CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2020
Dear Montevallo family,

Looking back over the past semester, I can’t help but marvel at the significant accomplishments we have achieved as a University.

In this issue, you will read about the tremendous success of the “It’s About Family” comprehensive campaign in which the University raised approximately $36.5 million, or nearly double the original target of $20 million.

Frankly, that level of fundraising success is almost unheard of in higher education circles, and it serves as a great testament to the powerful connection and sense of pride students, alumni and supporters feel for this great university.

Anywhere you look on campus, you will see the impact of the campaign. New building projects such as the Center for the Arts and Stephens College of Business, new endowed professorships and department chairs and more than 115 new scholarships have all been made possible as a result of the campaign’s success. This is certainly cause for celebration.

The campaign also strengthened the University’s Traditions Fund, ensuring many beloved campus institutions will continue well into the future. One such tradition is College Night, which as you will see in this issue, has never been stronger.

The investment we have made in the University through this campaign will pay dividends for decades to come. As the future continues to unfold, the core principles Montevallo stands for have never been more relevant. Thanks to your support, those principles will continue to shape UM students into responsible, informed members of their communities for generations to come.

Respectfully,

Dr. John W. Stewart III
President

This issue of Montevallo Today was in the final phase of production when the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown occurred. Due to the delay and as a cost saving measure, this issue is being published online only. While we all endeavor to find our new sense of normalcy, we hope you will enjoy reminiscing Homecoming 2020 and other events that were held from November through February.

Tiffany Roskamp-Bunt ’00, MBA ’13
Director of Alumni Affairs

On the Cover The Falcon M photo collage includes spring 2020 graduates who submitted photos in response to an email/social media call for submissions in May. We are honored to welcome the class of 2020 into the ranks of this institution’s more than 25,000 alumni. As the spring graduates transition from UM students to UM alumni, we encourage them to enjoy, celebrate and always remember no matter what they do or where they go, they will always belong to the Montevallo family. Please visit montevallo.edu/class-of-2020 for message from alumni to 2020 graduates.
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Whether preparing the next generation of leaders in a middle school classroom or preparing for a successful career on Broadway, Montevallo students and young alumni are setting the bar for success.
Montevallo Responds During COVID-19 Pandemic

In mid-March, the University was forced to transition to a distance education model in order to adhere to social distancing guidelines and keep all students, faculty, alumni and staff safe in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As a result, all UM students began attending online classes with University faculty members, and all non-essential UM employees began working from home beginning on March 16.

When the pandemic began causing drastic changes at Montevallo and across the globe, this issue of Montevallo Today was nearly completed, meaning all of the content beyond these two pages took place before March. Because of the effects of COVID-19, this issue is being published online only.

All alumni events after March 10 were canceled or postponed.

Because state guidelines prohibited large gatherings at the time, the University was unable to hold a traditional graduation ceremony on Flowerhill Lawn in early May. Per the results of a survey of the spring graduates this summer, the University is planning to hold a traditional, in-person commencement ceremony for them once the virus has abated and it is deemed safe to gather in large numbers.

“They have proven a talented and resilient group to be sure,” President Stewart said of the 375 spring graduates. “It will be exciting and gratifying to watch all their many contributions to the life of our community, state and nation in the coming years.”

Although campus was a little quieter than usual this spring, the University’s impact on students and the community did not falter.

Helping the Community

Shortly after the outbreak began affecting Alabama, Michael Price ’15, the digital media and emerging technologies librarian at Carmichael Library, heard news reports about hospitals across the nation facing a severe shortage of personal protective equipment such as face masks and shields.

After reading about people using 3D printers to create personal protective equipment to donate to health care facilities, Price knew he could do the same.

Price contacted his colleague Kyle Moore, assistant professor of theatre, who also had access to a 3D printer. Together, the two used their expertise to create a plan to help Alabama health care facilities by 3D printing as many protective face masks as possible.

Price and Moore received support from Dr. David Callaghan, chair of UM’s Department of Theatre, Carmichael Library Director Dr. Charlotte Ford and UM Associate Professor of Theatre Emily Gill, who helped to secure material to use for straps on the face masks. The UM Student Government Association also donated $2,000 to purchase materials necessary for the masks.

Their efforts allowed them to donate hundreds of 3D printed face masks to health care facilities in Birmingham, Huntsville, Decatur and Mobile.

Learn how other alumni have helped during the COVID-19 pandemic at montevallo.edu/alumni-give-back.

Helping Students

The University, the UM National Alumni Association and the UM Foundation have also stepped up to help students who may be facing financial hardships as a result of the pandemic.

In April, the University approved refunds for unused housing and meal plans for students who were required to leave campus as a result of the pandemic.

In addition, the University distributed $1.2 million in federal emergency funds directly to students to assist them with the hardships they faced in the wake of COVID-19.

Shortly after students were required to leave campus, the University also established the COVID-19 Student Relief Fund, which provided limited emergency financial support
to UM students who were unable to meet essential expenses due to a temporary or unexpected hardship caused by the pandemic.

By Giving Tuesday Now, held on May 5, donors had contributed $60,000 to the fund including gifts from alumni and the UMNAA board.

The UM Foundation board of directors approved an additional $1.25 million in scholarship funding during a May 8 meeting to help offset the financial burden the COVID-19 outbreak has caused for students.

The additional needs-based scholarships will assist new and returning students with expenses such as tuition and fees.

“During these unprecedented times, it is of utmost importance to offer additional assistance where possible,” said Karen Kelly, Foundation board vice chair. “The board unanimously agreed that providing funds in the form of scholarships for current and future students experiencing unexpected financial need is critical to helping the University advance its mission in the immediate future, and critical to helping make a long-term difference in the lives of students. We are very excited to have the opportunity to do so.”

Future Plans

The University community is looking forward to resuming in-person instruction for the fall 2020 semester, with the understanding that the global climate surrounding COVID-19 remains a fluid situation. Accordingly, any future decisions involving instructional changes for the fall semester will be communicated electronically to all UM students, faculty and staff.

The UM family is excited to welcome new and returning students safely to our residence halls in the fall. In an effort to help families as they faced the challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, the University extended the deposit deadline for the fall semester by several weeks until June 1.
Each day holds something different for Dr. Jennifer “Ji Ji” Davis ’99, M.Ed. ’01, as she keeps her eye on the future by preparing tomorrow’s educators to achieve success wherever life takes them after college.

In her 11th year of teaching at UM, Davis works to build partnerships between the University and Montevallo Elementary, Middle and High Schools through the Montevallo Connection program. She also coordinates student teacher placements throughout the area.

Montevallo Connection hosts meetings each academic year at the city’s three schools bringing University faculty and staff together with school teachers, administrators and community members. The meetings help attendees learn the needs present in each school and how they can contribute.

Fostering those connections comes naturally for Davis, who has lived in Montevallo since she was 18. Her husband, Brad ’98, is the city’s fire chief. Davis previously taught at MES, and her children attend Montevallo schools.

“I feel very strongly about the connection between UM and the city. There are so many ways in which these partnerships exist every day from UM students tutoring at MES, UM athletes assisting with local teams, UM students’ altering MHS students’ prom dresses and more,” she said. “We are all so very fortunate to have such amazing resources and relationships within our small community.”

New teachers entering the classroom are often excited to have the dream job they have worked so hard for, but Davis said often-times challenges such as learning to balance classroom management, standardized testing, car rider duty or new mandated curricula can be overwhelming.

“New teachers still love the job and the students, but trying to make it all look easy and organized is a tremendous task that takes a few years to master,” Davis said.

Davis’ goal for UM education graduates is to never give up on making an impact on a student’s life.

“Even the most difficult students will always remember the teachers that didn’t give up on them,” Davis said. “I always tell my students to teach your students well, but always love them more.”

When she is not teaching, Davis can most likely be found spending time with her family. Davis said one of the greatest rewards of being a professor at UM is having the opportunity to give back to the institution that shaped who she is as a teacher now.

For those considering a degree in elementary education, Davis said the career is extremely rewarding.

“Teaching is much more than a job, it is a true calling,” Davis said. “When I actually stop to think that I could retire in five years, I am so amazed. Time flies when you love your profession. I am so very thankful for all of the previous students and co-workers who have impacted my life in a very meaningful way.”
Olivia Eldridge ’20 Finds Chemistry with UM

BY LINDSAY SCHLUNTZ

Olivia Eldridge developed her vision for the future the first time she set foot on Montevallo’s campus.

The small class sizes, generous scholarships and chances to work with faculty members on undergraduate research projects were major factors in her decision to attend UM. She attributes part of the success of her journey at Montevallo to taking advantage of various extracurricular learning programs.

In addition to the organizations related to her major including Chemistry Club, Pre-

Health Professions Society and Math Club, Eldridge has been a member of Montevallo Masters, Civitans, the Honors Program and has served in the roles of SGA president, vice president, executive secretary and Freshman Forum vice president.

Eldridge describes serving as SGA president as one of the most transformative experiences of her life.

“I ran for president because of my love for Montevallo and my desire to help students. I never imagined how much this position would allow me to grow personally and professionally,” she said. “Throughout the year, I’ve learned a great deal about time management, event planning, conflict resolution and administrative processes.”

Eldridge’s academic journey at Montevallo has opened up opportunities to impact the global medical community.

Last summer, Eldridge took her classroom research to the next level through an internship at Harvard University Medical School. This internship was made possible through a partnership with one of UM’s distinguished alumni, Dr. Richard Cummings ’74.

At Harvard, Eldridge conducted research focused on synthesizing a peptide that is present in various types of cancer cells. Her goal is to discover a way to prevent the peptide from causing tumor growth.

“That peptide binds to a receptor on red blood cells which, in short, causes tumor growth. Our hope is that if we can synthesize the peptide, we can discover how it is binding to the receptor and potentially stop it,” she explained. “This would stop red blood cells from feeding the cancer cells.”

