I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself, and to thank a lot of hardworking Spartans. My name is Jeff Collins; I am a 1984 graduate of the Bryan School at UNCG. I have been a member of the Spartan Club for four years and have had the privilege of serving on the UNCG Alumni Association Board of Directors for the last two years. I am a lifelong resident of Guilford County. I am married to Suzy Maynard Collins, UNCG class of ‘85. We are raising two daughters, 16 and 22 years old. I am humbled by the opportunity you have given me to serve as president of your alumni association. You have my word that I will do my best to represent you and your interest as we work together to promote UNCG. I have been truly amazed by all that I have learned about UNCG during my time on the board. If you haven’t had a chance to visit campus lately you need to do so. The incredible students as well as our beautiful campus will make you proud to be a Spartan.

Homecoming will be October 21-27; we are revamping Homecoming to make it bigger and better than ever. Let’s use Homecoming 2013 to reconnect with our classmates and campus. We will open Spartan Village apartments this fall, and Homecoming would be a great time to tour Spartan Village as well as see all of the other campus changes that have taken place since your last visit.

Your UNCG Alumni Association Board is coming off of a busy year and preparing for another one. We will continue to grow our local alumni clubs, strengthen our recruitment effort with admissions, build on our newly launched web page, and look forward to welcoming Mary Landers as our new executive director. In the next few months our UNCG license plates should be all over North Carolina. You may now show your UNCG spirit every time you drive.

If you would like to find out more about how you can become more involved in your alumni association we would love to hear from you. Please contact us at alumni@uncg.edu. If you have any questions or concerns for me please contact me at jeffc@whitbymotorcars.com. I am honored to represent each of you and hope we will see each other on campus or on the road very soon.

JEFF COLLINS ‘84
UNCG Alumni Association President

A new way to connect
The Alumni Association web site got an updated look and so much more.

Visit alumni.uncg.edu and get information on events and ways to give, stay up-to-date on all the alumni news and see how you can stay connected. Whether it’s attending regional alumni club events, helping new Spartans feel welcome or signing up to be a social media ambassador, alumni have many opportunities to reach out to one another and give back to UNCG.

The new site also makes it easy to update your contact information, sign up as a volunteer for Homecoming and other events, order your Spartan license plate and more.

Check out alumni.uncg.edu and keep in touch.
Ah, the sounds of Homecoming – bands playing, children laughing, old friends chatting, fans cheering. What could be better?

If you haven’t made it out to Homecoming lately, this is your year. It has something for every alumnus, whether it’s been 5 years or 55 years since your graduation. Mark your calendar for Oct. 24-27.

This year’s festivities will be a special combination of the traditional events you’ve come to love and a few new features that will make this Homecoming 2013 particularly special. Events will kick off Oct. 24 with the Annual Alumni Awards, which, this year, will celebrate the Woman’s College era and the 50th anniversary of the last graduating class from WC. To mark the occasion, 10 women from each of the WC decades will be honored as women of distinction. The meal begins at 6 p.m. in Elliott University Center’s Cone Ballroom.

On Saturday, Oct. 26, the Homecoming celebration heats up again at 4 p.m. when alumni, students and friends come together for a Yard Party at Kaplan Commons in front of Elliott University Center. Enjoy live music on the main stage while dining on a barbecue feast with all the fixings. You won’t have to venture far to watch the Homecoming Parade or visit the Children’s Festival with the little ones, and just a few steps away you can grab a cold one in the beer garden while you catch up with old friends.

In addition, a number of organizations will be hosting alumni receptions at the tents dotting the Kaplan Commons lawn, including the UNCG Alumni Association; the Bryan School of Business and Economics; the School of Education; the School of Health and Human Sciences; the School of Music, Theatre and Dance; the School of Nursing; Lloyd International Honors College; Intercollegiate Athletics; Greek alumni and Rugby alumni.

Other don’t-miss events planned for Homecoming weekend include:

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<tr>
<td>• 20th Annual Bryan School golf tournament</td>
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<td>• Rugby alumni 36th annual past vs. present match, Campus Rec field</td>
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<td>• Women’s volleyball, Fleming Gym</td>
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<td>• Women’s soccer, Soccer Stadium</td>
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<td>• NBS jazz reception, Alumni House</td>
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<td>• Bonfire and pep rally, The Rawk</td>
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<th>Oct. 26</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Homecoming 5K, Campus Rec building</td>
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<td>• Men’s soccer vs. Georgia Southern, Soccer Stadium</td>
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<td>• Neo-Black Society 45th anniversary celebration, Cone Ballroom</td>
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<td>• Hip-hop weekend with MC Lyte, Aycock Auditorium</td>
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<td>• All Black Attire Party, Cone Ballroom</td>
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<th>Oct. 27</th>
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<tr>
<td>• NBS Choir Concert – Praise and Worship, Aycock Auditorium</td>
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To receive updates about Homecoming, visit [homecoming.uncg.edu](http://homecoming.uncg.edu), which will go live Aug. 15. Questions? Contact Donegan Root at d_root@uncg.edu.

New alumni director named

The Office of Alumni Relations has a new director, Mary Landers.

On Aug. 1, Landers will begin her tenure at UNCG. She is currently director of alumni and constituent relations at Rockhurst University in Kansas City, Mo. During her six years at Rockhurst, she implemented new alumni chapters, developed volunteer leadership opportunities, and worked closely with student philanthropy, alumni associations and career services.

Prior to her years at Rockhurst University, Landers worked at The University of Tulsa in Oklahoma. From 1999 to 2001, she was the assistant director of alumni relations in the Office of Institutional Advancement and was responsible for coordinating the university’s annual Homecoming, among other events. From 2001 to 2007, she was special event and campus visit coordinator for the Office of Admission.

