VIRGINIA TECH







WE'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE A look back at the 1918 Spanish Flu pandemic

AT YOUR SERVICE Alumni answer the call of *Ut Prosim*











IN THIS TOGETHER







2020 VISION UNWAVERING IN UNPRECEDENTED TIMES

CONTENTS

THEN AND NOW

The Spanish Flu, also known as the 1918 flu pandemic, infected around 500 million people—nearly a third of the world's population—between February 1918 and April 1920. With no vaccine to protect humans against the infection and no antibiotics to treat secondary bacterial infections, control efforts worldwide were limited to isolation, quarantine, good personal hygiene, use of disinfectants, and limited public gatherings. Unfortunately, these efforts were applied unevenly. At least 650,000 people died in the U.S. and 50 million worldwide.

At Virginia Polytechnic Institute, response to the 20th-century pandemic involved an interruption of coursework for students and professors and an increase in outreach efforts to assist communities as they adjusted to the stressful experience. Similar actions have been employed during the present-day response to COVID-19, including the use of masks.

For details about Virginia Tech's work to stop the spread then and now, see the stories on pages 22 and 36.

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22 2020 VISION

Examinations are administered to measure students' progress. The COVID-19 pandemic has provided such a test for the university's vision, revealing strengths, identifying opportunities for growth, and advancing momentum toward the future.

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When the Spanish Flu struck the U.S. in 1918, Virginia Tech responded by canceling classes and offering support to communities in need. Current students studied the historic challenge to identify differences and similarities to the coronavirus pandemic of 2020.

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ON THE COVER: During the spring and summer of 2020, computer screens filled with squares from which the faces of family, friends, teachers, and colleagues invited us to connect virtually, became the norm. Although Hokies, who were encouraged to stay safe at home, lived in a variety of rural and urban locations around the globe, they shared many similar experiences, such as empty grocery store shelves, drive-by celebrations, mask wear, and traffic-free streets.



THE GREAT PIVOT

I hope this summer message finds you safe and well. As the challenges of 2020 have unfolded, the Hokie community across the country and around the world is never far from my mind. Our thoughts are with those who have suffered loss, and we are grateful to all the essential workers who are putting the needs of others first and demonstrating their commitment to our motto, *Ut Prosim* (That I May Serve).

Since early spring, we have all been adapting continuously to a steady flow of information, directives, challenges, and opportunities. Virginia Tech is a microcosm of the world when it comes to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact of racism—past and present, systemic and overt.

The pandemic initiated a rapid move to remote online teaching and learning in mid-March, a forced experiment that was largely successful, if not entirely satisfying. The nature of the coming academic year has been more difficult to predict. Working collaboratively with university leaders and faculty, we have developed a plan that blends in-person and online learning while reducing the potential for exposure to the coronavirus. The most up-to-date information about our plan and detailed answers to the questions that many of you may have are available online at **vt.edu/ready**.

The pandemic has shown how Hokies come together to use their world-class expertise and skills to help others. Our university researchers responded to the dire need for rapid testing; enterprising students, alumni, and employees used their skills to address shortages of critical equipment and supplies; Virginia Cooperative Extension agents continued to serve by moving quickly online; and our campus and community hosted a federal personal protective equipment (PPE) decontamination site.

With respect to Virginia Tech's fiscal status, we are fortunate to be experiencing a period of rapidly growing student demand, increasing support from research sponsors, and our highest levels of philanthropic support ever. This strong momentum has placed us in a more resilient position than many institutions, but we know that we will face substantial financial challenges moving forward.

And even as we manage our response to the pandemic, our community, like others across our nation, is grappling with events that stand in opposition to our ideals of freedom, justice, and equality. From the disparities in COVID-19 outcomes across racial, ethnic, and economic divides to the unrelenting burden of racism, we fall short of what we say we are all about. This moment offers an unprecedented opportunity to transform our ideals into realities. At Virginia Tech, we have anchored that aspiration in our Principles of Community, but principles become meaningful only if they are acted upon.

It is reasonable to assume that we will be living with COVID-19 for the foreseeable future, and we know that the change needed to meaningfully move toward real equality will not happen quickly. During this time, we must rely on each other. We know that the world needs Hokies now more than ever, and Virginia Tech needs you. In the months to come, we look forward to sharing more about Virginia Tech's efforts to improve health, equity, and inclusion in our communities and in higher education. We invite you to partner with us. Those of us who enjoy privilege cannot remain on the sidelines; our vision for the future and the spirit of *Ut Prosim* call us to action. ■

Tim Sands is Virginia Tech's 16th president.

