set for this May.

She persisted in overcoming academic challenges to achieve the milestone, and her future includes pursuing an accelerated nursing program with a focus on obstetrics and gynecology. She credits an internship as a Certified Nursing Assistant at Franklin's Homeview Health and Rehabilitation Center for helping give her clarity about nursing and is grateful for influential faculty, such as biology professor Ben O'Neal, Ph.D., who has been a pillar of support.

"At a point when I was struggling academically, I went to him and was vulnerable. He responded in a super positive, supportive way that I'll never forget. Besides that, he makes classes feel like we're all part of a big conversation, not just a lecture. He counts on us to participate and makes whatever he's teaching relevant with all his jokes."

Before she graduates, Munoz has one more milestone to achieve, spending the 2024 Immersive Term studying in Costa Rica. "I have friends going, and it's just going to be a great, new experience," she said. ■

WILLIAM G. AND RUTH KERLIN HIBBS BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

The late William G. Hibbs 1914, M.D., and his wife, Ruth (Kerlin) 1917, fell in love at Franklin College and held a lifelong affinity for their alma mater. Both were accomplished in their respective fields. He was the medical director of Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center in Chicago for 45 years, and she was an artist embraced by various guilds for her talents. Together, the couple raised three sons before retiring and relocating back to Indiana, on a pig farm near the College. William resumed part-time medical

practice at a retirement community and was elected to the Franklin College Board of Trustees, serving for 27 years. Throughout this time, Ruth continued to be prolific, creating landscape paintings and a variety of woodcarvings and ceramics. Her works garnered honorable mention from the Hoosier Art Salon and often were exhibited at the Brown County Art Guild. Today, her work is showcased on the college campus.

PAST RECIPIENT

Anna (Murdock) Larson '15 recalls the time when she was deciding between her top two college choices. Despite being "95%" certain about choosing an out-of-state option, she appreciated the continued outreach from **Paul Sargent '91**, then Franklin's head cross-country and track and field coach.

"Paul was invested in me and helped paint a good picture of the future I could have at FC. I would not be where I am without him," Larson said.

Sargent's instinct was right; Larson possessed the potential to excel as a champion runner and high academic

achiever. She was twice named an Academic All-American by the U.S. Track and Field and Cross-Country Coaches Association and graduated with a 3.49 GPA, in addition to becoming the Grizzlies' first individual national athletic champion. Her victory in the 800m-run at the NCAA DIII Outdoor National Championships in New York came on the same day as commencement at Franklin College. "I remember having lunch with my parents and Coach and watching the live stream on my phone so we could hear my name called. Winning the race later the same day as earning my degree was the pinnacle of my college experience," Larson said. Later, the College made certain Larson had the opportunity to walk across stage in cap and gown and receive her degree in the presence of family and friends by hosting a special ceremony.

Another of her cherished college memories is helping build schools in Uganda over the Immersive Term. Larson loves traveling and sought internships abroad, gaining experience in Spain and Germany. By senior year, she still was uncertain about the career path her degree in international

business, management and marketing would lead to, but Director of Career Development Kirk Bixler helped set the stage for her future endeavors. "Kirk was a huge help throughout the process. He helped me network and convinced me to apply for a job I thought I would be underqualified for, and that led me to nearly four years with the Greater Greenwood (Indiana) Chamber. The Chamber gave me exposure to a variety of industries across Johnson County and helped me think about who I would want to work for next," Larson said.

Now, Larson is the director of external relations and interim director of marketing at the Garrett Cos. She oversees luxury apartment marketing in three states and maintains an office at the Carmel, Indiana, headquarters. "I accidentally found myself in construction and real estate, and I could not be happier," she said. She is particularly proud to be the creator of a flourishing internship program, which gives her the chance to be a mentor. "I've been very blessed by others who took a chance on me, and now it's all coming full circle." Larson is a Franklin College Alumni Council member. ■



Although the Hibbs were esteemed Johnson County residents, they were also grounded individuals affectionately referred to as Gammie and Pop by their granddaughter, **Kathy Hibbs '70**. Kathy loved attending college near her grandparents' home, where she made happy memories socializing at their kitchen table and observing Gammie's artistic processes.

Kathy recalls that her grandparents always said Franklin was an excellent educational institution,

and they were both present to congratulate her at commencement. They were equally proud to see her launch what became a 48-year career in elementary education. Similar to her grandparents, Kathy places high importance on education, and she is proud to oversee the scholarships that were established in 1980, including the **William G. and Ruth Kerlin Hibbs Business and Economics Endowed Scholarship** and their namesake Fine Arts Scholarship Award and Pre-Medical Scholarship.

PRESENT RECIPIENT

As a child, **Wyatt McCullough '23** used to rush to keep up with his father, **Chad McCullough '96**, an accomplished track and cross-country runner. As he became a teenager, he shifted focus to racing past his father and topping his impressive college athletic achievements. "I thought it would be cool to run faster times than his and get in the record book," McCullough said, noting that freshman year he achieved beating his father's cross-country record in the 8K.