“It is such an exciting opportunity to be invited into the UNCG community,” Landers said. “The Alumni Association, staff and campus leaders have started an incredible legacy that I look forward to building upon. Enhancing the UNCG alumni experience, building strong traditions and increasing the value of the UNCG degree will be a vital part of the strategic vision for the Alumni Association.”

NBS save the date

Amid all the reunions during Homecoming, one group will be celebrating a special anniversary. The Neo-Black Society Alumni Reunion will mark its 45th year during Homecoming weekend, Oct. 25-26.

If NBS was part of your Spartan experience, make plans to come out for this celebration.

**A heart for nursing**

**EVA GOMEZ '03 MSN** fell in love with nursing as a high school student volunteering at a newborn nursery in Puerto Rico.

“"I would actually hold the babies up to the glass for their families to see," she says. “That’s the kind of nursing I wanted to do, to be there at the bedside, holding babies.”

Eva, 41, now works at Boston Children’s Hospital, a Harvard-affiliated teaching institution. She wears many hats there: Training new nurses; teaching the electronic medical records system to doctors, nurses and staff; running cultural diversity initiatives; and setting up internships for high school students.

Eva’s call to be a nurse isn’t surprising. She is the daughter of health care professionals.

“Anytime somebody got sick or was hurting, I was first on the scene,” she says. “By my senior year in high school I knew nursing was what I wanted to do.”

She was living in Boone and working as a nurse when she enrolled in UNCG’s MSN program through an outreach location in Hickory.

“That opportunity really made college come alive for me,” she says. “I was so thrilled to be in school and to have access to that kind of quality education. I always speak highly of my alma mater.”

In addition to her role as a nurse, Eva is also a national spokesperson for the American Heart Association’s Go Red for Women campaign, an awareness and education campaign dedicated to fighting heart disease in women. She had valve replacement surgery three years ago to replace a leaky valve that was causing her aorta to expand.

Eva’s open heart surgery took her by surprise. She knew she had a heart murmur but had put off follow-up checks for almost 13 years. When she finally did see a cardiologist, what he found shocked her.

A congenital heart defect known as a bicuspid aortic valve was causing high blood pressure and shortness of breath. More worrisome was her expanding aorta, which looked, she says, “like a balloon full of water.”

Now the nurse who had taken care of so many people was the patient.

“I was literally scared to death,” she says. “When I came out of surgery and I was alive and in one piece, I knew I had to give something back.”

That need led her to contact the American Heart Association a few months after the surgery. As a bilingual Latina, she was the perfect spokesperson to reach Hispanic women about heart health.

“I think that we’re given some gifts and talents and it’s our job to use them for the greater good.”

The surgery has also given her a deeper appreciation for life.

“Every day is a blessing,” she says. “I never take it for granted.”

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**Share your news** Have a personal or professional accomplishment you would like to share? Visit us online and click on “Submit a class note.”

alumnimagazine.uncg.edu

You can also mail your information to Class Notes, UNCG Magazine, UNCG Alumni Relations, PO Box 26170, Greensboro, NC 27402-6170.
Blazing a trail
When JOY PONDER graduated from the UNCG master’s program in exercise and sport science in 1977, she returned home and immediately put her education to good use by creating the first wellness program for firefighters at the Asheville Fire Department.

But it didn’t take long for the lure of the fire truck to draw her into the fold. Soon she joined a firefighter training program and began riding on a truck. And she’s never looked back.

“Service is what I was called to do,” Joy said. “I just enjoy helping people in the community. I try to keep in mind that when people call the fire department, it is likely the worst day of their lives, and I have to treat everyone with respect and make sure they are safe.”

Last fall, Joy received the biggest honor of her career: She was promoted to the position of battalion chief, the first woman in the 248-member department to rise so high in the ranks.

Fire Chief Scott Burnette said Joy clearly was the best candidate for the job: “She has been a high performer in our department since the day she was hired.”

• Ability to manage emergencies? Check.
• Ability to manage resources? Check.
• Ability to solve problems? Check.
• Ability to develop and lead people? Check.

In a profession that is, by nature, reactive, it is Joy’s proactive leadership style that really stands out, Burnette said. “Rather than waiting for the alarm to sound, she can see needs in the community and work toward addressing those before they become an emergency.”

As battalion chief, Joy now supervises four fire stations and all the personnel assigned to them. One of her most important roles is to take charge and direct crews when a crisis unfolds. Her calm, level-headed nature comes in handy on the job.

Joy credits UNCG for helping prepare her for a leadership role. “It was a quality education that kept on giving,” she said. “I had that training behind me and that discipline. I had some great instructors. I learned a lot of valuable life lessons before I entered the full-time workforce.”

Joy also credits her family with providing the support she needed to successfully complete the training necessary for her new job. Son Bryson, 11, is among his mom’s biggest fans.

“Just the fact that he’s proud of me makes it worth it,” Joy said. “He loves for me to come to his school and talk about what I do.”

She may be one of only 12 female firefighters in the department, but Joy doesn’t consider herself a trailblazer. Her boss clearly does.

“As young women in our community are thinking through their career plans, they see a female that is very successful, that shows them first-hand that this is a job that as a female they can be successful at as well,” Burnette said.