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Leland,

LETTERS

TO THE EDITOR

DEFINING MOMENTS

Virginia Tech is truly a special place; it was there that I met the love of my life. Our home is filled with VT décor and our closets dominated by VT clothing. When traveling, we'll sport the maroon and orange, and we never come up empty. Our strong ties to VT are reflected in many different aspects of our lives. We are Hokie Club members, and we are happy to give back to our university.

On Dec. 19, 2018, I was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. From the moment I was diagnosed, I never wavered in my belief that "we" would beat this disease. Cancer is a team sport, and I knew I had the best team to help me through some dark times. My daughter, Whitney, reached out to Whit Babcock and others to convey my passion for VT. After a complex and risky surgery, I came home to a letter in our mailbox. It was a handwritten note from Justin Fuente, who encouraged me to "Fight like a Hokie." My daughter set up a Facebook group, "Hokie Strong for Doug," to update people on my battle. My niece, Megan Rodriguez, was a senior in the Marching Virginians at the time. The group posted a video of the band members chanting, "Hokie Strong," which had been recorded at the Military Bowl. I recently passed the one-year mark, and I am cancer-free. This would never have been possible without my wife, Tracey. VT spirit helped me conquer a formidable disease.

Doug Weigold '86 Leland, North Carolina

MUSIC HISTORY

I am excited to share the news of a newly approved historical marker that will be erected in my small hometown. The marker will recognize Blackstone, Virginia, as the location where "Tech Triumph," the Virginia Tech fight song, was composed.

I am a former softball scholarship athlete who attended Tech from 2001-05. I thought this could potentially be an interesting addition to the story you printed about the history of the song and town (p. 68, spring 2020).

Thank you for your time, and GO HOKIES!

Sarah Jeffries '05 Moseley, Virginia

FROM THE EDITOR ; A LITTLE DIFFERENT

Most of our summer stories reflect the unusual, yet universal, experiences that people around the world shared during this unprecedented time. Many of the photographs and screen captures were contributed by Hokies through our social media channels. If you recognize yourself in one of these photos, please let us know so that we can update our online magazine. Years from now, when you come across this magazine on a shelf, it will serve as a reminder of this unique period in time and the resilience, service, and spirit that are synonymous with being Hokies.

A CAPITAL PROJECT: In April, Virginia Tech unveiled architectural renderings for an Innovation Campus building in the greater Washington, D.C., metro area.

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NEWS

BUILDING DESIGN TO FEATURE SUSTAINABLE SPACES, HOKIE STONE

PLANS FOR A NEW VIRGINIA TECH INNOVATION CAMPUS building released in April feature a design centered on the principles of sustainability, green and social spaces, accessibility, integrated technology, and, of course, Hokie Stone.

L_____

Architectural renderings of the building-designed by Smith-Group, one of the world's preeminent integrated design firms-showcase a 300,000-square-foot academic building that incorporates daylight while addressing solar heat gain, glare, and comfort. Occupants will have access to nature through connection to open space and parks in the district and within the building via multiple terraces. The building will be capped by a solar array, and photovoltaics will be incorporated into the glass of the facade.

The Innovation Campus will include three buildings on about four acres at the northern end of phase 1, near Alexandria's border with Arlington County.

SmithGroup is taking inspiration from Virginia Tech's Blacksburg campus by including dolomite limestone (Hokie Stone) in the landscape. Together with the university's staff, the company is exploring special use of the stone at the base of the building to balance the glass and metal facades with the warmth and solidity of natural stone.



HAPPILY EVER AFTER: About a quarter of the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine Class of 2020 scheduled weddings between April and June. Although the spread of the coronavirus altered the plans for many of the "I do's," some couples kept their original dates, incorporating creative remakes for their ceremonies. Pictured (left) Lena Turkheimer and Mark Owen, (middle) Quinn Weinberg and Stephen Owen, (right) Cody Roberts and Abby Winn.

LOVE IN THE TIME OF COVID-19

THE TIME BETWEEN MATCH DAY, when graduating medical students find out where they are headed for residency, and the actual start of the residency typically is filled with numerous celebrations.

There is graduation, preparation for residencies-and for some, weddings.

Almost a quarter of the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine's (VTCSOM)2020 graduating class planned to marry between April and June. Many postponed their nuptials because of the pandemic, while others opted for an elopement or virtual ceremony, to be followed by a larger celebration in 2021.

Lena Turkheimer '20 and Mark Owen originally planned to exchange their vows at a Charlottesville vineyard. Instead, the couple said, "I do," in Turkheimer's parents' Charlottesville backyard on April 11. The guest list included their parents, a photographer, bride, groom—and Zoom.

Some of the family's neighbors joined the celebration, also from an appropriate physical distance.

"They came to the end of our driveway with signs, which was really cute," Turkheimer said. "We were totally shocked by how much fun it ended up being, and it still felt like a really nice and special day."