Eldridge’s research could prove to be a breakthrough in the worldwide fight against cancer.

“I’m so thankful that the University and Dr. Cummings allowed me to have this opportunity to solidify my dreams for the future,” she said.

After graduation from UM, Olivia will attend graduate school to earn her doctorate in chemistry. She aims to continue the progress of her research while learning even more lab techniques and making more connections in the professional research community.

“Looking back, I am so thankful that I came to Montevallo,” Eldridge said.
THE FACES OF SUCCESS

Montevallo’s students and young alumni have a vision for the future and are already taking actions to ensure it’s a bright one.

Whether building classroom leaders or future Broadway stars, Montevallo has a strong history of preparing its students for success. Below, several students and young alumni share how UM has impacted their lives.

ALUMS: How did the University of Montevallo provide a foundation for the successes you have seen in your life since graduating?

DR. RACHEL BURT ’14
Major: Biology  Minor: Chemistry
Current role: Veterinarian at Montevallo Animal Clinic.

“The University of Montevallo allows students to take the lead with their educational experience. A classmate and I founded the UM Pre-Health Professionals’ Society while I was on campus. The main goal of the organization is to increase awareness and exposure to the variety of health professional careers that may interest students after graduation. This organization enhanced my communication and leadership skills, and I continued my professional involvement through several organizations during vet school. My professors at UM made certain that material was understood, even if that meant explaining it more than one way. My educational foundation of science courses made my first year of vet school much easier than other classmates who may not have had such a personalized educational experience.”

HANNAH GODWIN ’17
Major: Marketing
Current role: Social media influencer specializing in fashion campaigns and modeling.

“For me, Montevallo taught me how to go for what I want and the right way to approach it. I’m constantly working and meeting with some big brands in the industry, and I feel that Montevallo helped me prep for that stage in my career!”

DANIEL MCBRAYER ’08
Major: Political Science
Current role: Chief assistant district attorney for Shelby County.

“What could be more important for an attorney? Tomorrow, I’ll file a written motion with the court asking for the judge to decide an issue in our favor. Next week, I’ll stand in front of a jury of 12 citizens and explain how the facts of the case fit the law. In both circumstances, these are skills I acquired and refined at Montevallo. Not just from communication or English classes, but in my political science classes too. There were significant (semester-long) writing projects. We had mock United Nations debates. Experiential learning. And, of course, it doesn’t hurt that several of the judges, social workers and other attorneys I work with are also Montevallo grads.”

MEGAN RANDOLPH ’06
Major: Accounting
Current role: Tax partner at Warren Averett and the firm’s division leader over tax operations in Birmingham.

“I attribute my success in public accounting not only to the wonderful education that I received from the Stephens College of Business, but also to the relationships I built through Montevallo. Those who have walked the bricks of our alma mater truly are a family, and the connections we have made with each other create immense opportunity to grow and learn in our careers.”

LYNSEY WETHERSPOON ’06
Major: Mass Communication
Current role: Owner of Lynsey Weather-spoon Photography in Atlanta.

“My professors and the many opportunities I had to serve in leadership roles were definitely the foundation for the successes I’ve had thus far. Having the ability to talk one-on-one with my professors and their advice helped me become a better listener in order to be a leader. My time at UM was amazing, from being the UPC coordinator to participating in many activities that allowed me the freedom to think and persevere. UM will always be considered home, and I’m grateful that it still has an impact on my life.”
ZOREE AND BYRON WILLIAMS ‘17
Majors: Elementary Education
Current roles: Zoree — math teacher at Calera Middle School; Byron — American history teacher and football, baseball and girls’ basketball coach at the school.

(Zoree) “The University of Montevallo has provided a foundation for the successes in my life since graduating by first allowing me to meet my husband, Byron, on the wonderful campus and gaining lifelong friends. I joined Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. at UM, and from the wonderful sisterhood, I have been able to network and connect with people whom I wouldn’t have met before. The elementary education program has great professors whom I still keep in contact with to this day, and they have been tremendous in helping in my teaching career. The program prepared me for the many challenges that I would face in education and the awesome highs that I would gain as well.”

(Byron) “Attending the University of Montevallo has had a profound impact on my life. I met my wife and two of my best friends, who I call my brothers, among countless other associates while attending this great university. The foundation that the University of Montevallo provided has transcended beyond education for me. I’ve made valuable connections with professors and friends whom I consider family at this point in my life. I’ve also developed and fostered many relationships because of the University of Montevallo, and I will be forever thankful!”

CURRENT STUDENTS: How has the University of Montevallo benefited you and helped you prepare for a successful future?

ANAKATE ANDRASKO
Graduates: May 2022
Major: Communication Studies
Minor: Biology

Andrasko is the SGA director of diversity and outreach, a resident assistant in Main Hall, a Great Start peer mentor and a member of the Zeta Delta chapter of Alpha Delta Pi. She previously was vice president of SGA’s Freshman Forum.

“UM has granted me multiple leadership opportunities that have given me a chance to not only build my résumé but create great bonds with other people in multiple organizations. The University has supplied me with resources to help me figure out my major and where my passions lie. The administration and faculty giving me the support I need to make hard decisions has helped me lay the foundation for my goals.”

ABBY ASKINS
Graduates: May 2021
Major: Communication Studies

Askins is a Student Government Association junior senator, a Montevallo Maven, a Montevallo Master and is a member of Phi Mu and Lambda Pi Eta. This spring, she completed an internship with the Central States Communication Association that tasked her with helping to promote and organize the association’s annual conference.

“Montevallo has opened my eyes to see that I am capable of so much more than I thought I was. I have held leadership positions I never thought I would hold, been cast in two musical theater performances, entered into a pageant and so much more. This campus and the people here have shown me what it means to step up and try new things. I once listened to a speaker who said that ‘in order to be successful, you have to risk being a hot mess.’ Montevallo has shown me the beauty in risking being a hot mess if it means that I am pushing my limits, trying new things and keeping myself well-rounded.”

JOSIAH GARRETT
Graduates: May 2022
Major: Finance

Garrett is a member of the UM Concert Choir, Minority Student Union, Urge and is a minority senator with SGA. He is a student worker in the Department of Music, serves as secretary of Phi Chi Theta and has performed in the Purple Side pit chorus for two years.

“The University has benefited my life in many different facets, but what sticks out to me the most are the leadership skills and opportunities I’ve had here. By being involved on campus, I have been afforded opportunities that broaden my skills or that have given me hands-on experience in the realms of leadership, teamwork and responsibility. I would love to have my own financial advising business, and before I do, I have to start off by working under others and gaining knowledge on how to manage others. The serving opportunities I have had have shown me how to work under someone else so that I can have my own successful business. Being at Montevallo has done nothing short of prepare me for my life’s vision and purpose!”
“Montevallo has put me in a position of success. I love it here. Simply put, the University has given me the tools to win. Since being here, I have been invited to intensive courses by our lovely vocal coach, been signed in New York by a manager and chosen for the LINK program. The faculty and staff also care so much and do everything in their power to help. People from Montevallo were so helpful in even getting me to New York. They were able to find me a donor to pay for the trip anonymously. I love this school with all my heart. They have inspired me to work hard and make sure I’m able to give back to my school to help somebody else.”

“Montevallo has helped me develop both academically and professionally. The people here are what make this place so amazing. I have not had one professor, employer or coach who has ever made me feel like my goals could not be reached if I worked hard enough to accomplish them. Every employee here gives you their best and supports you in whatever way is needed for you to succeed. I have been given so many opportunities to succeed and develop leadership skills on campus. I have also developed many leadership skills through my experiences as a resident assistant and University cheerleader. These opportunities have taught me how to be a personable, responsible student as well as how to be a leader in the workplace.”

“UM has truly cultivated my work ethic and passion for learning by providing me with a world-class education and supportive staff that truly care about me and my well-being. I moved 800 miles away from home as a young 17-year-old. I came because I fell in love with everything that Montevallo stood for and offered to me, and everyday I fall in love with this amazing school even more. I truly cannot thank the wonderful Montevallo academic, administrative and athletic staff enough. I look forward to becoming a Montevallo alumna one day and continuing to give back to the university that gave so much to me.”

“Montevallo has helped me lay the foundation for my future by opening the doors to kickstart my professional career. In the fall of 2019, I was accepted into KPMG’s Master of Accounting with Data and Analytics program. This program is sending me to graduate school and guarantees me a job at completion of the curriculum. Thanks to the program, I will be heading to Denver, Colorado, for an internship after graduating. I plan to attend graduate school at Villanova University. After completion, I will be working full-time in KPMG’s Denver office. All of this was made possible by the amazing faculty we have in the Michael E. Stephens College of Business. The faculty of our business school are not just here to teach us, they are also people we can trust to have our best interests at heart. They truly care and go to great lengths on a daily basis to make sure we, as students, have the opportunities to succeed.”

“From the moment I stepped on campus, I knew that Montevallo was my home. The faculty, staff and student body have made sure to make me feel welcomed. As a first-generation Hispanic student and transfer student, I knew I needed all the help and guidance I could get, and one of the places on campus that has helped me the most is the Falcon Success Center. They have provided me with financial assistance, scholarship and graduate program information and so much more. Furthermore, within the classes, my professors are always willing to work with me and have made sure to make time to sit down and talk

**AMBER HAYES**
Graduates: May 2020  
Major: Theatre  
In fall 2019, Hayes took part in a 10-day experience in The Growing Studio’s LINK Program, which took her to New York City to meet and audition for several theatre companies in the city. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., the M.A.D.E. program, Minority Student Union, Purple Side and has been involved in several theatre productions on campus.

**MORGAN LEONARD**
Graduates: May 2021  
Major: Collaborative Elementary Education  
Leonard is a member of the competitive cheer team, is involved in Baptist Campus Ministry and holds several campus jobs including working in the president’s office and serving as a resident assistant in Main Hall.