However, McCullough did not choose Franklin College solely for the chance to outrun his dad. Of all the institutions he toured, Franklin treated him best. For one, the head cross-country and track and field coach made a significant impression. "Coach (Brandon) Dworak always seemed interested in talking to me and excited about having me on the team," McCullough said. He has never second-guessed his choice to become a Grizzly or be involved in athletics. "I feel better when I run. It gives me time to think about things and figure out my next moves," he said.

McCullough has entrepreneurial ambitions and is double-majoring in business finance and accounting. "I'm focused on real estate and developing places that look good and that can do good for people, if done right," McCullough said. As he contemplates his entrepreneurial prospects, McCullough values the support of Andrea Mescall, an accounting instructor, and Jeremy VanAndel, the director of professional development and a business instructor. He appreciates that Mescall prioritizes meaningful learning. "She helps us learn the material and build on it by talking about the parts that interest us and relate to what we want to do," McCullough said. He added that VanAndel is a valuable springboard. "I can run ideas by him, and he will ask questions that help me think through things I haven't considered before."

Internships with Inlet Beach Real Estate in Florida, UBS financial services group in Indianapolis and Process Alliance for pharmaceutical engineering in Franklin have enabled McCullough's involvement in managing and tracking data, conducting



AMY (KEAN) VERSTEEG '96

digital marketing, developing presentations and managing client relations. He continues to work part time for Process Alliance, honing his skill set in analytics. "I like taking data and making it useful to the execs who have to make big decisions about future things; it's more useful than that information just sitting in a spreadsheet somewhere," he said.

McCullough's gratitude for scholarships is matched by his sense of duty. "They help my family handle the burden of paying for college and remind me that if I keep taking the right steps toward my goals things will fall into place." ■



Deana (Baker) Haworth '99

IMPACTFUL LEADERS

Two alumni on the Franklin College Board of Trustees made media headlines around Indiana recently in recognition of their career success and leadership, Deana (Baker) Haworth '99 and Devin Anderson '86.



Devin Anderson '86

First from the *Indianapolis Business Journal (IBJ)*, on July 16, came the news of Haworth's promotion to CEO at Hiron, where she is the first woman to hold the role. From leading successful client campaigns to overseeing business development and strategic planning, Haworth has assumed an upward trajectory throughout her 23-year career at Hiron. With a master's degree in public relations from Ball State University and a bachelor's degree in journalism from Franklin College, she also is an Accredited Public Relations professional. She is a recognized business and community leader and has received several awards for her contributions, among them was the Women of Influence, class of 2018, by the *IBJ*. She actively serves on multiple boards and is dedicated to advancing communications and public relations practices.

"My greatest accomplishment throughout all my roles and responsibilities at Hiron has been establishing deep connections with fellow employee-owners and our clients. As CEO, I'm eager to spark new growth for our clients' brands and our agency business, while also empowering the next generation of agency leaders," Haworth said in a press release from Hiron. Her promotion was announ-

ced following Hiron's celebration of 45 years in business. The advertising, public relations and digital agency has offices in Indianapolis and Chicago.

Haworth is a former adjunct instructor of journalism and returned to Franklin College Nov. 1, 2023, to share her inspiring career journey with guests during the Indy Chamber Women in Business Breakfast series, hosted at the Napolitan Student Center. She also was a panelist at the College's second Trust for Trauma Journalism Symposium in September.

After Haworth's news, the *IBJ* announced on July 20 its second annual "Indiana 250," a list of the most influential and impactful leaders across the state. The honorees included Anderson, president and CEO of E&A Cos.

A press release from the *IBJ* indicated the "Indiana 250" list is made up of "business leaders, including executives who are guiding our state's largest and most important public and private companies, as well as leaders of companies that might not employ tens of thousands but are making huge impacts, nonetheless." The list was packed with individuals working in industries that make up Indiana's economy—manufacturing, life

sciences, agriculture, technology and law as well as leaders contributing in government, education, the not-for-profit sector, the arts and philanthropy.

Anderson made the Financial and Business Services category. He has been with E&A Cos. since 1997 and has been CEO and partner since 2003. Alongside business partner Al Hubbard, he buys small but successful companies and helps accelerate their growth. E&A currently has three different operating companies with operations in nine states. Before joining E&A, Anderson served in a number of political and governmental leadership positions in the Republican Party, including chief of staff to former Indiana congressman David McIntosh and to former U.S. Sen. Dan Coats. Anderson's volunteerism includes serving as the immediate past board chair of the Indianapolis Zoo and current board chair of the Indiana Chamber of Commerce as well as the secretary/treasurer of Hoosiers for Affordable Healthcare and the finance chair for EdChoice.

The *IBJ* asked "Indiana 250" list members to suggest hypothetical jobs they might consider swapping for their own. "The best thing about what I do is the constant variety. Therefore, I don't think I have another job I would choose," Anderson said. The publication also asked members to share a surprising fact about themselves. Anderson said, "I'm an outdoorsman who enjoys shooting sports, and I play three different instruments." ■



READY, SET, REFER

Countless more stories like Deana and Devin's (at left) exist because Franklin College equips students with the skills and experiences that employers are looking for in new hires. Our graduates consistently have a strong track record of launching successful careers across diverse industries, and they enter the workforce with an education that goes beyond job placement. Franklin College empowers graduates to lead lives filled with purpose.