Stephen Owen '20 and Quinn Weinberg, a current VTCSOM student, postponed a bigger celebration until August 2021, but held an intimate ceremony at the Church of the Holy Spirit in Roanoke on April 18, a change from their original May 23 date. Their parents, the officiant, and a photog-

rapher attended in person, while other

guests watched on Zoom.

"In some ways, this is a shock to the system ... [but] it's not about the flowers or how many people are coming to your wedding or about your registry," Stephen Owen said. "It's about the actual marriage."

Abby Winn '20 and Cody Roberts '20 eloped on the patio of the Hotel Roanoke on April 17. Their small event included just the bride and groom, the officiant, a photographer, and the hotel wedding planner.

Now, the newlyweds are moving to Minneapolis, Minnesota, for both of their residencies. They plan to come back to Roanoke for their official celebration in February.

"We wanted to still create those memories. Just not now," Winn said.

THERAPY DOG RECEIVES HONORARY DIPLOMA

MOOSE, AN 8-YEAR-OLD THERAPY

dog at Virginia Tech's Cook Counseling Center, received an honorary diploma in veterinary medicine as part of the university's virtual commencement exercises in May. It was the latest recognition for the pawsome member of Hokie Nation.

Like the Hokies he helps, Moose has had a challenging few months. Just a week after his birthday in February (his 64th, in human years), the Labrador retriever was diagnosed with prostate cancer and began a treatment regimen of radiation, chemotherapy, and other therapies.

His treatment has been managed by providers at the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine. Moose continues to receive chemotherapy and has been given a pawsitive prognosis.

Moose, who came to Virginia Tech in 2014, is one of four dogs at the counseling center who serve as working therapy animals and ambassadors for mental health awareness.



TALL FESCUE IS A HARDY GRASS that's resistant to drought and cold, which makes it perfect to feed cattle during the winter and spring. But the plant harbors a fungus that can cause health problems, especially during the hot summer. And it's an invasive species from Europe that can crowd out wildflowers and other native plants, which could be contributing to the decline in the population of bees and other pollinating insects.

A new study led by Megan O'Rourke, an associate professor in the School of Plant and Environmental Sciences in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Virginia Tech, will address both of these



FIELD KNOWLEDGE: A new study is examining how to increase bee-friendly plants while meeting the needs of cattle along the "fescue belt" that stretches from Virginia and the Carolinas to Kansas and Oklahoma.

VIRGINIA TECH TESTING BEE-FRIENDLY FORAGE FOR CATTLE

problems. The research team will plant native prairie grasses and wildflowers in pastures at research stations in Virginia and Tennessee, and six on-farm sites in Northern Virginia, including on Thomas Jefferson Foundation farmland.

"We're trying to transform the landscape to support both cattle and pollinators by planting more native wildflowers on farmland," said O'Rourke.

The \$1.8 million project is funded half by a federal grant and half by contributions of time, land, cattle and financial support through Virginia Tech, the University of Tennessee, farmers working with the researchers, and Virginia Working Landscapes, a nonprofit organization.



OUTDOOR CLASSROOM: Students from the College of Natural Resources and Environment visited LandCare job sites, where they gained hands-on experience with the tasks and challenges employees face each day.

IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE PROGRAM INTRODUCES STUDENTS TO FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES

SIX VIRGINIA TECH UNDERGRADUATES

stepped onto the trading floor at Richmond International Forest Products earlier this year. Wearing headsets that allowed them to listen to negotiations in real time, the students followed along as traders for the company worked with sawmills and purchasers to negotiate prices for spruce, pine, and other forest materials.

A few days earlier, two other students visited the Richmond branch of LandCare, a commercial landscaping company. Following a field crew to job sites, students were introduced to some of the challenges of caring for and maintaining outdoor spaces.

These day-in-the-life experiences, the first in the College of Natural Resources and Environment's new immersive experience program, were exactly what John

Freeborn envisioned when he took on the role of the college's director of employer relations last year.

"The experience we're looking to provide hits a really important spot between a company tour and an internship," he said. "We're giving students the ability to get to know an organization and a career path in a nontraditional, somewhat informal setting."

The concept for the day-in-the-life experiences was the brainchild of alumna Megan Schnizler, a trader for Richmond International Forest Products who received a geography degree from Virginia Tech in 2012.

"I hope that the students will raise awareness of the lumber industry, that what we do here is a real thing, and that it's a great job opportunity for graduates," she said.