**LIZETH RAMIREZ**
Graduates: May 2020  
Major: Exercise and Nutrition Science  
Ramirez co-founded the Hispanic Student Organization, and she currently serves as co-president of the organization. She is a mentor with the Great Start peer mentor program and is an officer with the Exercise Science Club.

**WIL MITCHELL**
Graduates: May 2020  
Major: Accounting  
Mitchell is a pole vaulter and decathlete on the UM track and field team. He completed an internship at GrandView Financial Group in summer 2019 and completed an internship with Barfield, Murphy, Shank and Smith Advisors and CPAs in the spring.

**DANIELLE LINDSAY**
Graduates: May 2021  
Major: Finance  
Lindsay completed an internship in the Executive Office of the President at the White House in summer 2019 where she assisted in the Office of Presidential Correspondence.
to me about my future. They have given me opportunities to partici-
pate in research projects. Montevallo has allowed me to grow and find
my passion to be a leader and a role model in my community and has
ensured that I have the tools necessary to achieve my future goals.”

M

ANTALIE SEAVERS
Graduates: May 2021
Major: Psychology
Minor: Pre-Law

Seavers is the administrative vice president of
the Student Government Association and has
plans to intern on Capitol Hill in Washington,
D.C., this summer.

“The University of Montevallo has given me beyond what I ever
expected in regard to developing a strong foundation for my future.
Through academics, campus involvement and the overall memories
I have made, Montevallo has taught me that my future is bright
and that any dream you have can be possible if you put in the work
behind it. I know that I have been prepared not only with the knowl-
dge to succeed, but with the tools to continue learning as I grow in
my career. I know that even after I graduate, Montevallo will always
be a home to me.”

JUSTIN WILLIAMS
Graduates: May 2020
Major: Accounting

Williams is the director of social services for
the Student Government Association and is
involved with the Minority Student Union,
the Future Alumni of Montevallo (FAM)
alumni ambassadors and the and the McNair
Scholars Program. He completed an internship with the Congressio-
nal Black Caucus Foundation Emerging Leaders program.

“My time at Montevallo has caused me to grow both personally and
professionally. Montevallo has benefited me by showing me that it is
okay to be who you are. Since coming here, I have had the chance to
do research, take a semester to do an internship, do graduate school
prep and make some lifelong connections. I have had the chance to
get to know alumni and have them become mentors. Not only have
I accomplished my educational goals because of Montevallo, I have
gained valuable life experience and skills that I know will benefit me
in the future.”

UM FOCUSES ON STUDENT SUCCESS

The Career Development Center offers
resources aimed at preparing UM students
to meet their career and professional
goals. The center helps students choose an
undergraduate major, secure internships,
write résumés and prepare to begin their
careers upon graduation.

The Grainger Center for Professional
Practice in the Stephens College of Busi-
ness is designed to assist business students
in their transition from academic life to
that of a successful professional in the
business community.

The Harbert Writing Center offers assis-
tance to students in all stages of academic
writing: from advice and assistance on
researching for their papers to proofread-
ing and choosing a topic.

The Falcon Success Center offers
students help in choosing their major
and making sure that they can “finish in
four.” The Success Center utilizes a holistic
approach to help connect students to the
proper resources and activities on campus.

The Learning Enrichment Center
provides various tutoring services to UM
students in order to help them strengthen
their academic skills and become more
confident. The LEC also acts as a liaison
for students to connect them to the other
resources on campus.

TRIO Student Support Services focuses
on providing the necessary resources to help
first-generation, low-income students or
students who meet certain disability criteria.
TRIO is a federally funded program that fo-
cuses on meeting the unique needs of these
students during their college experience.

The Grainger Family Center for Per-
sonal Development recently expanded
to increase the ability of UM’s Counseling
Services to provide mental health care for
students. The center also houses UM’s
Falcon Food Pantry and the Student Emer-
gency Assistance programs to help those
facing food insecurity and financial issues.

Disability Support Services provides
and coordinates direct services to students
with disabilities and provides support
and information for students and faculty/
staff development. This creates an equal
opportunity for students with disabilities
to participate, learn and express what has
been learned.

These services and others on campus help provide students with the opportunities for success that are at the core
of the University’s mission, and many of them are only possible because of gifts made to the University.
UM Freezes Tuition for Second Consecutive Year

To help maintain its status as one of the best quality-for-cost higher education institutions in the state, the University has frozen tuition for the second year in a row.

In addition to freezing tuition, UM also took the extra steps of freezing student fees and housing rates. The Board of Trustees voted to approve the tuition, fee and housing rate freeze during its Feb. 7 meeting.

“Montevallo’s tuition freeze is yet another example of our family of learners putting students first,” said President Stewart. “The trustees, faculty and staff are here to serve students first, and freezing tuition for yet another year is one more way we can help UM students prepare for exciting and meaningful futures.”

Strange Delivers Commencement Address

The University celebrated the achievements of 144 students as they received their degrees during Fall Commencement on Dec. 13 in the McChesney Student Activity Center.

Hon. Todd Strange ’66, chairman of the UM Board of Trustees and former mayor of Montgomery, delivered the keynote address and received an honorary doctorate for his many years of service to the University.

Strange encouraged the graduates to seek success in their lives while making a positive difference in the lives of those around them.

Following Strange’s address, President Stewart conferred degrees on 106 candidates for bachelor’s degrees and 38 candidates for graduate degrees.

CEHD Honors Alumni, Faculty and Staff

On Feb. 4, the University of Montevallo’s College of Education and Human Development held an awards dinner to recognize the achievements of its outstanding alumni. The college presented awards in several categories to the following recipients:

- Counseling — Katie Beaugez M.Ed. ’17
- Instructional Leadership — Charissa Cole M.Ed. ’03
- Instructional Technology, Ed.S. — Sarah Carpenter Ed.S. ’17
- Teacher Leadership, Ed.S. — Mandy Heatherly ’02, Ed.S. ’16
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing — Johnna Nalls ’98
- Elementary Collaborative — Kelsey Collum ’16, M.Ed. ’17
- Elementary Education — Allison Reed ’99, M.Ed. ’02
- Secondary Education — Reed Lochamy M.Ed. ’11
- Family and Consumer Sciences — Angela Treadaway ’84, M.Ed. ’89
- Nutrition and Wellness — Dana Drake ’95
- Ernest Outstanding Commitment to Teaching — Pat Pettit
- Bill Fancher Staff Excellence — Dwight Jinright Ed.S. ’11
- Lifetime Commitment to Teaching — Dr. Alesa Judd ’80, M.Ed. ’82

Learn more about these top stories and stay informed with UM updates at montevallo.edu/news
University Named Among Top in State for Financial Aid

Montevallo has been named one of the top universities in the state for financial aid by Lendedu.com, earning high marks for student scholarships, grants, student loans and work-study programs.

Lendedu.com recently released its list of the Best Colleges for Financial Aid in Alabama, and UM ranked in the top five. It ranked the highest among public universities in central Alabama.

According to the study, more than 90 percent of UM students who are eligible for need-based financial aid receive it, which is the highest percentage of any public university in the state.

The website based the rankings on data from the National Center for Education Statistics and Peterson’s Financial Aid Dataset.

Montevallo Opens Grainger Family Center for Personal Development

The University greatly enhanced its counseling services to students, faculty and staff since opening the new Grainger Family Center for Personal Development during a Jan. 6 ceremony.

The center occupies the newly renovated Puryear House, located on Middle Street. This move increases counseling service space by 85 percent. The flexibility of the building’s design will allow Counseling Services to grow and adapt as student needs change in the future.

In addition to Counseling Services, the new center houses the Falcon Food Pantry and Student Emergency Assistance programs.

The center is the result of UM student leaders working with the University’s administration to provide a larger, more comprehensive facility to serve student needs now and in the future.

University Launches New Environmental Education Program

The University has added a new environmental education program, which started in August 2019 and has already seen success providing outreach opportunities to area schools and organizations.

The Environmental Education Program provides experiential learning opportunities at the Organic Community Garden, the Ebenezer Swamp Ecological Preserve, the James Wylie Shepherd Observatory, University Lake and the UM campus itself. By using inquiry-based, hands-on lessons, the program offers impactful learning opportunities using the outdoors as a classroom.

The program is led by director Jecca Shumate. The program’s offerings are geared toward schools, scout groups, camp programs, public audiences and anyone interested in learning about the environment.
Falcons Celebrate Hall of Fame and Student-Athlete Alumni Reunion

The UM Athletic Department inducted seven individuals as part of the Hall of Fame Class of 2020 during an induction ceremony on Saturday, Feb. 1, at Anna Irvin Dining Hall.

Coinciding with the Hall of Fame induction was the University’s inaugural student-athlete alumni reunion on Jan. 31 and Feb. 1. The reunion brought together generations of Montevallo student-athlete alumni as they attended a reception during UM home games and enjoyed fellowship and camaraderie with fellow Falcons.

“It was great to see so many former student-athletes come back to Montevallo and attend the basketball, baseball and lacrosse games,” said UM Director of Athletics Mark Richard. “We really had an enjoyable experience and hope even more student-athlete alums come out next year as we continue this new tradition.”

The Hall of Fame Class of 2020 features four former student-athlete standouts with illustrious playing careers and three meritorious service selections with distinguished professional careers.

Manyi Ati ’13
Volleyball 2009-2013

Manyi Ati holds the second-most career kills in Montevallo’s NCAA Division II record book with 1,410.

Ati was named to the All-Peach Belt Conference team during all four years of her playing career and was also selected to the 2013 AVCA NCAA Division II All-Southeast Region and Daktronics NCAA Division II All-Southeast Region teams.

She also ranks third in Montevallo’s NCAA Division II record book career-hitting percentage with .302, third in total blocks with 349, sixth in most career-sets played with 468 and seventh in career-matches played with 131.

Haley Evans ’13
Women’s Cross Country 2009-2012

Haley Evans was named the Peach Belt Conference Co-Runner of the Year in 2012. She was a First Team All-Peach Belt Conference selection three times throughout her career in 2009, 2011 and 2012. She was a Second Team All-PBC selection in 2010.