Alumni deaths
REBECCA JOSIE “BECKY” BLANKENSHIP CARTER ’50
JOANNE FERGUSON SHELL ’50
BETTY TEAGUE TAYLOR ’50
BETTY WILSON JOHNSON BIDDELL ’51
FRANCES “FRANKIE” TAYLOR HARRIS ’51
ANNE WORSLEY HART ’51
NANCY PURVES PARKER ’51
JANIE CARLTON RUTHERFORD ’51
GERALYN HARMON BURCH ’52
VIRGINIA MAE “GINNY MAE” VAN DYKE KINNEY ’52
ROSE FINCHER PATTERSON ’52
DOROTHY WALTON WARREN ’52
BETTY MCCOY CULP ’53
MARY JOE KELLEY HANES ’53
JOAN JACOBI FALK ISAACSON ’53X
JANE REDWINE KNotts ’53
RUBY FAYE TAYLOR ’53
FRANCES B. EVANS ADAMO ’54
ANNE RIVERS TRIPP SUMMERS ’54, ’57 MED
EMMA Pickett Velis ’54
MARGARET “LOUISE” Lyn ’55, ’64 MED
JACQUELINE ANN MOSER ’57
BARBARA HUDGINS EDWARDS ’57
ANNA BUff PRAGO ’57
SHIRLEE ANN ELLER STEELE ’57 C
ANNA MAUDE “ANNE” BURNS ’58
PEGGY JEAN GRADY ELLIS ’58
LINDA REECE KENNERLY ’58, ’76 MED
PATRICIA CRUMPACKER LAWSON ’58
BARBARA KLEINERT STALLINGS ’58

Sympathy is extended to
JANICE MURCHISON JOHNSON ’62 in the death of her sister, BUE MURCHISON HAYWORTH ’42.
IZORIA SHEPPARD GORDON ’54 MED in the death of her husband, Ivey Bryce Gordon.
CHARLOTTE KIRBY MURPHY ’54 in the death of her daughter, Anne Kirby Barnhardt.
KAREN DEAL ’55 in the death of her husband, Henry Deal.
ANNE PITTS REID ’58 in the death of her husband, John Reid.

1960s
NORMA TURNAGE ’60 is the first female recipient of the Community Hero award from the Frederick E. Turnage Chapter of the American Red Cross. Norma has served on a number of state boards and commissions, including 10 years on the State Board of Education and the N.C. State Board of Community Colleges. She has also served as a member of the UNCG Board of Trustees.
CAROL MATNEY ’63 was elected to the Randolph Hospital Community Foundation Board of Directors in November. Carol retired from
Alumni deaths

THELMA L. HINSON ’60 MS
ANNE CRAIG HOWELL ’60
KAY C. KINSEY ’60
DONNA OLIVER SMITH ’60
DIANA A. JOHNSON ’62
JEAN WEBB TROGDON-SYKES ’62 MS
SUSAN ELIZABETH MOORE ’63 MFA
LYNN COOPER POWELL ’63
CAROL FULLER WEBB PULLEN ’63
GLORIA MARTIN WORTHINGTON ’65
MINTA MCCOLLUM SAUNDERS ’65, ’68 MA, ’72 PHD
EVELYN DORTON CASPER ’66 MED
SHARON WALTERS EUBANKS ’66
CLEMMELVY “CLEM” HUNTER WELCH ’66
KARON R. BUSH ’67
RONALD KEITH HARRIS ’67 MED
REV. CARL LESLIE ZIEGLER ’67 MED
JUDY “RAYE” PARRISH MIKLAS ’68
REV. JOHN WILLIAM SETTMYRE ’69 MED
PAUL JAMES SKIVER SR. ’68 MED

Sympathy is extended to

DOLORES MARTIN ’60 in the death of her husband of 50 years, Joseph Martin Jr.
JEAN HAYWORTH ANDERSON ’67 and BARBARA HAYWORTH GONZALEZ ’69 in the death of their mother, SUE MURCHISON HAYWORTH ’42.

1970s

LINDA CARLISLE ’72 received the Ethel N. Fortner Writer and Community Award from St. Andrews University for her work as secretary of the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources under former Gov. Bev Perdue.
ANN MENENHALL ’72 received an honorary lifetime membership by Presbyterian Women, the highest honor awarded by Presbyterian Women. The award is given as a tribute to a faithful member.

CAROL WALTERS ’74, ’77 MLS retired in November from her position as director of the Sandhills Regional Library System. She had been with SRLS for 31 years.

RANDY JOYNER ’75, ’79 MSBE co-authored the new edition of “Writing the Winning Thesis or Dissertation: A Step-By-Step Guide.” Randy is currently an adjunct professor in the department of curriculum and instruction in the Reich College of Education at Appalachian State University.

KATHY TISDALE ’76 is the national president and CEO of Camp Fire, the country’s first non-sectarian organization for girls and young women. Camp Fire serves more than 300,000 children, youth and teens annually in 28 states and the District of Columbia.

CHRIS CARTER ’78 became the city administrator for Georgetown, S.C., in February. Before that, Chris was the town administrator for Williston, S.C., and also served as the town administrator for both North Wilkesboro and Hendersonville.

SHARON ALLRED DECKER ’79 was appointed secretary of North Carolina’s Department of Commerce by Gov. Pat McCrory in January. Sharon spent more than 17 years with Duke Power Company, now Duke Energy, as the company’s first female vice president. She also founded the Lynnwood Foundation and began the William States Lee Leadership Institute.

Alumni deaths

JERMAYNE DENNY COOK ’71
PATTIE SMITH JONES ’71
PATI CUMMINGS ISACS ’72
JENNY HUBBARD KETNER ’72 MED
PAULINE ROBINSON FULTON ’73 MED
GLORIA ANN WALLACE THOMPSON ’73, ’84 MFA
DORIS WOFFORD ARMENAKI ’74
BETTY GWYNNE CLONTZ ’74
SUE MOORE ’74 MFA

Karen Anne Sledge Trotter ’74
Julie Elizabeth Whitchard ’74
Bobby Wayne Duncan ’75
Susan Diana Hensely Fisher ’76
Clinton Rex Hardy SR. ’76 EDD
Mark Cyrus Johnson ’76 MED
Claude R. Tate JR. ’77 MA
Mary Evelyn Tedder ’77 MLS
Jones Ross Albert ’78 EDD
Sharyn Wetherill HELLER ’78, ’77 MED
Virginia Shimier Rybski ’78
Willard Canby Robbins ’79 MBA
Marian Adams Spain ’79 MED

1980s

LOUIS B. GALLIEN JR. ’80 MA, ’87 EDD was appointed dean of the Reich College of Education at Appalachian State University. Before joining ASU, he was the dean of the School of Education and Human Services at Oakland University in Rochester, Mich.