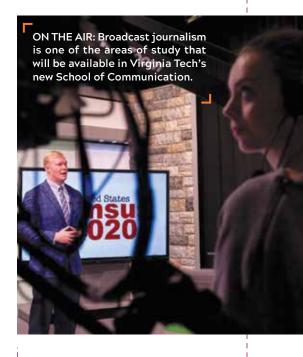
NEW SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION SLATED FOR FALL

A NEW VIRGINIA TECH SCHOOL

of Communication has received official approval from the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia. The school, which will supersede the current Department of Communication, will be hosted within the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences beginning this fall.

"The school is expected to magnify our already vibrant programs, enabling students to use the latest technologies to provide storytelling across platforms," said Robert Denton, who heads the communication department and will serve as the director of the new school.

Denton expects additional majors to be developed within the school, with possible expansions into digital media production, advertising, and professional communication.



WHAT'S THAT NOISE?

THE CICADAS CAME BACK.

This year, that alien-like wail of the insect world was even more pronounced, as millions of cicadas emerged after 17 years underground in parts of Virginia, North Carolina, and West Virginia.

"Communities and farms with large numbers of cicadas emerging at once may have had a substantial noise issue," said Eric Day, Virginia Cooperative Extension entomologist in Virginia Tech's Department of Entomology in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. "Hopefully, any annoyance at the disturbance was tempered by just how infrequentand amazing-this event was."

Cicadas-large, clear-winged insects with bulbous eyes-occur either annually (every year) or periodically (every 13 or 17 years) depending on the species.

The scale of these events is astounding, with as many as 1.5 million cicadas emerging per acre. Each periodical cicada brood covers a specific geographical region, with some areas overlapping. The reason for this 13or 17-year cycle is one of the great mysteries of the insect world.



Pratt-Clarke and Michelle Deramo, assistant provost for diversity education, led the 90-minute discussion, Unfinished Conversations on Race, which was broadcast live on YouTube and on the university's website. Virginia Tech President Tim Sands also participated in the discussion.

"There's very little grace right now," said Pratt-Clarke, referring to the recent killings of Black men and women. "It is as if many feel that America has had 400 years to care, to get it right. Yet I know, as many of us do know, that we must struggle together to get there."

Pratt-Clarke and Deramo each reflected on current events and shared their own unique backgrounds-Pratt-Clarke is African American and Deramo is Italian American. They recapped the struggles of Black Americans throughout history, and they offered advice to faculty, staff, and students about how to be advocates and take action to transform the national and university culture.



UNFINISHED CONVERSATIONS ON RACE

FOUR YEARS AGO, 3.8 PERCENT OF

first-year students who enrolled at Virginia Tech were Black. This fall, 8 percent of the entering undergraduates are Black. But Virginia Tech must do more, said Menah Pratt-Clarke, vice president for strategic affairs and diversity, in a June 5 online discussion with the campus community about understanding and combating racism in America.

Deramo encouraged each college and unit to use recent statements about current events, made by leaders and deans, to make an antiracist action plan. The Office for Inclusion and Diversity offers a variety of workshops and short online modules, covering such topics as diversity in job search and selection committees and safe zone training.

"I hope that as Hokies we can aggressively move forward to make the world a better place," Pratt-Clarke said. 📕

VOICING CONCERNS: Protest organizers made remarks prior to a lie-in demonstration in Blacksburg.



COVID-19 NEWS

VIRGINIA TECH RESEARCHERS DEVELOP COVID-19 TESTS

VIRGINIA TECH SCIENTISTS ARE supporting local health systems and health departments by offering new COVID-19 tests.

After securing state and federal approvals in April, faculty research leaders and their teams, led primarily by Carla Finkielstein at the Fralin Life Sciences Institute in Blacksburg and Harald Sontheimer at the Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at VTC in Roanoke, began testing COVID-19 samples.

The testing lab, formally known as the Virginia Tech Schiffert Health Center COVID-19 Lab, has analyzed almost 6,000 samples from April 24, 2020 through July 4, 2020.

All sample analysis operations are now being integrated into a single facility at the Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory, headed by Finkielstein, at the new Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at 4 Riverside Circle on the Health Sciences and Technology campus in Roanoke.



PROFESSOR EVALUATES N95 RESPIRATORS, MASK MATERIALS



LINDSEY MARR, A PROFESSOR

of civil and environmental engineering, has captured national media attention during the pandemic for her expertise in airborne disease transmission. Marr has been interviewed about everything from the distance requirement for running outside to how virus particles may or may not land on a person's clothes or other surfaces.

Since March, Marr has been testing the efficacy of sterilized N95 respirators and alternative mask materials in filtering out particles.

Marr and her team found that the respirators retained their ability to filter particles after up to 10 cycles of sterilization.

In their look at homemade mask materials, Marr's team tested items that have emerged in the public eye in recent months. Microfiber cloth filtered out at least 80 percent of particles under optimal conditions, while a heavyweight cotton T-shirt, a shop towel, and a shop rag filtered out only about 10 percent of the hardest particles to remove and about 50 percent of the larger ones.