Evans was named the athletic department’s Margaret Blalock Award winner following her senior season. The Margaret Blalock Award is given to Montevallo’s female student-athlete of the year.

Will Fulmer ’16
Baseball 2011-2014

Will Fulmer holds the school record in career-runs scored with 203.

In 2012, Fulmer was also named to the NCBWA, Daktronics and ABCA NCAA Division II All-Southeast Region teams. He was named to the Daktronics NCAA Division II All-Southeast Region team again in 2014.

In addition, Fulmer is the all-time leader in program history with 801 career at-bats, second in program history with 278 career hits and 50 career hit by pitches. He is third...
Emily Abernathy ’11

Women’s Golf 2007-2011

Emily Gibson Abernathy was the first Montevallo and Peach Belt Conference female golfer to qualify for the NCAA DII National Championship.

Abernathy was twice named the Peach Belt Conference Player of the Year in 2010 and 2011. In 2010, she was named First Team All American and won the PBC Individual Championship. She was also a two-time All-Peach Belt Conference selection. While competing in the Gulf South Conference her freshman and sophomore seasons, Abernathy was a First Team All-GSC selection in 2009 and a Second Team All-GSC selection in 2008.

In addition to success on the golf course, Abernathy was a two-time selection on the Presidential Honor Roll and All-Academic Team.

MERITORIOUS SERVICE

Owen Butts ’73

Owen Butts was an outstanding basketball player at Montevallo and later enjoyed a highly successful career as a high school basketball coach and college umpire before retiring after 40 years.

Butts earned All-Conference honors in both his junior and senior years and led the Falcons to their first conference championship in Montevallo’s history.

After graduating in 1973, Butts spent the next 40 years coaching high school basketball with stops at Vincent, Pelham, Shades Valley and Prattville. His teams won 531 games including 14 county championships, 14 area/region championships, two Final Four appearances and fifteen 20-plus win seasons. During this time, he was named Jefferson County Coach of the Year nine times. In 1992, he was named to the Alabama Junior College Basketball Silver Anniversary team and two years later was inducted into the Alabama Junior College Hall of Fame.

Michael Chadwick ’01

Michael Chadwick served in numerous roles during his 21 years at the University, most recently spending eight years as the assistant director of athletics for internal relations.

He was responsible for overseeing business affairs, facility and event operations, as well as oversight of the sports medicine, strength and conditioning, softball and men’s soccer programs. Prior to his promotion, Chadwick worked as Montevallo’s head athletic trainer.

He was instrumental in the athletic facilities improvements and additions of the softball stadium, track and lacrosse complex, Kermit A. Johnson Field at Bob Riesener Stadium, Georgine Lemak Soccer Field, the tennis complex and the Student Activity Center weight room.

Chadwick is currently the assistant manager of Coleman Coliseum at The University of Alabama.

Rob King

In 1995, King took over the men’s and women’s soccer program at UM. In the six seasons at the helm of the women’s team, King led the Falcons to post season play during four of those seasons and finished with a conference winning percentage of .500 or better during all five seasons of Gulf South Conference play.

During King’s final season at Montevallo in 2000, he led the Lady Falcons to the best season in school history. He set the record for wins in a season with 12 and made the GSC Tournament for the third consecutive year, a school first.
The University raised more than $36.5 million over the past seven years to benefit scholarships, campus improvements, faculty development and more through the “It’s About Family” comprehensive campaign.

The big announcement came during a Feb. 7 ceremony on campus during which alumni, faculty and University leaders gathered in Anna Irvin Dining Hall to celebrate nearly doubling the campaign’s original goal.

“Today, we are recipients of great gifts from many, many great people. This campaign was successful because people who love the University of Montevallo want to see it continue to thrive well into the future,” said UM Board of Trustees Chairman Todd Strange ’66. “We want to make sure this university commands attention from great students who want to come here to learn, grow and develop.”

The University launched the campaign in 2012 with the goal of raising $20 million by 2019. The original goal was reached in only five years, making it the most successful fundraising effort to date. But that wasn’t the end. Building on the success of the original goal, the UM Board of Trustees announced in February 2018 that they were raising the goal to $30 million.

As a result of the campaign, more than 115 new scholarships totaling more than $7 million have been established. The University’s first-ever endowed academic chair has been established, and two new endowed professorships have been created.

The University’s Traditions Fund also greatly benefited from the campaign, meaning treasured traditions such as College Night will continue to thrive well into the future.

“One of the things that is so special about the University of Montevallo is how much the students know they are cared for,” said UM senior and SGA President Olivia Eldridge. “I’ve never seen anything like it.”

The campaign consisted of more than 18,000 gifts from more than 10,000 donors, 6,000 of whom were first-time donors to the University.

Some of the new facilities and renovations that have been made possible through the campaign include:

- The Center for the Arts
- Stephens College of Business building
- 3D Art Complex
- UM Track and Lacrosse Field and Softball Stadium through a partnership with the Montevallo Development Cooperative District, along with renovations to other athletic facilities
- Renovations to Strong Hall
- Planned upgrades to Harman Hall
Bosdell’s Estate Gift Will Impact Generations

DURING HER 88 YEARS ON EARTH, Dr. Betty J. Bosdell ’49 showcased the gift of fostering positivity and encouraging everyone around her to strive for greatness in their lives.

Bosdell, who passed away in 2017, lived a life of selflessness, generosity and loyalty to her loved ones. These were traits prompted by her father’s words during the Great Depression: “There is always enough.”

After earning a bachelor’s degree in English from UM (then Alabama College), Bosdell earned her master’s and doctorate from the University of Illinois at Urbana. From there, she taught at Chico State College in California, the University of North Dakota, the University of Iowa and Northern Illinois University, where she earned the title of professor emeritus upon her retirement in 1984. As a licensed therapist for several decades, her major areas of teaching included theories of psychotherapy, group therapy, child therapy, transpersonal psychology, psychological assessment and biofeedback.

After her retirement from NIU, Bosdell moved west to Vista, California, where she lived through her final days. She remained a member of the Association for the Advancement of Psychosynthesis and helped organize psychosynthesis groups across the country.

Bosdell also served as a consultant for many schools and educational groups, including universities, public school systems and state departments of education across the country and for the U.S. Department of Education.

No matter where life took her, Bosdell focused on serving people first and providing a caring, understanding ear to anyone who needed it.

In her autobiography, Bosdell credited Montevallo with laying the foundation for her lifelong passion of serving others.

“During this time, my interest in being with and working with people continued to develop,” she wrote of her time at UM. “A sequence of life experiences has led me from one position to another, each leaving me a richer person in some dimension. Throughout my adult life, I have been surrounded by people who were genuine and I always have been near to some who really care for others.”

Throughout her life, Bosdell was committed to helping the University continue to make a difference for future generations of students. She included UM in her estate planning, leading to the second-largest estate gift the University has ever received at nearly $1.3 million.

The sizeable gift was designated to the following areas:

- The Dr. Betty J. Bosdell Biofeedback Services Room housed in the Grainger Family Center for Personal Development
- The Dr. Betty J. Bosdell Student Counseling Services Program Fund
- The Dr. Betty J. Bosdell Research Lab in Harman Hall
- The Dr. Betty J. Bosdell Endowed Emergency Fund for Female Students in Need
- Dr. Betty J. Bosdell endowed namesake scholarships in the following areas:
  - full time students who are also single parents
  - deserving students in the graduate counseling services degree program
  - students majoring in psychology and/or sociology
  - students majoring in any undergraduate or graduate education degree programs
- Greatest need within the general unrestricted foundation endowment

Including UM in an estate plan provides many benefits to both the donor and the University. Planned gifts are vitally important to the University because they help secure long-term financial stability, allow the University to plan based on knowledge of future income and help Montevallo to continue its mission well into the future.

Planned giving provides donors an opportunity to inventory their assets and liabilities and identify the goals and priorities of the legacy they want to leave. Making a planned gift also allows donors to minimize their estate tax, increase income from assets and maximize assets left to heirs.

There are several types of planned gifts, and each offers unique advantages. For more information on ways to support the University through a planned gift, please call Vice President of Advancement and External Affairs Scott Dillard or Senior Director of Development Kelli J. Holmes at 205-665-6212.
Q&A

with Cynthia Kay Todd ’88

President of the UM National Alumni Association

Your home: Hoover, Alabama
Your hometown: Calera, Alabama
Education: Bachelor of Business Administration degree, majoring in business management at UM in 1988
Master of Arts degree in public and private management at Birmingham-Southern College in 2007

Educational achievements at UM: I served in leadership roles during college — most notably president of Alpha Kappa Psi; a professional business fraternity — first black female to serve in that role. I was also an active member of the Inspirational Voices of Christ, the African American Society and Omicron Delta Kappa National Honor Society. I earned several honors including Senior Elite, Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, Golson Scholars Seminar, The Wall Street Journal Annual Achievement Award, the John A. House Award and The United States Achievement Academy National Collegiate Award.

Tell us about your family: I grew up in a large family — six children total — three boys and three girls. My parents taught me to share, love everyone, see the good in people, treat others the way you want to be treated, be respectful and to be your best self. Two of my sisters were at UM at the same time when I entered as a freshman in 1984. I am the youngest of the girls, but I always bossed them around!

What is your profession? Operations manager for the Claims Division at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama.

What made you choose this profession? Since I was 12 years old, I knew I wanted to be a manager in corporate America. I had positive role models growing up and identified with being a servant leader. I also considered being a lawyer or a college professor — two arenas which still spark my interest.

How did Montevallo affect your career path? Taking my first management course under Dr. Harry Hamilton confirmed my desire and skillset to be in management. Clearly, the Bachelor of Business Administration degree I earned from the University of Montevallo prepared me for a successful career in management. Because of the exceptional education I received at UM, I am a proven business management professional with more than 30 years of experience and a track record of consistent promotions and increasing responsibilities.