CINDY LIVENGOOD ’80 retired in June as director of DavidsonWorks. Cindy spent 33 years working in Davidson County beginning as a youth employment counselor.

TINA WOODRUFF ’81 is president and designer of Simple Pleasures, Inc. Simple Pleasures is a ladies fine sleepwear and lounge company. Tina was the featured artist in the January 2013 edition of Jewelry Affair magazine.

JIM AMASH ’82, ’86 MFA co-edited a book about the life and work of Matt Baker, a comic book artist. Jim is also a comic book artist.

Lynn James ’92 is the new development director of the Pitt Community College Foundation, the primary fundraising organization for Pitt Community College. She is responsible for coordinating PCC Foundation fundraising events and assisting with the college’s Excellence Fund Campaign.

KENDRA SMITH MARTIN ’83 leads the Brand Owners Council of the Plastics Industry Trade Association (SPI) in Washington, D.C. SPI promotes growth in the U.S. plastics industry.

LOUISE BRODY ’84, ’90 joined Moore Beaudon & Woodham LLP as a senior accountant in the firm’s tax and business consulting practice in North Charleston, S.C. Louise is a certified public accountant with more than 22 years of experience.

CHRIS FIELDS ’84 was featured in footage in David Franco’s “How to Survive a Plague,” which was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Documentary. The footage of him is from the late 1980s when he was involved in ACT-UP, a group featured in the film. Chris works at Alamance Regional Medical Center in valet services.

DEAN JONES ’84 is the writer and director of “Nevermore,” a movie focusing on ghosts and the supernatural that was filmed in Alamance County. Dean is an Emmy-award winning makeup artist whose films include “Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man’s Chest.” He is also well known in the Triad for his annual Halloween production “Original Halloween Horror Show” in Snow Camp, which has become one of the largest haunted attractions in the United States.

KEVIN WHITEHEART ’94 opened his law office in Arcadia, N.C., in January. Kevin said he chose Arcadia because it is close to the Forsyth County Courthouse in Winston-Salem and the Davidson County Courthouse in Lexington, where he practices most often.

Alumni authors

KIM KESTERSON-TRONE ’85, ’91 MFA had her artwork featured at a First Friday event in Black Mountain. Kim began painting when she was 6 and says she draws inspiration from the joy and beauty in her life.

PAMELA T. HILBERT ’86 became the fourth president of Robeson Community College in March. Pamela previously served as vice president of academic affairs at Pitt Community College in Greenville.


Kim Kesterson-Trone ’85, ’91 MFA

If you had told DALE DUNCAN ’82, ’88 MM 20 years ago that he would one day win a national LifeChanger award for his teaching, he might not have believed you.

“The first three years of teaching were awful. I felt like a failure every day when I went home,” says Dale, a middle school choral teacher at Henderson Middle School in Atlanta, Ga. One student told him he needed to call their former teacher and ask how to teach.

“What an eye opener,” he says. “They chewed me up and spit me out, and I deserved it.”

But Dale, an athlete as well as a performer, wasn’t a quitter. He dug in, and in his fourth year of teaching, something shifted. He learned what worked best for him and what worked best for the students.

That included simply relaxing and being himself.

“I let them see facets of my life; it made me a three-dimensional person,” he says. “I showed I cared – asking about their lives, looking into their eyes and relating to them as human beings.”

He also learned music could be a passion for them.

“I could share the things that drew me to music. Once you get them passionate, they’re there.”

Middle school isn’t the easiest age to teach, but the students are at a good age for passion. They don’t have as many obligations as high school students and can really have fun.

“I love their silliness. They make me laugh,” Dale says. “And they are enormously loyal.”

Through the years, he has heard a number of teachers say students don’t respect them, and they should because they are authority figures.

“It’s not about ‘should be.’ You need to get them what they need to learn the material,” he says. “I show them love, but I’m not easy on them. I hold them accountable. If you show them respect, they will respond to you.”

This year, his students paid him the ultimate compliment by nominating him for the LifeChanger of the Year Award.

Four hundred teachers were nominated. Dale was one of 10 national winners.

On the nomination site, more than 300 people wrote about the difference he made in their lives. A sampling:

“Mr. Duncan is an amazing teacher. He believes in his students and pushes them to be the best they can be and beyond.”

“I always look forward to chorus, no matter how early in the morning.”

“I am 22 and still remember every song he taught me in 7th and 8th grade. He is such a remarkable and dedicated teacher. He knows how to connect with students of any demographic, and make us all feel accepted. He is serious about what he does, because he knows that we can do great things with our lives. He has made such a large impact on my life. No one ever gave me the comments. All 307 of them.

If you check that site, you’ll see that he responded to the comments. All 307 of them.

“It was incredibly rewarding,” he says. “Reflecting on that was profound. I’m grateful for it on a high, high level.”

Remembering his difficult his first years in the classroom, Dale has sympathy for all new teachers.

“They need more help, period. They do not get what they need. It’s sink or swim.”

Even though it was difficult for him, he is glad he persevered.

“Teaching is definitely the hardest thing in my whole life. It was so difficult to get to the level I wanted to be, to serve kids in the best possible way,” he says. “I am grateful beyond measure I am where I am today.”

Donald Hampton ’87

Donald Hampton ’87 is the first principal of Smith Farm Elementary. Before being named principal at Smith Farm Elementary, Donald was principal of Middle Fork Elementary.

W. STARR JONES ’87 is a producer on the film “Nevermore,” which focuses on ghosts and the supernatural. Starr’s brother, Dean, is the writer and director of the movie, which was filmed in Alamance County. Starr also is a makeup artist who has worked on more than 80 movies and 200 television episodes, including the Academy-Award nominated “Lincoln.”