COVID-19 LEADS TO MEMORABLE FINAL PROJECT

BRENT BAILEY PLANNED TO CREATE

a robotic hand for industrial use as his senior mechanical engineering project. The extensive in-person group work required meant the project was canceled once COVID-19 hit.

But Bailey found a new project when Al Wicks, associate professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, invited students to help adapt sleep apnea machines into ventilators. The multi-department effort is a Virginia Tech partnership with Carilion Clinic physician Edmundo Rubio to upgrade bilevel positive airway pressure (BiPAP) machines into makeshift ventilators to treat COVID-19 patients.

"I thought, 'If I do this, I can tell my kids that I worked in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic,"" Bailey said. He wrote code and worked with fellow seniors Jonathan Guevarez and Connor Herron on integration and testing.

"This project reminded me of the purpose of my God-given talents—to show love to hurting people," Bailey said.

HOKIES@HOME PROJECT PRESERVES EXPERIENCES DURING COVID-19

THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES' SPECIAL

Collections and University Archives are collecting and preserving the extraordinary experiences of members of the Hokie Nation during COVID-19.

Leaders of the Hokies@Home: Documenting COVID-19 at Virginia Tech project are gathering oral histories, audio recordings, written stories, diary and journal entries, photographs, videos, art, and other documentation for inclusion in its publicly available digital collections.

"We're particularly interested in the documentation of experiences as they relate to Virginia Tech and how individual and community-university experiences were affected by the pandemic," said Anthony Wright de Hernandez, University Libraries' community collections archivist.

Digital materials can be submitted through a donation form on the Hokies at Home website found at: guides.lib. vt.edu/HokiesatHome.

> EXTRA, EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT. For additional details, images,

and videos related to the stories featured in Drillfield, go to vtmag. vt.edu.



VIRGINIA TECH VIDEOGRAPHERS HAVE BEEN HARD AT WORK CAPTURING THE UNIVERSITY'S NEWS AND EVENTS. WATCH THESE VIDEOS AND MANY OTHERS AT VIDEO.VT.EDU.



CLASS OF 2020 HOKIEBIRDS REVEALED

Virginia Tech's two graduating HokieBirds, London Hughes and Charlotte Powell, revealed their identities during the university's May 15 online commencement ceremony.



STUDENT CARES FOR WILDLIFE FROM HOME Hannaleah Hoyt cared for furry patients from the Southwest Virginia Wildlife Center in Roanoke at her home after Virginia issued a stayat-home order in March.



RUN IN REMEMBRANCE GOES VIRTUAL FOR 2020 In April, Hokies around the world came together virtually for the annual Run in Remembrance.



PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE FOR CAMPUS

Virginia Tech is prepared for the fall semester after procurement teams sprang into action in March to stock personal protective equipment (PPE) for faculty, staff, students, and visitors.

CORPS OF CADETS

CONFIDENT LEADERSHIP: Colleen Pramenko served as the Corps of Cadets' regimental commander, the highest rank a cadet can achieve, during the spring 2019 semester.

CADET SETS SIGHTS ON SPACE

COLLEEN PRAMENKO ALWAYS KNEW

she would follow her parents into the U.S. Air Force.

"Watching them helping others was a large part of my childhood," she said. "They instilled a sense of service to others in me, which made the Air Force an easy choice for me."

In May, Pramenko graduated from Virginia Tech with a degree in meteorology from the College of Natural Resources and Environment and commissioned as an Air Force second lieutenant.

She spent four years in the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets, where she served as regimental commander during spring 2019 and was a bugler with the Highty-Tighties.

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She is putting her college experience to use as an environmental science officer with the 28th Operational Weather Squadron at Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina.

Her goal is to become a launch weather officer supporting the new U.S. Space Force, established in December 2019.

Col. Eric Dorminey, commander of Virginia Tech's Air Force ROTC program, noted that Pramenko will make an exceptional officer.

"She has credibility built on a solid intellect informed by natural curiosity and personal reflection," Dorminey said. "And she has a friendly engaging personality and is willing to share her perspective and mentor those she leads.'

Pramenko chose Virginia Tech in part because her father worked for Dee Dodson Morris '76, who graduated with the first group of women in the corps. At age 9, Pramenko went to work with her father and was awed by the cadet saber hanging in Morris's office.

"Throughout my cadet career, I held the memory of meeting Dee Morris during that Take Your Daughter to Work Day close to heart," Pramenko said. "It was a constant reminder that I was part of something greater than myself. I was responsible to help continue the legacy and opportunities the corps provided me."

Shay Barnhart is the Corps of Cadets' communications director.