The pursuit of a future that not only offers professional success but also personal satisfaction begins at Franklin College. Refer a student and help them unlock their potential today.

CLASS NOTES

'60s

Betty (McKinley) Bourquein '67 retired from teaching high school English in 2001. She resides in Batesville, Indiana, with her husband, Dennis, and volunteers as director of the Dearborn County Retired Teachers Foundation.

'70s

Julie (Tappan) Hendley '72 and her husband, William, celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary on June 17, 2023. They reside in Indianapolis, and Julie has worked for more than 18 years as a customer service agent for G2 Secure Staff at the city's international airport.

Karyl (Northrop) Bailey '73 and her husband, Phillip, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Sept. 29, 2023, and reside in Bedford, Virginia.

'80s

Debbie (Hill) Davis '86, Ed.D., was promoted to associate dean of undergraduate affairs for the College of Media and Communication at Texas Tech University. She also is an assistant professor of practice and faculty adviser for the student-run agency, RaiderComm. Hill and her husband, Mike, live in Lubbock, Texas.

William Morris '86 is a software engineer at the University of Notre Dame Lucy Institute for Data Science and resides with his wife, Karen, in Mishawaka, Indiana.

Nora (Lowe) Brems '87, Franklin College director of planned giving

for the last three years and director of development for 13 years before that, was promoted in September 2023 to assistant vice president for major and planned giving, as part of the new strategic plan focusing on building a culture of philanthropy. Prior to transitioning to the Division of Institutional Advancement, Brems worked at Franklin as an admissions counselor, then as assistant director of admissions for the Ohio Valley region and lastly as associate director of admissions. Brems holds a certificate in fundraising management from the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. She and her husband, **Bill '87**, are the parents of **Matt '13**, **Nick '19** and Pat.

Marian (Bryant) Jones '87 retired from Rockford Public Schools after teaching for 35 years. She and her husband, Steven, reside in Machesney Park, Illinois.

'90s

Dena Mayes '90 and Ron Marks Jr. married on Sept. 9, 2023, at Aberdeen Farms in Bargersville, Indiana. Afterward, they spent two weeks honeymooning in Europe. Dena is the marketing and events director for Duke Cos. Ron is a battalion chief and 20-year veteran of the Indianapolis Fire Department. The couple reside in Bargersville, Indiana, with Dena's 20-year-old son, Ayden.

Don Burgener '91 and his wife, **Yolanda "Yo" (Hattabaugh) '91**, celebrated their 28th wedding anniversary on June 24, 2023. They

are the parents of three children, Phillip, Hannah and Joseph, and reside in Franklin, Indiana. Yolanda is the administrative assistant and buildings manager at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church.

Jamie Rodway '92 and his wife, Eleanor, are the parents of three sons, Max, 12, and Gus and Ben, 9-year-old twins. The family resides in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Jennifer (Martin) Kwiatek '93 received the Distinguished Service Award from the Kiskiminetas Springs School. She has worked there for 17 years in various roles, including yearbook staff adviser, counseling office manager, communications director and testing coordinator. She and her husband, Brad, have a son, Connor, and live in Saltsburg, Pennsylvania.

Stephanie (Conley) Riddle '93 is a high school English teacher for the Manchester-Shortsville Central School District. She and her husband, Jamie, live in Canandaigua, New York, and have two sons, Jacob and Eric.

Michelle Shugars '93 is the national director of retail marketing for Uranus Fudge Factory based in Anderson, Indiana, and St. Robert, Missouri. She previously worked for Silica/Aeromind and Megaputer Intelligence in digital management and creative marketing.

Heather (Davis) Hughet '94 is a technology support service team coordinator at Hoosier Energy and resides in Mooresville, Indiana.

Scott Parkhurst '95, a singer, songwriter and guitarist, released his

debut CD last fall. He also teaches eighth-grade history at Clark Pleasant Middle School in Greenwood, Indiana, and is known for creating catchy tunes about historical topics to encourage students' interest.

Shelby (Greene) Selner '95 is the vice president of media strategy and planning for Synchrony Financial. She and her husband, Dave, reside in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina.

Kelly (Sutton) Benton '97 was a 2023 finalist in the Country Music Association's Broadcast Personality of the Year awards category. Her weekly program, "Y'all Access with Kelly Sutton," focuses on country music stars and events and is based in Nashville, Tennessee.

Sherry Hance-Bright '98 and her husband, Casey, are the parents of a daughter, Payton, and reside in Greensburg, Indiana. Sherry is a commercial underwriter III for First Financial Bank.

Amy (Powers) Telscher '98 is a teacher at St. Martin of Tours Church and Parish School in Cincinnati, where she and her husband, Jim, reside.

Tu "Brandy" (Nguyen) Gray '99 is a senior financial compliance information technology auditor for Roche Diagnostics. She and her husband, Nathan, reside in Indianapolis.

Carrie (Johnson) Sorensen '99 is an advancement research specialist for the Indianapolis Zoo.

'00s

Terri Hansen '01 is a foster care specialist for the Indiana Department of Child Services and resides in Kokomo, Indiana.

Holly (Klotzsche) Miller '01 was recognized with the Indiana State

Teachers Association Community Service Award in June 2022. She is a physical education teacher for Indian Creek Elementary School in Trafalgar, Indiana.