BRIAN MORRIS ’87 earned his doctorate in educational leadership/higher education from Western Carolina University. Brian is the department head of Fine & Applied Arts for Catawba Valley Community College.

NORA PARKER ’87 MED was named principal of the year for Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools. Nora is principal of Jefferson Elementary School.

GEORGE A. CROOKER III ’88 is the new CEO of the Stanley County YMCA. George is just the fifth person to lead the YMCA in Stanley County and came from a YMCA in Baton Rouge, where he was group executive director.

MICKEY FREEMAN ’88 is president and CEO of Education Funding Partners. EFP matches Fortune 500 companies with large public school districts that agree to accept financial compensation for allowing marketing programs through school web sites and on campus. “Today, with the public no longer fully funding public education, even ‘wealthy’ school districts need funds to increase achievement,” he said in an article in the Harvard Business School Alumni Bulletin. “EFP helps arrange ethical, appropriate and sustainable marketing sponsorships that are sanctioned by each participating school district.”

JEN HAMES ’88 is one of three people named to the Tourism Recreation Investment Partnership for Davidson County Foundation in February. Jen is the health education supervisor/health promotion coordinator with the Davidson County Health Department.
SUSAN KLUTTZ ’88 was appointed by Gov. Pat McCrory as secretary of the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources. She was Salisbury’s longest-serving mayor and is still a member of the City Council.

JEREMY BRAY ’89, ’92 MA was promoted to senior fellow at RTI International. Jeremy is a health economist at the company, focusing on the economics of substance abuse and mental health and the economic evaluation of behavioral health interventions.

JULIE RHYNE CHAMBERLAIN ’89 MM, ’03 PhD received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Wingate University. The award honors alumni who have been leaders in their communities and exemplify the institution’s motto. Julie is an associate professor of music and the director of the Sacred Music Concentration at Catawba College.

ALUMNI DEATHS

DAVID E. BURNETTE ’90
REBECCA ELIZABETH “BECKY” LOWDER PEELER ’80
IVALEE KEEN ’61 MED
KATHERINE KELLER “KATY” MAULTSBY ’82 MSN
CAROLYN BOGER ’85 MSN
WARREN “BUDDY” CLEMENT COKER JR. ’85 MPA
JAMES NOLAN ETTERS ’86 PHD
SUSAN MURPHY SAUNDERS ’86 MLS
JEAN WEBB TROGDON SYKES ’86 PHD
JUDITH “JUDY” GILLIAM BULLA ’87 MS
ANGEL CHAVIS-ROCKER ’87
CMOR. JAMES REDMAN LOMAX ’87 MA
LISA M. BLALOCK ’89 MFA

SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO
TY BUCKNER ’84 and JOHN BUCKNER ’88 in the death of their father, Raymond Tyrus “Ray” Buckner Jr.

LYNN WRIGHT-KERNODLE ’90 EDD was honored by the North Carolina Humanities Council with an endowed scholarship in her name. Lynn is the director of the Teachers Institute program, which offers professional development seminars. The scholarship will benefit North Carolina public school educators who participate in the program.

TOM SMITH ’90 MM is a 2013 inductee into the Jazz Education Hall of Fame. Tom is a professor of music at NINGBO University in China. He founded NBU’s jazz program, the first full-time jazz program in the country.

RONNIE BYRD ’91 joined CommunityOne Bank, NA as a mortgage loan officer in Burlington. Ronnie has eight years of experience in the mortgage industry.

ROBERT VAN CAMP ’91 is an Emmy-winning filmmaker whose documentary “Great Scenic Railway Journeys” grew into a popular PBS series that premiered its 13th installment, “Trains Around North America,” in February.

DANIEL FOUNTAIN ’93 MA spoke at Sampson Community College on African American slavery and Christianity during the Civil War in February. Daniel is an author and an associate professor and public history director at Meredith College. He has also appeared on NBC’s “Who Do You Think You Are?” helping award-winning actor/director/producer Blair Underwood explore his family roots.

MOLLY SPURGEON ’93 MED teaches first grade at Shannon Forest Christian School in Greenville, S.C.

JOHN BROWN ’94 performed with his jazz orchestra for students in Sampson County as part of A Tour of Jazz. John is the director of the jazz program and associate professor of the practice of music at Duke University. He has performed with artists such as Wynton Marsalis, Diahann Carroll, Rosemary Clooney and many others.

BLAIR SECHEST ’94 exhibited her jewelry and examples of glass art at a Family and Friends Exhibit at Hastings Gallery in the Boyd Library on the campus of Sandhills Community College.

DWIGHT THOMPSON ’94 is the manager of the Jamestown Wells Fargo branch. Before moving to the Jamestown branch, Dwight was a personal banker at the Brassfield branch in Greensboro.

DAMION (DAME) MOORE ’95 is co-owner of Dame’s Chicken & Waffles in Greensboro. Damion shares ownership of the restaurant with fellow UNCG alumnus RANDY WADSWORTH ’95. The business evolved from Dame’s small catering service.

HARRY “JR” CLARK JR. ’96, ’99 MSN, ’03 MBA is the director of Emergency Services for Southeastern Health in Lumberton. Prior to joining Southeastern, JR was director of inpatient surgical services for Cone Health System in Greensboro.

TODD SOUTHDAY ’96 was named 2013 Outstanding Teacher of American History by the North Carolina Society, Daughters of the American Revolution. Todd teaches history at Bethany Community Middle School.

LAKEISHA VANCE ’96, ’00, ’04 MS was named the faculty liaison to the Alamance Community College Foundation. Lakeisha is a web technologies instructor at the college and has been with ACC for more than eight years.