How did you know you belonged at Montevallo? When I had an opportunity to attend my first College Night event as a senior in high school, I knew then I belonged at Montevallo. I was so impressed by the talent of the student body and the team spirit that I wanted to be a part of that amazing experience as a student. After receiving a four-year Valedictorian Scholarship to UM, it was obvious that Montevallo wanted me as well.

What is your secret for success? To live by the Golden Rule — to treat others the way you want to be treated — with dignity and respect. While I was on loan to the United Way of Central Alabama in 2004 from Protective Life, my husband passed away. I was devastated. I was only 38 years old. This life tragedy taught me that life is short. Life is too short to be unhappy. I learned if you are unhappy or stressed, remove the thing/situation if it is in your control. Consequently, I believe in living life every day to the fullest, giving thanks and praise to God in all things.

What is your favorite Montevallo memory as an alumna? Organizing the first Minority Alumni Club event for Homecoming in the 21st century. There was a minority alumni group formed in the 1970s, but it was not an official affinity group of UM. One of my best friends, Glenda Lee Bland ’89, and I planned the inaugural event to get other minority alumni to return to Montevallo and to give back of our time, talent and treasures.

I recall Dr. Lonnie J. Edwards ’71 inspiring and encouraging all in attendance to be proud of being a graduate of the University of Montevallo. He provided an analogy of Alabama and Auburn fans: Why don’t we all yell and cheer for Montevallo with the same passion as alumni of large colleges in Alabama? We should be proud Montevallo alumni and let everyone know where we received our outstanding education!

What are your thoughts as you become president of the UMNAA Board? I am excited to serve as president of the UMNAA Board! It is such an honor and privilege to serve our great alma mater. As we enter this new decade, I would like to continue with the 2020 Homecoming luncheon theme based on 20/20 Vision. Our vision will be to continue the quest to engage alumni and support students. Current plans are to focus on the following three areas: Educate, Motivate and Elevate.

Educate — We plan to provide more networking opportunities, partner with UM colleges to support needs of students and continue the traditions of honoring alumni and providing scholarships to students.

Motivate — Our second goal will be to motivate and encourage alumni to get involved. There are many ways alumni can support Montevallo — through your time, talents and treasure. We will look to increase participation in all three of the aforementioned categories.

Elevate — Montevallo is the best, and it is the goal of the UMNAA Board to take Montevallo even higher! We plan to increase our social media presence and evaluate events to ensure we are sponsoring meaningful events and opportunities for alumni.

For more, visit montevallo.edu/montevallo-today
20/20 VISION:
Eye on the Future

During this year’s Homecoming celebration themed 20/20 Vision: Eye on the Future, the UM National Alumni Association honored three alumni for their outstanding contributions to the community. The honorees received their awards in front of a full house in Anna Irvin Dining Hall during the Saturday Homecoming Recognition Luncheon.

The luncheon also served as the UMNAA’s annual business meeting and included the installation of the association’s new officers and directors and recognition of retiring members.

**Ricardo Conte**

The Nathalie Molton Gibbons Young Achiever’s Award is given to an alumnus younger than 35 whose early career and community contributions have reflected positively at the local, state or national level.

This year’s recipient was Ricardo Conte ’12, an earth and space science teacher at Simmons Middle School in Hoover.

Conte’s passion and dedication in the classroom has gained attention statewide, and he was chosen to be a part of the 2019 sixth grade curriculum update team for Alabama’s A+ College Ready program.

During the summer months, he utilizes his summer vacations to assist in the training of other earth science teachers across the state.

Conte earned the prestigious Outstanding Earth and Space Science Teacher 2019 award for the state of Alabama from the National Association of Geoscience Teachers, which recognizes “exceptional contributions to the stimulation of interest in the earth sciences at the pre-college level.”

He earned the Shelby County Schools’ First Year Teacher of the Year honor in 2013 and received the UM Outstanding Alumnus in Elementary Education award for 2014-2015.

**Dr. Rebecca Turner**

Dr. Rebecca Turner ’71 was awarded the 2020 Nathalie Molton Gibbons Alumni Achievement Award.

She has decades of experience as a social work practitioner, educator and higher education administrator. Turner retired in 2019 after nearly 40 years at Jacksonville State University where she most recently served as provost and vice president of academic affairs.

She is a lifetime member of the Council on Social Work Education and the Association of Geoscience Teachers, which recognizes “exceptional contributions to the stimulation of interest in the earth sciences at the pre-college level.”

Dr. Turner earned the UM Outstanding Alumnus in Social Work Education award for 2014.

**Dr. Richard T. Giardino**

Dr. Richard T. Giardino ’76 was awarded the 2020 Nathalie Molton Gibbons Alumni Achievement Award.

Giardino has dedicated many years to various roles within the University of Montana, including serving as director of the Honors Program and University Libraries. He has also contributed to the University’s research endeavors.

**Dr. Bruce R. Crockett**

Dr. Bruce R. Crockett ’76 was awarded the 2020 Nathalie Molton Gibbons Alumni Achievement Award.

Crockett has a long history of teaching and mentoring students at the University of Montana. He has been recognized for his exceptional contributions to the university community.

**Additional Honors**

The UMNAA also recognized the following honorees:

**Dr. Rachel M. Lach**

Lach was honored for her exceptional contributions to the UMNAA and the University of Montana.

**Dr. James D. Anderson**

Anderson was recognized for his significant contributions to the University of Montana and the UMNAA.

**Dr. Carol J. Bock**

Bock was acknowledged for her outstanding achievements and service to the University of Montana and the UMNAA.
tion of Baccalaureate Social Workers. Turner served on the Commission on Educational Policy, the CSWE national site visit and accreditation teams and participated in the national conference planning committee.

Turner remains loyal to the Purple Side at UM and credits Montevallo with laying the foundation for her long and storied career in social work and higher education.

She has been the recipient of the CSWE Leadership Development Award, the National Association of Social Workers Lifetime Achievement Award and the Alabama-Mississippi Social Educators Conference Social Work Educator of the Year award.

Since retiring in June 2019, Turner has continued to serve on community agency boards and participate in accreditation reviews for the Council on Social Work Education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.

Dr. Michael Malone

Dr. Michael E. “Mike” Malone ’69 received the alumni association’s top honor: the Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Malone has left a lengthy and distinguished legacy of service in the field of education and served in leadership roles in high schools and universities throughout the southeast. In 2002, Malone was named executive director of the Alabama Commission on Higher Education.

Malone has served on the UM Foundation Board and the National Alumni Association Board, proudly serving as the UMNAA president from 2012-2014.

Malone has served many prominent education organizations over the years.

As a student at UM, Malone was involved in College Night’s Gold Side in 1968 and 1969. He was also elected to the Student Honor Court and served as chief justice for two years. He was inducted into Delta Theta Pi leadership honorary and Eta Sigma Pi liberal arts honorary. He chaired the Interfraternity Council and was listed in Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

One of his proudest moments on campus came when he and his teammates were inducted into the Athletics Hall of Fame in 2013 as members of the 1966 Falcons tennis team, which notched a win over Auburn and finished the season undefeated.
Purple Side Victory
Highlights 2020 Homecoming

CAMPUS WAS A FLURRY OF ACTIVITY
during this year’s Homecoming festivities as hundreds of UM alumni, students and friends celebrated being a part of the Montevallo family. The University hosted reunions for Alabama College; the classes of 1950, 1960, 1970, 1980, 1990, 2000, 2010; Young Alumni, Old Golds and Vintage Purples.

The festivities also included several receptions hosted by UM departments and campus organizations, the crowning of Jeffrey Odgers and Sarah Engle as Mr. and Ms. Montevallo, the annual Alumni Art Exhibition and Silent Auction, Purple vs. Gold basketball game and College Night.

Center for the Arts Facility Manager and Special Events Coordinator Andrew Fancher received this year’s College Night dedication for his 12 years of dedicated service to helping College Night performances succeed.

The highlight of the weekend came on Saturday night when the Purple Side snapped a three-year Gold Side winning streak and were declared College Night victors.

Purple Side paid homage to College Nights past with the multi-line title, “Witchful Thinking: One Hex of a Play” or “Get Witch or Die Trying” or “Brew it for the Money” or “A Witch, a Troll and a Knight Walk into a Bar.” The production told the tale of a fictional kingdom ruled by Queen Daffodilia. In the kingdom, magical citizens live under Daffodilia’s oppressive regime as their quality of life steadily declines in the face of ever-rising taxes.

Clara, the generous co-owner of a potions shop in town and the queen’s step-daughter, is approached by Daffodilia and asked to lead a party to retrieve a sizeable treasure outside the town. The queen promises the treasure will allow her to lessen the tax burden on magical citizens.

Clara, her business partner Troll and Finch, a member of Daffodilia’s Royal Guard, set off to retrieve the treasure and are secretly being followed by the queen and her loyal servant, Courtier. Fearing Clara is planning to use her magical powers to support an already-brewing rebellion against the throne, Daffodilia later attempts to kill Clara but is cut down by the leader of the rebellion.

Daffodilia dies after refusing Clara’s offer of healing magic, and Clara becomes the kingdom’s new monarch.

Gold Side’s “The Golden Days” tackled issues of racism, xenophobia and bigotry set to the backdrop of a new school year at a high school in 1970. Tension erupts after star athlete Robbie Richards, who is white, intentionally trips Charlie Chamberlain, who
is black, on the first day of school simply because Charlie looks different than Robbie.

After it is revealed Robbie was pursuing another girl over the summer, his girlfriend, Dottie Wagner, breaks up with him and begins to develop feelings for Charlie. At a popular local diner, Charlie’s crew beats Robbie’s crew in a dance-off, and Dottie then asks Charlie if he will attend the back-to-school dance with her.