Jessica (Witham) Blankenship '02 and her husband, Brad, are the parents of two sons, Aidan, 13, and Grayson, 9. Jessica is the director of quality and regulatory compliance at TRIMEDX. The family resides in Veedersburg, Indiana.

Lacy (Ingram) Cripe '02 manages marketing account services for Brotherhood Mutual and has earned the Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter® and Associate in Risk Management® designations. She and her husband, **Aaron '01**, reside in Columbia City, Indiana, with their four sons.

Matt Dorsett '03 recently celebrated his one-year work anniversary as senior counsel for PPL Corp. (formerly Pennsylvania Power and Light). He resides in Sellersburg, Indiana.

Shannon (Cerajewski) Walker '04 is vice president at Unity Foundation of La Porte County, Indiana, where she resides.

William Coons '08 is the father of a daughter, Phoenix Lillian, 6, and a son, Leif Elias Wylie, 3. They reside in Rushville, Indiana.

Krista Farthing '08 is a communications coordinator for International Paper and resides in Cayuga, Indiana.

Josh Stanley '08 is a licensed clinical social worker and therapist at Stillpoint Consultants and resides in Columbus, Indiana.

Wayne Stanley '08, the owner and chief inspiration officer at Bowe Digital, was named a 2023 Marketing Leader by *HousingWire*. The award followed his 2023 Leadership Award

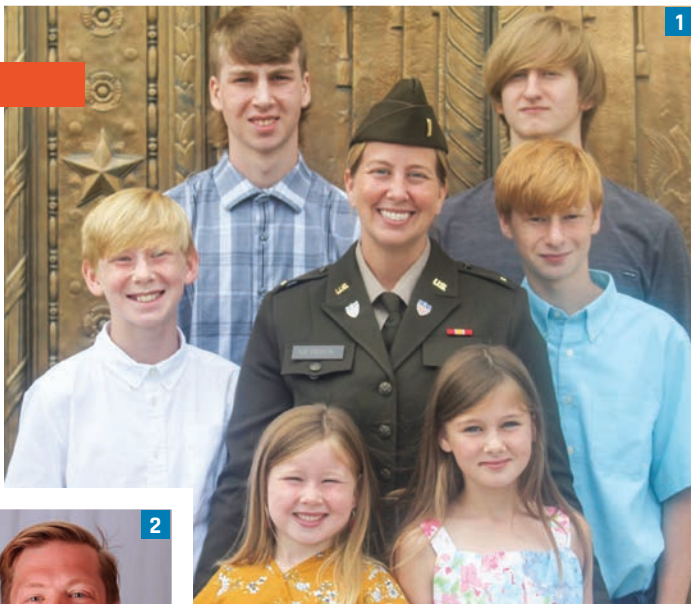
SUBMITTED



Dena (Mayes) Marks '90 and her husband, **Ron Jr.**

from *October Research*. Prior to starting Bowe Digital in 2017, Stanley spent 10 years working for the U.S. Senate and the American Land Title Association. His experience and connections have enabled Bowe Digital to excel in the real estate and financial sectors, earning it recognition as one of the Best Places to Work in Indiana in 2022 and 2023. Stanley joined the Franklin College Pulliam School of Journalism adjunct faculty roster as a lecturer last fall.

Adam Dunigan '09, senior director of advancement services and analytics at Franklin College, was named to Almbase's "50 Under 50" list of honorees in 2023. Honorees were selected for their brilliance in software and strategy to help their organizations excel. Dunigan was cited for the data-centric ways he has helped the Division of Institutional Advancement streamline processes,



improve dashboards and target communications, thereby enhancing overall engagement and advancement efforts.

Holly (Toops) Swinney '09 is in her 15th year teaching language arts at South Ripley Junior-Senior High School. She has been involved in helping the school achieve many accolades, including multiple A-ratings from the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) and recognition as a National Blue-Ribbon School. Most recently, the school was STEM-certified by the IDOE.



'10s

Adam Mellencamp '10 and his wife, Lauren, are the parents of three sons, Evan, 4, Owen, 3, and Elijah, born Feb. 10, 2023. The family resides in Sheridan, Indiana, and Adam works for Sight Sciences as director of strategic accounts for the eastern region.

Natasha (Wells) Merrick '10 was a surrogate for a family in 2020, launched a business called Beauty to Beast Nutrition in 2022 and completed military officer candidate school in 2023, graduating as a second lieutenant. She is the mother of six children and resides in Morgantown, Indiana.

Dan Schumerth '10 and his wife, **Brittany (Brownrigg) '12**, are the parents of a daughter, Peyton Lorene, born Aug. 19, 2023. The family resides in Littleton, Colorado.



Martha (Vance) Thomson '10 is the director of university communication at Indiana State University and resides in Freelandville, Indiana.

Brittany Bolden '11 is a firefighter and paramedic for the Noblesville Fire Department and resides in Whiteland, Indiana.