DANA EURE ’97 MLS was chosen as the North Carolina library director of the year by the N.C. Public Library Directors Association. Dana has been director of the Cabarrus County Public Library for three years.

CHERYE MCLEOD LEWIS ’99, ’01 MFA performed a concert as part of Davidson County Community College’s 50th anniversary. The evening celebrated the rich musical history of America, including spirituals and popular Broadway songs.

ALUMNI DEATHS

CHARLES CANDLER MCCONNELL JR. ’90 EDD
ROGER JAMES PIERCE ’91
JUDITH WILEM TURNER ’91
TRACEY BOOTH SNIPES ’92, ’07 PHD
BETTY COX NESTER ’93
ROBERT MACON WOODARD ’96, ’08 MS
JOAN MILLER MATHEWS ’97 EDD
WYATT LEE MARTIN ’97
JAMIE GARTNER MOODY ’99
NIEKA LUCIAN WRIGHT ’99

SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO
WILL BUCKNER ’93 in the death of his father, Raymond Tyrus “Ray” Buckner Jr.

DEANA IOLE MELTON ’94 MS, ’02 EDD in the death of her father, Benito Bonaccorsi.

Send us your photos
Not only do we want to hear from you, we’d like to see you too.

Starting in the fall, we will publish pictures of your milestones, such as weddings, births and reunions. All you have to do is send us your photos.

A few things to keep in mind:
• Digital images need to be high resolution for print (at least 300 dpi).
• Please identify everyone in the photo and be sure to include your name (including your maiden name, if applicable), graduation year and degree.
• Photographs from a professional photographer must be accompanied by a release form from the photographer.
• While we welcome wedding photos and baby pictures, we will not publish engagement or pregnancy pictures.
• Finally, depending on photo quality and/or volume of submissions, we may not be able to publish every photo we receive.

Send your pictures to beth.english@uncg.edu as an email attachment. Please use “Class Note Photo” as your subject line. Or you can mail a print to Class Note Photo, Beth English, UNCG-University Relations, 1100 W. Market Street, Suite 201, P.O. Box 26170, Greensboro, NC 27402-6170. Mailed photos cannot be returned.

1990s

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2000s

CATHERINE GENTRY ’00 MSA is serving as the interim principal of Davidson Early College High School. Catherine began teaching in 1994 and joined Davidson County Schools in 2000. She is currently pursuing her doctorate in educational leadership.

uncg magazine  Summer 2013
Collector of legacies

ROBIN BOYLORN ’00, ’03 MA says she came to UNCG as a “country black girl” who rarely — if ever — saw people with her background reflected in literature.

Now, with a doctoral degree in hand, the University of Alabama faculty member is working to change that. With the publication of her new books — “Sweetwater: Black Women and Narratives of Resilience,” which she wrote, and the forthcoming “Critical Autoethnography: Intersecting Cultural Identities in Everyday Life,” which she co-edited — Robin, 34, is blazing a trail to make sure populations whose perspectives usually aren’t heard have a voice.

“One of the reasons I study the populations that I do — women, in particular rural black women and other marginalized groups — is because as a country black girl who didn’t have a whole lot of experience outside of my home community, I was somewhat intimidated,” she explains. “I sought out representations of myself and I didn’t find very many.

“I think that’s problematic. That sends a message, when you can’t find representation of yourself, that you are non-normative and reconfirms the idea that you don’t matter. I want to push against that and resist that. I want to fill in the gaps, so that the next generation of country black girls who go to college will be able to find themselves in something that I wrote.”

Searching for stories, she looked to her home community in Chatham County for inspiration. The material she collected — tales of resilience and empowerment, as she describes them — inspired not only the research for her thesis and dissertation, but were also the basis for her first book.

“When I went back to the community to live for a while, I was welcomed back with open arms. I felt at home and fully myself,” Robin says. “The longer I was in the community, (I realized) the narrative of these women was important — not just to chronicle their lives but to chronicle mine.

“Collecting their stories was collecting my legacy.”

Likewise, Robin is quick to share her own story. As a scholar and autoethnographer who focuses on diversity and social identity, she makes aspects of her life transparent in an attempt to facilitate dialogue — even when sharing her personal thoughts and feelings leads her to difficult emotional territory.

“I’ve made a commitment to being transparent and open for the benefit of other people ... But it can be difficult sometimes. I recently worked on a piece about my father’s absence that took me to some emotional places that I wasn’t ready to go through.”

Her work has been published on the Ebony magazine web site and on the blog for the Crunk Feminist Collective, a group of hip-hop generation feminists of color, to which she belongs. The Collective’s blog is an avenue she uses “as a way of thinking through and publically writing about — and ranting about — issues that are important to me, and I realized are important to other people as well.”

It’s also a way to extend her scholarship outside of the classroom. “The work I’m doing isn’t about how it makes me feel but how it can help other people,” she says. “I try to remind myself of the 18, 19-year-old version of me who was looking for something.”

EUGENE MABRY ’00 MM is the teacher of the year at Southeast Middle School. Gene is the band director at the school, and has been with the school since it opened.

MICHAEL BUTLER ’01, ’08 MED, ’11 CERT took over as principal of Roanoke Valley Early College in January.

TANYA OLSON ’01 PhD was one of several instructors at the Spring 2013 Vance-Granville Community College Creative Writing Camp in March. Tanya is an instructor at VGCC and an award-winning poet. Her first book is being published this year.

DEANNA CHESTER ’03 MA received the 2012 Great Teacher Award at Caldwell Community College & Technical Institute. The award recognizes excellent service by a CCC&TI instructor. DeAnna teaches communications on the college Watauga campus.

ALICIA GIDDENS ’03 became the Warren County Senior Center director last fall. Alicia’s grandfather served as the center’s director for a number of years and her great-grandmother was one of the founding board members.