MOMENT

WHY DIDN'T YOU LET ME

KNOW THIS?'"

Rick Trenary

IT [THE SHIRT] SAID, 'HI MY NAME IS BOB. I NEED A TYPE O KIDNEY.' I SAID, **'BOB, YOU'RE SITTING BESIDE A TYPE O KIDNEY.**

"It [the shirt] said, 'Hi my name is Bob. I need a type O kidney," said Rick Trenary. "I said, 'Bob, you're sitting beside a type O kidney. Why didn't you let me know this?""

Martin and Trenary met when the latter pledged the Tau Delta fraternity in 1973. A lifelong friendship was forged between the two.

"Bob was a big brother when I was pledging, and we became friends," Trenary said. "There's eight to 10 of us that have stayed together ever since. We've vacationed together; we still go to bowl games together. It's just been a part of my life."

Following his graduation in 1975, Martin taught high school for a year before pursuing what would become a 30-plus-year career in manufacturing and property management. He retired to Blacksburg in 2008. Trenary entered the workforce prior to his scheduled graduation in 1976 and moved to Hilton Head, South Carolina, where he remains today.



FIT TO A TEF

BOB MARTIN'S NEW LEASE ON LIFE began with an eye-catching T-shirt at FloydFest, a summer music festival in Floyd, Virginia.

In August 2019, Trenary donated one of his kidneys to his former Virginia Tech fraternity brother.

About 15 years ago, Martin was diagnosed with focal segmental glomerulosclerosis, a rare disease that attacks the kidney's filtering units. When his kidney function dropped below 20 percent, Martin registered for a transplant at the Emory University Tranplant Center.

"I had been on the transplant list for 12 years or so, but I didn't start looking really hard for a kidney until about two years ago," Martin said.

At that point, his daughter, Elizabeth, and her three siblings, Joanna, Emily, and Robbie, helped get the word out via a webpage, social media, bumper stickers, and the aforementioned T-shirt.

"It was a no-brainer," said Trenary. "More so, Bob's kids needed it. They had already lost their mother to breast cancer, and I didn't want to see them lose their dad, too."

Following about 10 months of extensive testing, the men learned Trenary's kidney was a match.

"It's pretty amazing how it all occurred," Martin said. "It was a match made in heaven."

Martin advises fellow Hokies in need to "find an advocate to help you market your need and don't be afraid to ask for help. You never know where the ultimate act of *Ut Prosim* will come from." **T**W



FAST-BREAKING NEWS

DAVID CUNNINGHAM HOPED THE

2020 ACC Men's basketball tournament would be an opportunity to witness history in the making, but he never expected the off-court story that would dominate the experience.

"All of a sudden the clock at the arena just stops, and everyone [in the media] gets the same email," said Cunningham, a rising senior at Virginia Tech, as he recounted the events that unfolded during the tournament in Greensboro, North Carolina. "It [the email] said, 'The ACC is canceling the tournament, and Florida State has been named the champion.""

Cunningham, who is majoring in sports media and analytics, was one of six Virginia Tech students who were granted unprecedented access to cover the 14 games of the tournament for 3304 Sports, a student-led, multimedia journalism platform, as a part of the university's Topics in Sports Communications course.

"When we launched 3304 Sports, one of our goals was to get our students to cover the ACC Tournament and experience one of the great events in sports," said Bill Roth, professor of practice in the Department of Communication. "The conference was terrific in granting credentials to our student broadcasters. They got to call the games and ask questions in post-game pressers, as well as produce podcasts, record stand-ups on the court, and interact with national and regional media members."



FLORIDA FLORID

The students were scheduled to be on-site for the duration of the five-day event, but on March 12, following the first two days of the basketball competition, the ACC joined the growing number of collegiate and professional sports organizations sidelining their athletic activities. Florida State, the conference regular season champion, was declared the winner of the tournament's automatic bid to the NCAA tournament just minutes prior to their tipoff against Clemson.

"It was absolutely mind-boggling," said Liam Sment, a senior sports media and analytics major who was serving as the graphics and photography director for 3304 Sports.

It was the type of moment the students never imagined, yet were prepared to handle thanks to their work with 3304 Sports.

Roth, the former long-time, legendary Voice of the Hokies, said the unexpected circumstances actually provided the students with an excellent real-world learning opportunity. "Basically, they went from covering games to covering an unprecedented national news story," Roth said. "That's where their journalism training kicked in, and they were terrific. We actually have an assignment in the Sports Journalism class called, 'You're covering a game and a news story breaks out,' and sure enough, that's exactly what happened."

For Sment, the experience meant hustling to different positions in the arena, including climbing into the stands, to ensure that he got the best visuals as the news broke.