1. Natasha Merrick '10 with her children, Easton, Ian, Bowen, Christian, Zeya and Isla
2. Barbara (Bertch) Mills '13, her husband, **Austin '13**, and their daughter, Addison
3. Natalie (Snyder) Black '13, her husband, **Kevin '13**, and their daughters, Ryann and Nora
4. Chelsy (Gott) Nees '11, her husband, **Cody '11**, and their daughters, Maeve and Braelyn
5. Brooks Bemis '13 and his wife, **Lauren (Casey) '14**, are the owners of Haberdasher Artisan Distillery. **Bart Leonard '12** designed their logo.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Summer (French) Havron '11 earned a master's degree in data analytics from Western Governors University and recently celebrated her second anniversary as the business analytics manager for DHL Supply Chain. She and her husband, Chris, reside in Whiteland, Indiana, with their sons, Weston and Grayson.

Katherine (Holland) Montague '11 is a board-certified behavior analyst for Hopebridge Autism Therapy Centers. She resides in Mooresville, Indiana, with her husband, Taylor.

Cody Nees '11 and his wife, **Chelsy (Gott) '11**, are the parents of two daughters, Braelyn LeeAnn, 3, and Maeve Michael, born Feb. 12, 2023. They reside in Monrovia, Indiana.

Kelly (Lynch) Spear '11 is the director of communications for Noble REMC and resides in Albion, Indiana.

Fonso White '11 became the head coach for boys' varsity basketball at Floyd Central High School in Southern Indiana this spring. His previous experience includes coaching and teaching wellness and physical education at schools around the Hoosier State.

Mason Edlund '12 and his wife, **Ashley (Konsdorf) '13**, are the parents of two children, Nash, 6, and Quinn, 4. The family resides in Greenwood, Indiana.

Brooks Bemis '13 and his wife, **Lauren (Casey) '14**, are owners of the new Haberdasher Artisan Distillery in downtown Franklin, Indiana. It is Franklin's first distillery since the Civil War Era and operates inside the Garment Factory Events building, owned by Brooks' parents, **Todd Bemis '84** and **Kim (LaFary) '84**. Brooks and Lauren began the groundwork for the Haberdasher more than five years ago, honing their craft whiskeys and gins in preparation for sharing with the public. They graciously offered

sneak preview tours and tastings during Franklin College Homecoming and Alumni Week, ahead of their tasting room grand opening on Oct. 21, 2023. The couple's college friend, **Bart Leonard '12**, designed the Haberdasher logo and labels for the various bottles of spirits.

Kevin Black '13 and his wife, **Natalie (Snyder) '13**, reside in Franklin, Indiana, with their daughters, Ryann, 3, and Nora, born May 25, 2023. Kevin is the manager of central information quality for Eli Lilly and Co., and Natalie is the assistant principal at Ray Crowe Elementary.

Sara (Perry) Bye '13 is in her fourth year as a teacher at Saint Simon the Apostle School in Indianapolis.

Suzannah Couch '13 is a digital marketing and storytelling specialist for Regional Opportunity Initiatives in Bloomington, Indiana. She previously was editor of *The Brown County Democrat* based in nearby Nashville.

Samm (Quinn) Fleming '13 is the mother of a son, Jack, 2, and resides in Greenfield, Indiana.

Chase Howell '13 and his wife, Andrea, are the parents of Berkley, 5, and Britain, 2. The family resides in Lawrenceburg, Indiana.

Amanda (Welches) Mayer '13 and her husband, Logan, are the parents of two daughters, Halle and Emmy. Amanda is the office manager at Welches All Vehicle Repair and a travel agent with Valuable Vacations. The family resides in Uniondale, Indiana.

Karlei (Trueblood) Metcalf '13 is a proposal coordinator for Beam, Longest and Neff and resides in Vallonia, Indiana.

Barbara (Bertch) Mills '13 and her husband, **Austin '13**, celebrated the birth of their daughter, Addison, on June 20, 2022, and their sixth wedding anniversary on Sept. 23, 2023. Austin is employed as a firefighter in Brownsburg, Indiana, and also works part time as a paramedic for Witham Health Services. Barbara earned a master's degree in counseling-art therapy from Adler University in 2015 and also became a licensed mental health counselor and certified Somatic Experiencing Practitioner®. Further, she is certified to teach yoga classes for victims of trauma and PTSD and to lead yoga-informed psychotherapy. She has a private practice at Sunstone Health and Wellness in Greenwood, Indiana.

Keri (LeBeau) Weiler '13 and her husband, **Coen '14**, celebrated their eighth wedding anniversary on June 14, 2023. They reside in Franklin, Indiana, with their children, Charlotte, 5, and Beau, 2. Keri is a teacher for Shelby Central Schools.

Max Woodbury '13 and his wife, Tahnee, are the parents of two daughters, Lilly and Willow, and reside in Indianapolis, where Max enjoys playing hockey on the city's south side



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at Perry Park. He also leads a 100-mile bicycle ride each summer to help young men and women prepare for their church mission. He is the owner of Woodbury Group specializing in tax services.

Corinne Beyer '14 is the marketing coordinator for PBK Architects and resides in Baytown, Texas.

Blake Christy '14, D.O., practices family medicine with the Franciscan Health Network and resides in Greenwood, Indiana.

Leslie (Johnson) Kidd '14 and her husband, Leo, are the parents of a daughter, Emery, born July 1, 2023, and they reside in Knoxville, Tennessee, where Leslie is a board-certified behavior analyst at ABA Interventions.