NAKITA THOMAS ’03, a special education teacher at Cape Fear Middle School, was one of 10 finalists for the Fishman Prize, which recognizes exceptionally effective teachers working in high-poverty public schools. This year, nearly 600 teachers from 44 states applied.

TIFFANY DANIELLE EGGLESTON ’06 graduated magna cum laude in December from North Carolina Central University with a degree in medical health counseling.

JIMMEKA ANDERSON ’07 launched the nonprofit I AM not the MEdia, which offers more than 20 programs devised to help teenagers improve their self-esteem and deal with bullying. Jimmeka is also a teen services specialist and event coordinator.

ERIN B. DOUGHERTY ’07 MFA received tenure at Catawba College. Erin is an assistant professor in theatre arts. She joined the Catawba faculty in 2007.

GINGER JONES ’07 performed with the Columbia Symphony Orchestra at “A Spiritual Christmas,” featuring African-American spirituals and sacred music set to a holiday theme. Ginger is a mezzo-soprano who has performed with the University of South Carolina Symphony Orchestra, the Lake Murray Symphony Orchestra, Masterworks Choir and the Palmetto Opera.

MARY FOSTER ’09 MSA was honored as Assistant Principal of the Year for Davie County schools. Mary is the assistant principal at Shady Grove.

Alumni deaths

KAREN FAWCETT KELLY ’00 MED
RICKY DAVID GLAZE ’02
ALUMNI MARRIAGES

AMANDA EUGENIA JONES ’04 married Adam Reid Gaines in Greensboro. Amanda works at S&L Natural Foods. The couple spent their honeymoon in Jamaica and live in Greensboro.


EVA REBECCA DREW DAVIS ’09 married Alexander Keith Forbes on Thanksgiving Day in Texas. Eva is a social worker for the state of Texas, and Alexander is a federal police officer. They live in Troy, Texas.

SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO PARISA HOUSSHAMPOUR ’07 in the death of her brother, Dr. Payman Houshmpour.

2010s

LIANE ELIZABETH ELIAS ’10, ’12 MLIS received a scholarship to attend the 2013 ALA Midwinter meeting. Liane is the reference and instructional services assistant at UNCG’s Jackson Library and one of five selected to receive a scholarship.

PATRICK FITZGERALD ’10 MLIS is the new director of the Harnett County Library. Prior to his new position, he served as manager of three branches in the Rockingham Public Library system.

SEROBIA GARRIS ’10 performed with “Four Voices” at First Presbyterian Church in Gastonia in January. Serobia is a soprano and also a general music specialist in the Mooresville Graded School District. The ensemble performed classical pieces as well as a few Broadway and popular tunes.

MICHAEL MARTINEZ ’10 performed with “Four Voices” at First Presbyterian Church in Gastonia in January. Michael is a baritone and serves as the chorus director at Crest High School in Shelby, where he creates mash-ups and arrangements for the students.

DANIEL MORRIS ’10 is a business banker with Randolph Bank in West Pointe, N.C. Daniel has been with Randolph Bank since 2009. He also serves on the board of directors at The Dream Center of Randolph County.

COREY STEWART ’10 PhD appeared as a guest speaker at Surry Community College’s annual black history program. Corey spoke about the social history of the Revolutionary period, including events in Surry County.

MEAGAN WEATHERLY ’10 wrote an article on the best way to hang and display artwork in Alamance Magazine. She is an interior designer.

ASLAN FREEMAN ’11 is the lead singer and guitarist for the band Uniifer, which just released its new album “Colorado.”

AMANDA NICHOLAS ’11 MFA was a judge for the 2103 Frank Stick Memorial Art Show, the longest running visual art exhibition in Dare County. Amanda works with a variety of media, including drawing, painting and monotype printmaking.

TERRY HOBGOOD ’12 MLIS took over as cultural arts director of Benson in October. Terry has also worked in various capacities at several institutions including the Greensboro Public Library and Wake County Public Library.

CECILE NETTLES ’12 is a private in the U.S. Army who recently completed basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

HANNAH NICHOLS ’12 serves as the Mitchell County Family and Consumer Science Area Extension Agent. Hannah is responsible for the development, implementation, evaluation and marketing of an educational program in family and consumer science for Mitchell and Yancey counties.

ALUMNI DEATHS

SPC. DAVID TYLER PROCTOR ’12

KRISTEN ANN ROSS ’12 MLIS

ALUMNI MARRIAGES

AMANDA ROSE HICKS ’11 and SAMUEL THOMAS JONES ’11 married in December in East End. Amanda is a teacher at East Lee Middle School, and Samuel teaches at Southern Lee High School. They live in Sanford.

ALLIE BROOKE RHEW ’11 wed Joel Roberts Stevens in November 2012 in Timberlake. Allie is an employee of PRA in Raleigh, and Joel works at MasTec in Cary.

VICTORIA ALEXIS NIXON ’12 and Benjamin Chambers Bailless married in High Point in December. Victoria is an art teacher at Westchester Country Day School, and Benjamin is a regional sales manager with Medical Justice Services, Inc. They live in Greensboro.

FACULTY/STAFF DEATHS

DR. EDWARD MCCORDAY, a professor of biology at UNCG for 31 years, died in January. He served in the U.S. Air Force piloting B-47 bombers during the Cold War before earning his doctorate in biology. He is survived by his wife of 57 years and their three children.

DORIS WOFFORD ARMENAKI, professor of nursing, died Feb. 5. She graduated from North Georgia College, a predominantly male military school, in 1942 and served in the Cadet Nurse Corps and the Army Nurse Corps during World War II. She attended nursing school at UNCG and earned her bachelor’s degree in 1974. After earning her MSN at the University of Alabama, she taught medical-surgical nursing at UNCG from 1975 until 1992. She served as the coordinator of the outreach RN-BSN program for several years and served as a member of the UNCG Alumni Association, a member of Sigma Theta Tau honor society of nursing, member of American Nurses Association and a recruiter for students to the nursing program.