In an act of desperation, Robbie visits with Dottie’s parents and tells them that Charlie is black and claims that he is trouble. Dottie’s parents forbid her from dating someone who is different from them, but Dottie, realizing a person’s character matters much more than their outward appearance, attends the dance with Charlie anyway.

Robbie and his friend fight Charlie at the dance and are escorted off the school premises as the other students come to realize they should celebrate their differences and work to overcome bigotry.
1938 Elizabeth Martin Allen, 102, was named Mrs. Centennial during the Boll Weevil Monument Centennial Celebration on Dec. 11, 2019, in Enterprise, Alabama.

1942 Margaret Dean Harris Maynord of Fairhope celebrated her 100th birthday surrounded by family in November 2019.


1966 James Scott of Birmingham self-published his book Nneka and the Missing Rainbow. The book follows 12-year-old girl Nneka as she embarks on a dangerous mission to find the missing rainbow so valuable to her village.

1967 Cassandra King Conroy M.A. ’88 of Beaufort, South Carolina, was named one of the 2020 Southern Book Prize Winners by the Southern Independent Booksellers Alliance for her book Tell me a Story: My Life with Pat Conroy. The 2020 Southern Book Prize Winners were selected from a list of finalists from ballots submitted by more than 1,000 southern readers representing more than 150 southern independent bookstores.

Virginia Sims of Boaz was featured in the Arab Tribune in Arab, in February. In the story, Virginia touted the benefits of volunteering at local hospitals, and she encouraged other people to volunteer as well.

1968 Paul Doran Jr. of Homewood was the subject of an article in the Homewood Star for his many years of service to the Homewood community including nearly a decade of service to the city’s public library board. Paul previously served as president of the UMNAAG Board and is currently the president of the UM Foundation Board.

1969 Dr. Michael Malone of Tuscaloosa received the Distinguished Alumnus Award during the UMNAAG’s Homecoming Awards Luncheon. (see page 20)

1971 Dr. Rebecca Turner of Jacksonville was awarded the Nathalie Molton Gibbons Alumni Achievement Award by the UMNAAG. (see page 20)

1973 Owen Butts M.Ed. ’78 was inducted into the UM Athletics Hall of Fame class of 2020 in the meritorious service category. (see page 14)

Jim Kitson of Jasper was featured in the Daily Mountain Eagle in Walker County, for

- Alabama College Society

From left: (front row) Lael Huffstutler, Willene Johnston Whatley, Shirley Thornberg, Libby Queen, Sue Shaddix; (back row) Norma Moore, Marica King, JDanny Cooper, Dr. Robert Thornburg, Jim Hermecz, Ray Jones, Rod Hildreth, Ron Joullian, Lynda Turner. Photo includes members of the Class of 1970. While not Alabama College graduates, the class attended Alabama College.
his speech to the Rotary Club of Jasper. During his visit, Jim shared how serving in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War impacted his life.

1975 Don Blakeley Jr. of Montevallo recently discovered the fossil remains of a dragonfly near the Cahaba River. After an extensive investigation by the paleontology departments of the University of Kansas and The University of Alabama, the fossil was declared a new species and named Archaeopteryx blakelyi.

1976 Larry Blakeney M.Ed. of Auburn received the 2019 Camellia Bowl Alabama Football Legend Award in December 2019 for his time as Troy University’s head football coach. Larry led Troy to 178 wins during his 24 years as head coach. Larry has the most wins of any coach in Sun Belt Conference history, earned four conference coach of the year honors and led his team to eight conference championships, five bowl games and seven trips to the FCS playoffs.

1977 Frank Murphy Jr. of Rome, Georgia, spoke at the B.B. Comer Memorial Library in Sylacauga on Feb. 12 as part of the library’s winter adult lecture series “Telling our Stories.” Frank spoke about his career as an artist creating paintings and marble sculptures for churches.

1979 Joel Terry May of McCalla released his historical fiction book The Broken Earth, which chronicles the nation’s struggles to readjust following the destruction caused by the Civil War. The book was published by Archway Publishing in 1999.

Karl Moor of Mountain Brook accepted a position as deputy assistant administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency’s Office of Air and Radiation. Karl is also a member of the UM Foundation Board.

1980 Cynthia Elmore M.Ed. ’83 of Pelham was featured in the Homewood Star in January in an article about her business, Cottage of Serendipity. Cynthia moved her business from Pelham to the Brookwood Village mall in Homewood in October 2019 and has seen significant success at the new location.

Alesa Judd M.Ed. ’82 of Centre was awarded the College of Education and Human Development’s Lifetime Commitment to Teaching award. Alesa worked in the Bibb County school system for 38 years until she retired in 2019. She has worked to improve access to health care for children and in 2001 founded the Bibb County Children’s Theatre. (see page 12)

1981 Vickie Gainer of Lynn Haven, Florida, was named the first African American woman to serve as Lynn Haven’s city manager. Vickie previously served as the director of campus communications at Florida State University.

1982 Michael Lebeau M.Ed. ’93 of Birmingham became the director of UM’s Career Development Center. Michael oversees the center’s efforts to provide students with the resources to reach their career goals.

1983 Larry Gibson M.Ed. ’88 of Vestavia Hills received the Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce’s Volunteer of the Year award in January. Larry is an art education teacher at Pizitz Middle School in Vestavia and regularly volunteers to lead art projects throughout the city each year.

1984 Angela Treadaway M.Ed. ’89 of Columbiana was awarded the Outstanding Alumna Award in Family and Consumer Sciences. Angela has worked for the Alabama Cooperative Extension System for more than 34 years beginning as an intern in the 1980s. In this role, she assists in improving access to research-based teaching methods. (see page 12)

1985 Beverly Russell of Birmingham was featured in the Birmingham Times newspaper in January in a story featuring her business, Olivia’s Transit Café, in downtown Birmingham. Beverly has been cooking for 30-plus years in a variety of catering and restaurant roles.

1988 Raymond Rainey Jr. of Birmingham was appointed to the UMCAA Board.

1989 Kazuo Moriya of Birmingham accepted a position as the senior account representative at Honda Trading of America in Lincoln. Previously, Kazuo was the project manager and assistant manufacturing manager at Ha- yashi Telempu North America, a supplier to Honda, Toyota and Nissan.
Class of 1970

From left: (front row) Lynda Turner, Jim Hermecz, Marica King; (back row) JDanny Cooper, Dr. Robert Thornburg, Ron Joullian

Ginny Tucker of Birmingham was named the CEO of Impact America, a Birmingham-based nonprofit that focuses on dealing with the consequences of poverty through various philanthropic efforts.

1990 Stacy Moon of Homewood was appointed to the UMNAA Board.

1991 Craig Brown of Birmingham was featured in the Vestavia Voice in November 2019 for creating the marble sculpture awarded to the recipient of the Alabama Humanities Fellows Award.

Deborah Miller of Birmingham retired as the principal of Pelham Oaks Elementary School on Jan. 31. Deborah worked in education for nearly 30 years and previously taught in the Bibb County school system. She served as an administrator in the Tuscaloosa County and Tuscaloosa City school systems.

Lisa Wilton of Opelika was featured in the Opelika Observer in November 2019 in an article featuring her business Wilton’s Catering. Lisa co-owns the business with her husband, Chris Wilton, and their business partner, Senna Barnett.

1993 Elisabeth French of Birmingham became the first African American female presiding judge in Alabama when she was recently named to the position in the Jefferson County court system. In this position she will be responsible for hearing cases as well as keeping the 10th Judicial Circuit, the largest in Alabama, functioning from an administrative standpoint.

1994 Tamara Matthews of Santa Rosa Beach, Florida, was named the 2019 Designer of the Year by Furniture South in Walton County, Florida. As the senior design consultant at Furniture South, she works with clients to handle all aspects of interior decorating. This is the second year Tamara has won the Designer of the Year award. She was also recently nominated for the Best in Destin award.

1995 Dana Drake of Cropwell, was awarded the Outstanding Alumna Award in Nutrition and Wellness Education. Dana has helped in the development of the curriculum for UM’s Dietetics Program. She currently serves as the corporate diettitian for Schmidt Wallace Health Care in Montgomery where she coordinates the nutrition and diets of patients in long-term care across the state. (see page 12)

1997 Sheena Chapman of Springfield, Tennessee, was inducted into the inaugural Springfield High School Athletic Hall of Fame. She was a four-time NAIA All-American in women’s basketball. Sheena owns 21 single-season and career scoring and rebounding records at Montevallo. She averaged 25.6 points and 11 rebounds in her career and finished with 3,259 points, 1,500 more than the next-closest player.

Dr. Resia Brooks M.Ed. ’01 of Pelham was appointed to the UMNAA Board.

1998 Johnna Nalls of Calera was awarded the Outstanding Alumna Award in Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education by the College of Education and Human Development. She has been teaching students who are deaf or hard of hearing in Jefferson and Shelby counties for more than 20 years. She has worked to develop the education practicum for teachers who wish to work with individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing for the past 15 years. (see page 12)

1999 Brian Baugh’s exhibition titled “New Work” opened in West Long Branch, New Jersey, on Jan. 17. Brian is an assistant professor of art at Monmouth College in Monmouth, Illinois.

Safiya Byars of Norcross, Georgia, was named to the 2019 list of the Top Immigration Lawyers in Georgia by Georgia Trend magazine. This is the second time that the founder of The Byars Firm in Atlanta has been recognized by the magazine.

Allison Reed M.Ed. ’02 of Odenville was awarded the Outstanding Alumni Award in Elementary Education by the College of Education and Human Development. Allison currently teaches fourth grade at Irondale Community School. She has worked to implement research-based teaching methods into her curriculum. (see page 12)

2000 Dr. Brandon McKim of Alabaster was featured in the Shelby County Reporter in November 2019 in an article about the groundbreaking ceremony for his new business, Kent Farms Animal Hospital, in Alabaster. Brandon and fellow veterinarian Dr. Miranda Trammell will operate the business when construction is completed this summer.