Shanice Myers '14 is a human resources specialist at the Department of Health and Human Services and resides in Hanover, Maryland.

Clark Wehmeier '14 and his wife, **Jaclyn (Slusher) '14**, are the parents of a son, Otto Lee, born Feb. 3, 2023. The family resides in Franklin, Indiana.

Tiffany (Egan-Rojas) Davis '15 and her husband, Garrett, are the parents of a son, Theodore "Teddy" Joseph, 2. The family resides in Indianapolis, where Tiffany is an injury prevention coordinator for IU Health.

Carney Gillin '15 and his wife, Erin, reside in Greenwood, Indiana, with their sons, Beau, 2, and Wyatt, born Sept. 10, 2023. Carney is a partner account manager for Aquiva Labs.

Katie (Struewing) Burr '16 and her husband, Jorden, are the parents of Giuliana, 3, and Nolan, 1, and reside in Franklin, Indiana. Katie is a systems trainer for Milwaukee Tool.

Kayla Craft '16 has joined Franklin College as an assistant softball coach.

While a student-athlete, she pitched and played first base for the Grizzlies.

Kelsey (Hardman) Hammer '16 and her husband, **Alex '18**, are the parents of a son, Bennett Wayne. They reside in Franklin, Indiana, and Alex works as an assistant tennis coach at Franklin College.

Zach King '16 is an operations manager for Carter Lumber and resides in Fairfield, Ohio.

KaLeigh (Hurley) Lee '16 is the director of donor relations at the University of Indianapolis.

Conner McNeely '16 was presented with the 2023 Spanish Secondary Teacher of the Year Award from the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese at the Indiana Foreign Language Teachers Association Conference. He is in his eighth year with Perry Township Schools on the south side of Indianapolis and holds a master's degree in education from the University of Nebraska at Kearney in addition to his bachelor's degree in secondary education and Spanish from Franklin College.

Alex Mis '16 is a revenue data analyst for USIC, a provider of underground public utility-locating services, and resides in Indianapolis.

Deron Molen '16 was nominated for a regional Emmy award and named Best Reporter in the Illinois News Broadcasters Association's annual Crystal Mic Awards. His wife, **Adrianna Pitrelli '18**, was promoted to deputy director of communications for the Illinois Senate Democratic Caucus.

Raphaella Mueller '16 and Benjamin Ruesch married on March 4, 2023, and reside in Westminister, Massachusetts.

Taylor Scott '16 and his wife, **Jacqueline (McGee) '17**, are the parents of a son, Carson Taylor, born March 1, 2023. The family resides in Indianapolis.

Erika Brock '17 passed the Ohio Bar Exam, was sworn in as an attorney on May 15, 2023, and married Aaron Dorton on June 3, 2023. She now practices law at Thomson Law and lives in Dayton, Kentucky, with her husband.

Wilford Gosser '17 and **Courtney (Sonner) '17** married on April 8, 2023, in Noblesville, Indiana. They met as freshmen on move-in day at Franklin College in 2013, started as best friends, and began dating in 2017. Many classmates and college friends attended their wedding. They shared in an email: "We remain thankful for the community and support we received during our college days and that continue to last a lifetime."

Paige Lundy '17 is a music teacher for the Clark-Pleasant Community School Corp. in Whiteland, Indiana.

Haley (Blaich) McElyea '17 is a health-care consultant for Summit Managed Solutions and resides with her husband, Andrew, in Danville, Indiana.

Andi (TenBarge) Sommers '17 was promoted to senior account manager at Dittoe Public Relations in Indianapolis, where she has worked for more than two years. She previously was press secretary for the Indiana House of Representatives.

Kelsey Green '18 is a care manager for CICOA Aging and In-Home Solutions and resides in Whiteland, Indiana.

Hannah (Alling) Hemrick '18 and her husband, Jake, are the parents of a son, Harvey, 1, and reside in Brownsburg, Indiana.

Elyse Hoy '18 earned her doctorate from Rosalind Franklin University's Dr. William M. Scholl College of Podiatric Medicine. She is completing a three-year podiatric surgical residency at Ascension St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis.

Hannah McIntosh '18 is a cartographic analyst at Prescient Edge Corp. and resides in Alexandria, Virginia.

Olivia Paszek '18 and **Ben Sprinkle '19** married on June 23, 2023, at Garment Factory Events in Franklin, Indiana. Their officiant was the director of athletics and Grizzlies' head baseball coach Lance Marshall, and they had many baseball and softball players in attendance.

Carrigan Peak '18, O.D., is an optometrist at Atchison Eyecare in Bedford, Indiana, where she and her husband, James Ernst, reside.

Megan (Helterbrand) Wagler '18 and her husband, Anthony, are the parents of Braxton, 11, Bennett, 9, Wrenn, 7, and Joanie, born Aug. 18, 2023. The family resides in Nashville, Indiana.

Christian Bowling '19 was promoted to donor recognition associate with the Indiana University (IU) Foundation, where he has worked in donor relations since May 2022. He has a master's degree in arts administration from the O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs at IU.

Annie McIntosh '19 married Aaron Broom on March 18, 2023. She works at Static Media as director of audience development, and they reside in Plainfield, Indiana.