DR. JEAN WEBB TROGODON-SYKES, who taught home economics at UNCG from the 1960s until her retirement in 1986, died Feb. 10. She was a 1962 alumna of UNCG.

DENISE ANN HOLLAS, assistant director of UNCG’s Child Care Education Program, died Feb. 27. Denise worked tirelessly to advocate child welfare with state and national agencies. She is survived by her husband, son, parents and many other family members.

DR. MARY CARLETON MILLER, a faculty member in the former department of home economics, died Feb. 28. She was instrumental in establishing the Department of Interior Design in the School of Home Economics, which is now the Department of Interior Architecture in the School of Human Environmental Sciences. She was a 1941 alumna of UNCG.

YAN WU ’01 MS, assistant director for the Division of Continual Learning, died in April. Wu worked at UNCG for more than 10 years and managed the Technology Planning Group solving complex problems for UNCG’s Division of Continual Learning online courses and infrastructure.

DR. JOAN MILLER MATHIES, a retired faculty member from the School of Nursing, died April 30. She served on faculty in the Adult Health Department until her retirement in 1999. She taught both BSN and MSN students and continued to serve as an adjunct faculty member. She was a 44-plus year member of Chi Eta Phi Sorority Inc, an international sorority with diverse cultural and educational members. Mathies served continuously from 1999 until her death as faculty advisor and Beta sponsor for the Chi Eta Phi local chapter, and she received the organization’s highest honor in 2009.

DR. RUBY GILBERT BARNES, professor emeritus of nursing, died April 30. Barnes retired in 1986 as director of the MSN program after a 50-year career in nursing education. She was a member of the UNCG School of Nursing Advisory Board and supporter of graduate nursing students through the Ruby Gilbert Barnes Scholarship Fund.

DR. CAROL BLUE, a professor in the Department of Community Practice, Nursing, died May 12. She joined UNCG School of Nursing in 2004 and taught in the PhD and MSN programs, with a focus on health promotion and prevention research and theory. She was a certified health education specialist, a long-time member of the American Public Health Association, co-editor of the book “Public Health Nursing: Policy, Politics and Practice,” and a 30-year member of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing.


RAY (STOGIE) DAVIS, a retired UNCG Facilities Operations employee, died June 1. He worked for 52 years in various maintenance trade positions, with the last 23 employed at UNCG.

DR. DALE BRUBAKER, longtime professor in the School of Education’s Department of Educational Leadership and Cultural Foundations, died June 6. Prior to his retirement in 2006, Brubaker directed the Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership. He authored or co-authored numerous books on educational leadership, curriculum, teaching, dissertation research and writing.

CHARLES LYNAM, professor emeritus of music, died June 8. LYNAM joined the UNCG faculty in 1964, was the recipient of a UNCG Alumni Teaching Excellence Award in 1979 and was named Teacher of the Year in the School of Music for 1999. Many of his students have won vocal competitions at the local, district, regional and national levels (particularly in the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions) and are now successful professional singers; numerous others are teaching at leading colleges and universities. He retired from UNCG in 2005.
Celebrating ‘Service’ with a Park Night tradition

Some traditions last and others fade. University Archivist Erin Lawrimore found one that involved high ideals and outdoor theatre.

From 1920 through 1935, the Friday evening of commencement weekend at the North Carolina College for Women (later Woman’s College and now UNCG) featured a ceremony known as Park Night. This allegorical drama typically took place in an outdoor theater constructed in Peabody Park. The production featured a character named Service (meant to represent the ideals of the school) as well as her attendants Mind, Body and Spirit.

In a July 25, 1927, letter, alumna Julia Cherry Spruill discussed the origins of Park Night. Spruill had been appointed chair of a committee to promote school spirit amongst students. She was asked to highlight particular features of the school that made her most proud. Spruill recalled deciding “our park was our peculiar possession of which we were particularly proud, and that we could have some symbolical exercises down there which would represent the highest ideals of our college.” She consulted with President Julius Foust, who agreed to sponsor the production and to clear some land in Peabody Park for a theater.

Selection of the student to portray Service was conducted by secret ballot. A 1929 Carolinian article noted, “This is the highest honor that a student can win at this college and goes each year to the girl in the senior class who in the opinion of her associates has rendered the most outstanding service during her college career.” For example, the role of Service in 1926 went to Georgia Kirkpatrick of Efland. Kirkpatrick was class president, a charter member and president of the Alethian Society, member of the Faculty-Student Council, cabinet member of the Athletic Association, member of the Playlikers, and a staff member of both the Carolinian newspaper and the Pine Needles yearbook.

The script for Park Night was written by the students, with the intent of becoming a yearly tradition. The production began with a prologue in the form of a dance. It was followed by a dramatic processional that featured 50 students dressed in white robes, carrying lit torches, and singing the college song. Service and her attendants then entered, and each attendant presented Service with allegorical gifts, often through a solo dance as well as a lyrical Grecian-style poem. After the individual presentations, Service spoke, accepting the gifts and giving a dramatic monologue. The production concluded with an epilogue featuring “a Dance to the Future.”

Although the tradition of Park Night ended in 1935 when graduating seniors decided to forgo the production in favor of honoring a number of leading classmates in a formal ceremony, “Service” remains the motto of UNCG today. From the words of Service’s concluding monologue: “When full liberty, sweetness and joy have driven out misery and night, we shall live in the light of the glorious day when Service has won all the earth.”

For more UNCG history, visit Spartan Stories at http://uncghistory.blogspot.com/

What were some of your favorite WC/UNCG traditions? Send your comments to beth_english@uncg.edu or Beth English, UNCG-University Relations, 1100 W. Market Street, Suite 201, P.O. Box 26170, Greensboro, NC 27402-6170. Responses may be used in the next issue.