2001 Michael Chadwick was inducted into the University’s Athletics Hall of Fame class of 2020 in the meritorious service category. (see page 14)

Dr. Mathew Vansant M.S. ’04 earned his doctorate at Louisiana State University in 2019 and has returned to Montevallo as an assistant professor in the Department of Communication Science and Disorders. In this position, he oversees UM’s new Swallowing and Voice Imaging Lab. Mathew and his wife, Kirsten ’03, have three daughters and reside in Columbiana.
2002 Mandy Heath-erly Ed.S. ’16 of Columbiana was awarded the Outstanding Alumna Award in Teacher Leadership by the College of Education and Human Development. She teaches third grade English as a second language at Creek View Elementary School in Alabaster and serves as Alabaster City Schools’ district ESL coordinator. (see page 12)

2003 Charrissa Cole M.Ed. of Alabaster was awarded the Outstanding Alumni Award in Instructional Leadership by the College of Education and Human Development. Charissa has worked as an educator for 22 years and has been the principal of Creek View Elementary in Alabaster for six years. (see page 12)

2004 Sharon Cooper of Alabaster was named assistant principal at Pelham Oaks Elementary School. Before coming to POES, she taught fifth grade at Thompson Intermediate School in Alabaster.

Andrew Heaton of Atlanta began a new role as the business development manager for the Atlanta office of the Fisher Phillips law firm where he will work in the fields of legal marketing and business development.

Kay Butts-Pruett of Stone Mountain, Georgia, accepted a position as a regional development officer for the Rheumatology Research Foundation. The organization has raised $170 million to advance research and care for those with rheumatic disease. Kay also joined the UMNAA Board in 2019.

2005 Paige Boyer of Helena, Alabama, became a physical science and earth and space teacher at Montevallo High School in fall 2019. She has been teaching for five years and previously taught at middle and high schools in Russell County.

Margaret Simpson of Atlanta was named as an associate attorney of Boyd, Collar, Nolen, Tuggle and Rodenberry law firm in Atlanta. Margaret is a family law attorney and has practiced family law in Georgia for almost 10 years. She was named a rising star by Super Lawyers three years in a row and was named to the American Institute of Family Law Attorneys 10 Best Attorneys list in 2017.

2006 Eric Browne of Semmes won an Arty award, which recognizes contributions made to Mobile’s arts and cultural community, from the Mobile Arts Council in January. Eric has been teaching theatre for Mobile County Public Schools for 13 years and is currently teaching at Baker High School FAME Academy.

Jamaica Dunigan of Montevallo accepted a position as a master tutor for UM’s TRIO Upward Bound program. In the role, Jamaica works to provide college preparatory support to potential first-generation college students.

Matthew Hope of Helena, Alabama, has become the vice president of sales with PS&G Financial Partners.

2008 Heather Atkins, a Pelham resident and music teacher at Oak Mountain Elementary School, earned certification in the Kodály Concept from UM. Kodály is used to train students in basic music skills and teach the reading and writing of music.

Caryn Davis of Indianapolis became the project manager for Girls Inc. of Greater Indianapolis. In this position, she works to improve the quality and follow-through of outreach programming, summer camps and volunteer initiatives. Caryn previously served as the health and wellness coordinator with Girls Inc. of Central Alabama.

2009 Shay Traywick M.Ed. ’15 became an area facilitator for UM’s Gear Up Jefferson County program. Shay works to improve access, opportunities and outcomes for students from historically marginalized populations and underserved communities.

2010 Joi Brown of Birmingham was selected to participate as a guest model in the Ubuntu 2.0 art, apparel and fashion show in Birmingham in February. The event showcases high fashion while tying in overall themes of compassion and humanity.

Dr. Dennis McCay MBA ’12 of Helena, Alabama, recently co-authored a report titled “A Case Study: Organizational and Environmental Factors Associated with Alabama Rural

\[ Class of 1980 \]

Hospitals’ Reported Levels of Financial Distress” in the fall 2019 issue of the Journal of Health Care Finance.

2011 Emily Abernathy was inducted into the University’s Athletics Hall of Fame class of 2020. (see page 14)

Chris Davidson of Irondale accepted a role as implementation project manager for Daxko/CSI Spectrum in Birmingham. In this role, Chris works to develop and implement software solutions for health and wellness facilities.

Drew Granthum of Montgomery began working at Auburn University at Montgomery as a marketing strategist.

Dwight Jinright Ed.S. of Birmingham was awarded the Bill Fancher Staff Excellence Award by the College of Education and Human Development. Dwight is the director of UM’s Regional In-Service Center in Pelham, which provides professional development programs to educators throughout the region. (see page 12)

Reed Lochamy M.Ed. of Hoover was awarded the Outstanding Alumnus Award in Secondary Education by the College of Education and Human Development. Reed has worked at Hoover High School for five years, where he teaches English, coaches tennis and serves as a member of HHS’s International Baccalaureate faculty. (see page 12)

Randall Porter of Birmingham was featured in the Birmingham Times in January in an article about his role as a prominent social media influencer. Some of Randall’s most notable brand ambassadorships and partnerships include Express clothing, Botanica Skin and Arcadia Salon.

2012 Ricardo Conte of Montevallo was awarded the Nathalie Molton Gibbons Young Achiever’s Award by the UMNAA. (see page 20)

2013 Manyi Ati was inducted into the University’s Athletics Hall of Fame class of 2020. (see page 14)

Haley Evans earned a spot in the UM Athletics Hall of Fame class of 2020. (see page 14)

2014 Andrew Fancher of Montevallo accepted the role of facility manager and special events coordinator for UM’s new Center for the Arts. During his time as a student, Fancher began working with the Facility and Event Scheduling Office. He has continued to advance his role at Montevallo since graduation. He will continue his oversight of Palmer Auditorium for the Facility and Events Scheduling Office and will provide managerial oversight of the Center for the Arts.

Alyssa Luna Green began serving in the role of digital marketing manager in UM’s Office of University Marketing & Communications. Alyssa has served as the University photographer since 2016. In her new role, she will continue to manage all University photography as well as monitor and manage the University’s official social media channels.

2015 Larry Slaughter received the Interperformances Player of the Week honor in February for his play in round 17 of the Swiss Basketball League, during which he recorded double-double of 29 points and 20 rebounds. Larry plays for the SBL team Villars in Villars-sur-Glâne, Switzerland.

2016 Zachary Brown of Hoover has accepted the position of human resources assistant at Bradley Arant Boult Cummings, LLP in Birmingham.

Kelsey Collum M.Ed. ’17 of Calera was awarded the Outstanding Alumna Award in Elementary/Collaborative Education from the College of Education and Human Development. Kelsey currently teaches students with various disabilities in a seventh-through-12th-grade unit at the Linda Nolen Learning Center in Pelham. (see page 12)

Will Fulmer was inducted into the University’s Athletics Hall of Fame class of 2020. (see page 12)

Kiera Hood accepted the position of producer for BNC Prime News on the Black News Channel in Tallahassee, Florida. BNC Prime News airs on the station weekdays from 6 to 9 p.m. CST.

Kaley Martin of Clanton began a job as broadcast producer at The University of Alabama. She was previously a multimedia content specialist at UM. Kaley also earned her master’s degree in strategic communication and
innovation from Texas Tech University in Dec. 2019.

2017 Katie Beaugez M.Ed. received the Outstanding Alumna Award for Counseling by the College of Education and Human Development at its awards dinner as part of the 2020 Homecoming celebrations. She operates her own counseling service, Katie Bee Counseling, which provides services to individuals throughout Alabama. (see page 12)

Sara Carpenter Ed.S. of Hoover was awarded the Outstanding Alumni Award in Instructional Technology by the College of Education and Human Development. She has served as the elementary technology integration coach in Hoover for six years. In this position, she helps educators find new and innovative ways to use technology to improve education. (see page 12)

Madison Griggs of Birmingham was promoted to copy manager at Uptick Marketing in Birmingham. In this role, Madison supervises the copywriting team and assists in content creation, content editing and communication with her supervisor and clients.

Amber James M.Ed. ‘19 of Fultondale began serving as a prosperity coach for UM’s Thrive Together program. In the role, Amber works to coach single-female-led families to progress from poverty to full stability. She is also a member of the University’s Junior Alumni Board.

Jessica Russell MBA ’19 of Mt. Olive has started a position as an academic advisor at Samford University’s Brock School of Business.

2018 Molly Green has started working as a language and cultural assistant at the Ministerio de Cultura y Deporte (Ministry of Culture) in Madrid, Spain.

Jonathan Mendoza has accepted a position as an amateur licensing representative at Music Theatre International in New York City.

Dana Woodruff M.Ed., known on-air as “Lady Woo,” will be starting a new radio show at V94.9 WATV in Birmingham. Prior to this, she hosted “Vital” on 95.7 JAMZ for 15 years. She works to bring awareness about mental and behavioral health in African American and underserved communities.

2019 Brie Blume of Bloomington, Indiana, has begun working as the marketing coordinator for City Church for All Nations in Bloomington.

DeAndra Hodge has started a graphic design apprenticeship at Wilbron Inc. in Birmingham.

Savannah Willard has begun working as a corporate communications intern at Volkswagen of America in Chattanooga.

DEATHS

1945 Zodell Benefield, 95, of Gadsden died Nov. 15, 2019. She was a member of James Memorial Baptist Church where she taught Sunday school for many years and later served as church librarian.

Nancy Cowart Sims, 96, of Doraville, Georgia, died Feb. 10. After graduating from Montevallo, Nancy attended Emory University in Georgia to pursue a master of divinity. She was an active member of the Tucker First United Methodist Church and Wesley Fellowship Sunday school class.

1948 Elizabeth Nell Wallace Clem, 92, of Decatur, Alabama, died in June 2019. She served as an educator, principal and supervisor in Decatur City Schools for many years.