'20s

Danielle Cosby '20 and **Chaz Hill '19** married on June 10, 2023, and they reside in Franklin, Indiana, with their dog, Dottie.

Emily Ketterer '20 is an editor for Hannah News Service. Her previous roles included multimedia news editor for the *Daily Journal* of Johnson County, Indiana, and Statehouse and economic development reporter for the *Indianapolis Business Journal*.

1. **Ben Sprinkle '19** and his wife, **Olivia (Paszek) '18**
2. **Adrianna Pitrelli '18** and her husband, **Deron Molen '16**

SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Tori Martinkovic '20 bought her first home and resides in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Olivia Inman '21, who double-majored in English and French, is currently working for the Teaching Assistant Program in France, instructing English at a high school in Rennes.

Britney Ballard '22 and Courtney Goodwin married on July 30, 2022, and are the parents of a son, Liam Benjamin, born July 22, 2023. They reside in Columbus, Indiana, where Britney is an intellectual property coordinator for Cummins.

Clayton Anderson MSPAS '23 accepted a physician assistant position with Southern Indiana Orthopedics in Columbus, Indiana.

Sara Brown '23, who majored in business and marketing and held a work-study position with the Franklin College Division of Institutional Advancement (IA), was recognized recently as the Outstanding Emerging Philanthropist by Indiana Philanthropy. The IA staff nominated Brown for the honor based on her donor relations skills and fundraising accomplishments while a student.

Jack Goodhue '23, now an executive admin at the NCAA, expressed his gratitude to his former Franklin College English professor Richard Erable, Ph.D., in an email: "I'll be traveling to the different March Madness tournament sites and making sure that the policies for each site are being implemented correctly and writing instruction manuals covering transportation, hotel, game day procedures, etc. for teams staying at the various sites. A big part of my getting this job was my English major background, so I wanted to thank you for helping prepare me for both this job and law school in the future."

Jon LaGuire-Cruz '23 of Lafayette, Indiana, signed a professional contract to pitch for the Beavers in the United Shore Professional Baseball League, after playing baseball for the Grizzlies. He was the 2023 Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference Player of the Year and a member of the **D3Baseball.com** Team of the Year.

Kevin Smith '23 is the director of grantmaking for the Dubois County Community Foundation and resides in Jasper, Indiana. ■

IN MEMORIAM

'50s

Marian (Walling) Mohr '51
Nov. 11, 1929 – July 21, 2023
Roswell, Ga.

Rev. Kenneth Gates '53
Dec. 30, 1930 – Oct. 16, 2023
Maryville, Tenn.

Kay (Venitz) Sanders '56
May 27, 1933 – Aug. 18, 2023
Franklin, Ind.

**Laura (Wright)
Rutherford '58**
June 16, 1936 – June 30, 2023
Carmel, Ind.

'60s

Sandy (Coning) Harants '63
Feb. 2, 1941 – Aug. 16, 2023
Sarasota, Fla.

Sue (Thompson) Zajac '64
Dec. 16, 1942 – June 20, 2023
Eagle River, Alaska

Bertha (Sutton) Maple '68
Feb. 7, 1944 – May 7, 2023
Indianapolis

'70s

John W. Holt Jr. '70
Jan. 18, 1948 – Oct. 8, 2023
Albuquerque, N.M.

Max Bassler '74
April 22, 1952 – Sept. 14, 2023
Willowbrook, Ill.

'90s

Chad Howerton '96
June 29, 1974 – May 18, 2023
Kokomo, Ind.

Friends of Franklin College

Lorilee Curry
Sept. 29, 1940 – July 09, 2023
Franklin, Ind.
*Wife of professor emeritus of
biology James Curry, Ph.D.*

Lloyd L. Douglas
May 18, 1943 – Sept. 20, 2023
Franklin, Ind.
*Husband of Susan (Owens) '66
Horizon Society*

Matson B. Martin
July 31, 1979 – Aug. 7, 2023
Edinburgh, Ind.
*Son of Franklin College's 13th
president, chancellor emeritus
and associate alumnus William
B. Martin, J.D., (HD '09), and his
wife, Margo*

Marianne Tobias
Nov. 14, 1940 – July 12, 2023
Indianapolis
*Pulliam School of Journalism
donor ■*

*The Horizon Society designa-
tion recognizes individuals for
including Franklin College in
their estate plans.*

The following special tributes gratefully
acknowledge service and philanthropy to
Franklin College:

Mary Ann Collier, of San Francisco, died
Aug. 29, 2023. An active trustee from
2001–19 and an emerita trustee since
2020, she offered a unique
perspective, having served Franklin
College in various capacities,
including part-time professor in the
mathematics department, coordinator
of student services, assistant dean for
student life and campus center direc-
tor. Beyond academia, she excelled in
the corporate world, becoming the
vice president at AT&T Fixed Wireless.
In retirement, she continued contribu-
ting to the tech industry as a director
at Cisco Systems. In 2006, Collier along
with her friends, Carole McKinney, a
Franklin College faculty emerita
and associate alumna, and Larry
McKinney, a U.S. district court judge,
established the McKinney-Collier
Endowed Scholarship at Franklin
College for students interested in
elementary education.