"I never expected to be at center of the sports world as it was falling down around itself and to be one of a couple hundred people there covering it," Sment said. "I just snapped into work mode. One of the best photos I got was when [ACC Commissioner John] Swofford came out onto the court. He handed the trophy to FSU and there's not a single player smiling. It was such a weird and unexpected scenario."

As a broadcaster, Cunningham said he pulled from the many lessons he'd learned

COURTSIDE COMMENTARY: David Cunningham (left) and Shelton Moss break down hoops during one of the few games during this year's ACC men's basketball tournament.



throughout the major, including the value of being right about information over being the first to deliver it.

He believes that the experience will continue to affect how he approaches his craft and life in general.

"It's just not taking anything for granted and soaking up every moment," Cunningham said. "I'm going to make sure that I'm making the most of my time here."

Launched in March 2019, 3304 Sports is a student-led extension of the sports media and analytics major, which is a part of the Department of Communication housed in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences. The media platform provides students with the opportunity to hone their journalism skills in a real-world environment by working with the Virginia Tech Athletics Department to cover NCAA Division I events.

"We're just really grateful to have them work with us," said Cunningham, editor-in-chief for 3304 Sports. "Ten years ago, we wouldn't have been able to do this." \blacksquare TW





FACING OFF **AGAINST COVID-19**

FACE SHIELDS, FACE MASKS, PPE-

since March, these terms have become common elements of everyday pandemic vocabulary. The items to which they refer remained in short supply for months because of continuing demand due to COVID-19.

A group of faculty and students at Virginia Tech led a massive effort to produce thousands of face shields for nurses, doctors, and first responders in the Roanoke and New River valleys who are on the pandemic's front lines.

First, researchers worked closely with local health care professionals, who approved the designs and helped ensure that the finished product would meet stringent infection-control requirements.

Then, the team solicited volunteers throughout the region who had access to 3D printers, which are necessary for creating one version of the shield's headpiece. A second version of the shields uses a foam headpiece rather than a 3D-printed band. A laser cutter is required for cutting sheets of plastic.

Liam Chapin, a computer science student, cut the majority of the shields using a laser cutter in the Field and Space Experimental Robotics Laboratory

on Virginia Tech's Blacksburg campus. Other university units, including the Honors College, pitched in with their own laser cutters.

As of mid-May, the group had produced and distributed at least 4,400 shields to employees at Carilion Clinic and Lewis-Gale facilities, as well as other health and emergency professionals, said Alex Leonessa, a mechanical engineering professor who is leading the project.

"As long as we can keep the materials going, we will keep making them," he said. 📕 JKB

SHIELDING THE FRONT LINES: (below) Liam Chapin, a Virginia Tech student, develops face shields in the Faser Lab. (right) Students and faculty worked together to print and cut headpieces for the shields.





FACE SHIELDS

Here is a peek into the parts that comprise the two face shield designs:

3D-PRINTED VERSION:

Headpiece or frame - A plastic headband produced using a 3D printer. It rests on the forehead and is secured with rubber bands

Shield - A long piece of clear polyester film that snaps onto the headband and folds to cover the face, the top of the forehead, and the sides of the head at the temples.

FOAM VERSION:

Foam head block - A foam headpiece with adhesive on one side that sits on the forehead.

Elastic and Clip - Fasten the shield to the head.

Shield - Laser-cut polyester film attaches with adhesive to the foam headpiece.

As members of the community, we pledge to care for the health and well-being of others by personally adopting our Community Wellness Commitment:

- and local communities.
- We will affirm that we will support the mental well-being of all community members.
- We will wear face coverings/masks in public areas.
- We will practice physical distancing by maintaining at least 6 feet of distance from others.
- We will practice good hygiene, including frequent handwashing and covering coughs or sneezes.
- We will stay home and avoid public spaces when not feeling well.
- We will contact our health care provider or an urgent care facility if we believe we are sick or have been exposed to the coronavirus.
- We will support but avoid contact with those who are sick.
- We will follow public health guidelines and medical recommendations to be tested and self-isolate as necessary.
- We will make a list of all others with whom we have had close contact, if necessary, to aid in contact-tracing efforts.



Be committed. Be well.

COMMUNITY WELLNESS COMMITMENT

• We will affirm our commitment to the safety, health, and well-being of our campuses











vt.edu/ready/well nrvroadtowellness.com FALL 2020

HOW TECH TICKS

HAPPY LITTLE TREES

THE ARBORIST

In fall 2019, Virginia Tech hired its first full-time arborist.

Jamie King, an alumnus of Virginia Tech with a bachelor's in natural resources conservation and minors in urban forestry and forestry, previously worked as the city arborist for the City of Roanoke.