1950 Sara Sprague Brooks, 91, of Montgomery died Jan. 13. She attended Capitol Heights United Methodist Church in Montgomery where she served in many capacities throughout her life.

1951 Betty Kegler, 90, of Houston died Nov. 21, 2019. She had worked as an administrative assistant at the Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center in Houston.

1956 Betty Atchison, 85, of Bessemer died Jan. 11. She served as a high school teacher for many years with the Jefferson County Board of Education.

Mattie “Dickey” Golden, 88, of Mentone died Dec. 20, 2019. After graduating from UM, Dickey taught for several years at schools in DeKalb County, Georgia, and Sylacauga, Alabama.

1956 Elizabeth Jean Muir, 81, of Gulf Shores died Feb. 1. She retired from the Jefferson County Board of Education. Jean was a member of the Gulf Shores United Methodist Church.

Emma Carolyn Williams Taylor, 85, of Mobile died Jan. 10. Emma graduated with a degree (see page 12)
in home economics and taught at Tanner Williams Elementary School in Wilmer.

**1960** June Swanson Capell, 81, of Mobile died Sept. 26, 2019. She began her long career as a math educator in Mobile at Murphy High School, later taught at Wright’s Girls’ School and spent 24 years at Mary G. Montgomery High School serving as chair of the math department.

**Patricia H. Holum**, 80, of Tacoma, Washington, died on Nov. 18, 2019. Patricia spent 46 years as a cancer researcher at the Southern Research Institute in Birmingham.

**1962** Merdith Byram, 78, of McCal- la died Nov. 11, 2019. After graduation, she worked her way from science teacher to counselor to principal of Westhills Elementary School in Bessemer. She later became the director of pupil personnel for Bessemer City Schools, the position from which she retired.

**Carol Inzer**, 79, of Marietta, Georgia, died Dec. 4, 2019. She taught foreign languages and math at Campbell High School and J.J. Daniels Middle School, retiring after more than 30 years with the Cobb County school system in Georgia.

**1965** Maria Marta Foshee, 82, of Birmingham, died Jan. 23. Maria taught for more than 35 years, primarily in Hueytown at Pittman Junior High School, where she taught social studies and Spanish. She was a member of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Birmingham.

**1968** Lyn Holman Grantham, 73, of Ozark, Alabama, died Dec. 20, 2019. She will be remembered for her love of family, her faith and as someone who always showed compassion to those in need.

**1971** Audrey Lou Hood Beiro, 93, of Calera, died Nov. 18, 2019. Audrey retired from Calera High School where she served as bookkeeper and registrar from 1970 until 1994. She was also a faithful member of Ashby Baptist Church for more than 20 years.

**1974** Mary Ann Guthrie, 67, of Gardendale, died Oct. 26, 2019. She worked in customer service for AT&T for 38 years.

**1975** Larry Dale Gravitt, 68, of Columbiana, died Nov. 10, 2019. He worked for Alabama Power for 36 years and served as captain in the United States Air Force and leader of Boy Scout Troop 560. He taught Sunday School in the youth department for more than 30 years and served as a deacon at First Baptist Church of Columbiana.

**1976** Donna Lee Belluchie, 80, of Greensburg, Pennsylvania, died Jan. 5. She was employed for many years as the executive vice president of human resources at Commercial National Bank.

**1978** Stephen Luker, 67, of Hoover, died Dec. 27, 2019. Stephen attended West End Baptist Church, First Baptist Church of Alabaster, Shades Mountain Baptist Church and Church of The Highlands. He was a member of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity at UM.

**Cindy Windborne Nelson**, 62, of Guin, died Nov. 29, 2019. Cindy spent much of her career in the medical field with her last job as the lab director at Marion Regional Medical Center in Hamilton. She was also active in the Guin First United Methodist Church.

**1980** Allene Dale, 94, of Las Cruces, New Mexico, died Nov. 7, 2019. Allene was an avid reader, quilter, seamstress, scout leader and gardener. In addition, she worked as a reference librarian, worked as a voluntary docent at a museum in Silver City, New Mexico, owned a second-hand store for 10 years, dabbled in art while working at an artist market and even published a short story.

**Walter Turner Jr.**, 70, of Childersburg, died Dec. 2, 2019. Walter served as an educator in varying roles from English teacher, assistant principal and principal in Coosa County schools, Sylacauga city schools, Meriwether county (Georgia) schools and Anniston city schools.

**2011** Brian Boots, 32, of Helena, Alabama, died Dec. 30, 2019. Brian was well known for his love of automobiles and worked in sales for Unique Industries Inc. in Calera. He was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha at UM and held several officer positions in the fraternity.

**2018** Chris Patillo, 25, of Moody, died Jan. 4. At UM, Chris was a University Relations and special events student assistant, president of the Young Republicans, involved in UM theatre productions, a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity and a devoted member of the Purple Side. After graduation, Chris worked in enrollment services at Jefferson State Community College and was also very involved in community theater.

**CONDOLENCES**

To Loretta Douglas Cobb ’67 and family on the death of her husband, William Sledge “Bill” Cobb, 82, of Birmingham, who died Feb. 17. Bill was a distinguished author and professor emeritus who served the University for nearly four decades. He joined the Alabama College faculty as an English instructor in the fall of 1963 and was soon promoted to assistant professor. At the time of his retirement from UM, Bill was serving as a professor of English and writer-in-residence. Bill authored many books during his life including A Walk Through Fire, Sweet Home: Stories of Alabama and Captain Billy’s Troopers: A Writer’s Life. Donations in his memory can be sent to the UM Foundation for The Cobb Writing Scholarship Fund.

To Kit Waters ’77 and family on the death of her mother, Martha Cobb Cobern, who died Feb. 7. She was known for her tender heart, her thoughtfulness and the kindness she showed to any fortunate enough to make her acquaintance.
Junior Board

From left: (front row) Isaac McDow '10, Lizbeth Juarez '18, Lindsey Underwood '10; (second row) Zachary A. Banks '08, Megan Davis '11, Candyce Hughston '10, Crystal Roskam '16; (third row) Marcus Moore '19, Danielle Parks '19, Morgan Alford '18; (fourth row) Donnie Bennett '17, Kacie Kilpatrick '09, Clark Maxwell '13, Nicholas Rivers '17; (fifth row) Amber James '17, Rebecca White '15, Matthew Mitchell '06; (sixth row) Jennifer Nelson '09, Cortez Bennett '12, Christina Powell '10; (not shown) Jacob Guyton '15, Savannah Kitchens '09, Rev. Brandt Montgomery '07, Lindsay Shippey '13

UMNAA Board

From left: (front row) Kay Butts-Pruett '04, Stephanie Shaw '93, Sandi Falkenherg '68, Melissa Garrett '75, Jeannine McElroy '53, Cynthia Todd '88, Diane Ray '68, Dr. Resia Brooks '97, Raymond Rainey Jr. '88; (back row) Christopher Willis '07, Greg Lee '99, Shana Arnold '95, Toni Leo '80, Claudia Harrell '73, Warwick Woodall '82, Jean Kline '77, Megan Randolph '06, Kirk Lightfoot '76, Greg Jones '85; (not shown) Tracey Adams '68, Eddie Baker III '04, Jan Chance '72, Suzanne Durham '68, Kacie Kilpatrick '09, Stacy Moon '90, Dr. Terra Miller '06, Pat Scales '66, Lauri Self '94, Dr. Antonio Williams '05
Military Alumni & Student Appreciation Reception
1. UMNAA Vice President of Special Events Diane Ray ’68 recognizes Army Col. Tommy Baker ’75 at the reception held Nov. 1, 2019;
2. Larry Cohill ’96 is honored for his military service in the Army.

1896 Society Brunch
3. Dr. Susan Vaughn ’71 and Mel Robinson ’52 enjoy fellowship at the brunch which honors alumni who have made a planned gift to the University. Vaughn also served as keynote speaker for the event;
4. Namfellows Dr. Joyce Greathouse ’74 and Joyce Greathouse ’56 discuss how they have been mistaken for each other by UM alumni;
5. Scott Dillard, vice president for advancement and external affairs, thanks new 1896 Society members Marion Brown ’03 and Happy Smith ’92 for their contributions to UM.

Fish Fry
6. Dean Nathews ’62 and daughter Ann Griffin ’76 wait for the fish dinner prepared by Dean’s son, Bill Nathews ’75. The annual event raises money for the Emma Dean Huston Nathews Shelby County Alumni Scholarship named in honor of Dean;
7. Young alumni Marcus Moore ’19 (Junior Alumni Board), Stephen Bulger ’14 and Clark Maxwell (president-elect, Junior Alumni Board) show their support for the Shelby County Alumni Club;
8. Alumni event planners and volunteers include (from left) Clayton Lynch, Emma Nathews Lynch ’04, Ann Griffin ’76, Kirk Lightfoot ’76, Bill Nathews ’75, Carolyn Jones ’11, Tiffany Bunt ’00 and Brandiyn Nelson ’08. Photo courtesy of Shelby County Reporter.

UM vs. UAB Basketball Game
9. Rush Blankenship ’85 and Debbie Dye enjoy the pre-game festivities sponsored by the Jefferson County Alumni Club and the Junior Alumni Board;
10. Junior Alumni Board members (from left) Christina Powell ’10 (social chair), Kacie Kilpatrick ’09 (president), Cortez Bennett ’12 (incoming special events chair) and Lindsey Sherrill ’07 (outgoing special events chair) support the Falcons;
ATTENTION!

For the safety and well-being of all our alumni, staff and supporters, the UM National Alumni Association has paused our regularly scheduled events and programming. We will continue to offer virtual events and modified services during this time. We look forward to resuming traditional alumni events when it is safe.

Please visit montevallo.edu/alumni-events for upcoming virtual events.

LET’S KEEP IN TOUCH!

UPDATE YOUR INFO at montevallo.edu/update.

Stay informed with the UMNAA monthly e-newsletter for alumni. Learn more at montevallo.edu/alumni-news.