Pamela (Herring) Hicks '56 of
Greenwood, Indiana, died Nov. 20,
2023. She served on the Franklin
College Board of Trustees for 13 years
prior to transitioning to emerita status
in 2014. Over her lifetime, she received
multiple awards for her community
service and leadership, including

CHART YOUR COURSE

Documenting planned gifts to your alma mater enables you to express gratitude, leave a lasting legacy and experience both personal and financial advantages. At Franklin College, **Nora (Lowe) Brems '87**, assistant vice president for major and planned giving, can shed light on your giving choices. In collaboration, your financial adviser can assist in selecting the charitable path that aligns with your financial objectives. Contact Nora to discuss planning your philanthropic journey at 317.738.8864 or email nbrems@FranklinCollege.edu.



Civvy Awards for her involvement with the Indianapolis Civic Theatre, a Franklin College Alumni Citation in 1991, a Tri Delta “Longshore Award” and a 2007 Sagamore of the Wabash and Distinguished Hoosier Award for her contributions to Indiana and commitment to the Hoosier Art Salon.

Her significant contributions to Franklin College, demonstrated through her service on the Alumni Council, active role in the Tri Delta alumnae group, volunteerism as curator of the College’s art collection, coordination of Hoosier Art Salon exhibits at the College and generous support as a member of the Scholar’s Circle Club, reflect a deep love for her alma mater, which she shared with her late husband, **David ’58** (HD ’99), a retired board of trustees chair. After David’s death in 1999, the Hicks family established a memorial scholarship in business and leadership, expressing their hope that the recipients would emulate his commitment to family, friends, faith and Franklin College.

Notably, Pam and David continued a longstanding family tradition at Franklin College, where 14 Hicks family members, dating back to 1850, have graduated. Their son, **Dean ’84**, is a fifth-generation legacy. He survives along with a grandson and great-granddaughter; Pam was preceded in death by one grandson.

Per her family’s wishes, memorial gifts honoring Pam can be made to help further the David A. Hicks Franklin College Business and Leadership Scholarship at **FranklinCollege.edu/giving** or 800.852.0232.

Roger Lundy, of Greenwood, Indiana, died Oct. 30, 2023. He was a PGA golf professional turned head coach, successfully guiding the Franklin College women’s golf team to seven

NCAA national tournaments in his 16-year career and producing 18 Academic All-American Scholars. Lundy also served as head men’s golf coach at Franklin from 2009–15. Beyond imparting golf skills, he prioritized mentorship and guiding players through college and life, and he took immense pride in their graduation and subsequent success. Survivors include his wife, Denise, their children, Peter, **Paige ’17** and Connor, and five grandchildren.

Per his family’s wishes, memorial gifts can be made to the women’s golf program at **FranklinCollege.edu/giving** or 800.852.0232.

Janet (Wheeler) McDuffey ’63, of Franklin, Indiana, died Aug. 26, 2023. She contributed significantly to her community as the Johnson County Homelessness Task Force’s former director and Senior Services’ former president. She also generously invested herself in the persistence and success of Franklin College students, particularly students of color. Over the years, she and her family opened their home as a support base to many students for dinners and pep talks. She was named a “Woman of Distinction” by Franklin College in 2017 for her dedicated volunteerism. Survivors include her husband, Jack, former superintendent of building services at Franklin College, and their children, Jackie and **Michael ’97**.

Carole McKinney, of Edinburgh, Indiana, died Oct. 12, 2023. She dedicated more than 40 years of service at Franklin College as a long-term adjunct associate professor of education, retiring in 2013. She is remembered for her unwavering commitment to students, compassionate support for colleagues and passion for teaching. She earned several Franklin College awards,

including the Academic Adviser of the Year, twice, Faculty Steering Committee Distinguished Service Award and Adjunct Faculty Excellence Award. She also was named an associate alumna. In 2006, she and her husband, U.S. District Court Judge Larry McKinney, along with their friend and Franklin College Trustee Mary Ann Collier, established the McKinney-Collier Endowed Scholarship for students interested in elementary education. She was preceded in death by Larry. Survivors include their children, Josh and Andy, and three grandchildren.

Paul T. Nugent ’57, Ed.D., died July 27, 2023. He taught mathematics at Franklin College from 1966–96, when he earned the rank of faculty emeritus. Beyond teaching, he held various roles, including director of summer school, temporary chair of the education department, coordinator of institutional effectiveness, assistant dean and faculty adviser to student groups such as Zeta Tau Alpha and the Student Association for Support of Minorities (SASOM). Among his proudest professional accomplishments at Franklin College were collaborating with then Dean Richard Park (HD ’02), Ph.D., to create Winter Term and introducing the Computer Science Program. He was preceded in death by his first wife, **Helen Jean (McClelland) ’56**, Ph.D., Franklin College faculty emerita of history and Canadian Studies, and second wife, Alice Christopher.

Survivors include their children, **Paula (Nugent) Barickman ’81**, **Ruth McClelland-Nugent ’93** and Thomas, two grandchildren, **David Barickman ’14** and Anna, and two great-grandchildren. Per his family’s wishes, memorial gifts can be made at **FranklinCollege.edu/giving** or 800.852.0232. ■

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