King is responsible for overall planting, health care, safety, and general maintenance of trees on campus.



TREE MANAGEMENT IS LIKE ALL OTHER

types of management: First, you've got to know what you have. Then you need to determine your goals: On campus those goals include healthy trees, a larger canopy, and safe trees.

Initially, the university arborist assesses the tree population, getting to know the different areas where there are high densities, trees of a certain age that require more care, or those that may be affected by compaction or future campus development. A detailed plan for maintaining the trees is then drafted.

A big part of the inventory involves comparing species' relative abundance. For example, Virginia Tech has numerous sugar maples. Sugar maples are susceptible to an invasive pest called Asian longhorn beetle. Developing a plan to mitigate that problem, should it arise, is essential.

As the university grows and new buildings are constructed, some trees will be lost. It's important to plan for their replacement and also provide for the maintenance of the new trees as part of the capital investment of the larger projects. As people walk, picnic, hang out with friends, or study nearby, the soil underneath the trees around the Drillfield or at other gathering places on campus gets compacted, and that can be detrimental to tree health.

Another consideration is age. As a tree gets older, it starts to consolidate resources and retrench. As a result, portions of the tree may begin to deteriorate. When you see dead wood in the top of the tree, it could be a result of retrenchment. MA



Trail on the south side of U.S. 460. 225 tree species present on campus. 85%

been inventoried, not counting trees

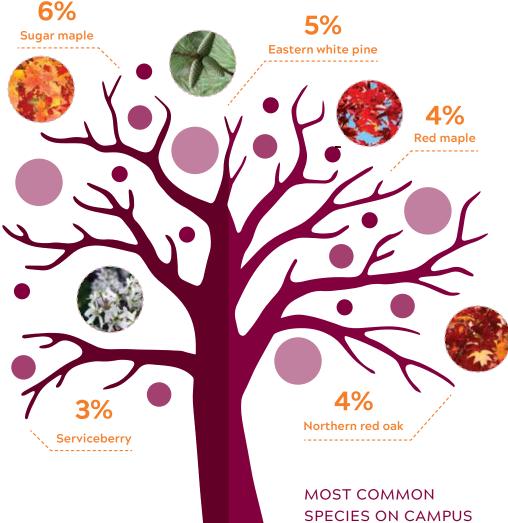
beyond the core campus, such as

in Center Woods, located between

Plantation Road and the Huckleberry

BY THE NUMBERS

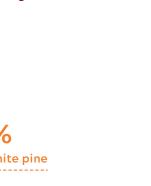
10,077 campus trees have





57% are large stature species.

classified as young or immature.



WHY TREES MATTER

Trees have quantifiable values, which include the dollar value of ecological services, real estate values, and canopy benefits, such as aesthetics, shade, storm water mitigation, air quality improvements, animal habitat, and more. The inventoried trees at Virginia Tech have an estimated value of \$30.6 million dollars as a capital asset. The number is based on replacement value of the trees, but the dollar figure is only part of the story. When you come to Virginia Tech, you may be able to touch the same tree that your grandfather or grandmother did when they were students, and eventually your grandkids may repeat that action, while thinking of you. So, that tree becomes another connection to the university and to Hokies past, present, and future.



THE MERRY OAK NEAR SMITHFIELD PLANTATION

There are many legacy trees on campus. One is known as the Merry Oak. The Merry Oak sat in a cornfield owned by Virginia Tech and is intimately connected to the Smithfield Plantation.

The Merry Oak was claimed by a storm on May 19. The site on which it stood will be preserved. King and others are exploring the potential reseeding of the Merry Oak and how best to utilize its wood for memorial and academic activities.

WITH POMP AND DISTANCE

COMMENCEMENT 2020 WAS ONE FOR THE HOKIE HISTORY BOOKS

WHEN THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

upended the spring semester, scattering students and shutting down the Virginia Tech campuses to all except essential employees, university leaders made the difficult, but necessary, decision to cancel the Lane Stadium spring graduation event.

As faculty scrambled to move classes online and students and their families adjusted to an unwelcome new reality, university representatives were also considering alternative options for recognizing the Class of 2020. Although the proposed event would not replace an in-person experience, the organizers hoped to preserve some of the traditions that inspire generation after generation of Hokie alums.

On May 15, appearing only on computer screens and mobile devices across the globe for the first time ever, Virginia Tech leaders, celebrity alumni, a sports icon, and a dancing HokieBird joined forces to confer degrees and salute the Class of 2020 virtually.

President Tim Sands opened the online event by addressing the graduates from a podium in an otherwise empty Lane Stadium, the traditional location for Virginia Tech's spring commencement ceremony.

"You've already overcome one global challenge, and you haven't even moved your tassels yet," Sands said. "Now, you are ready to go out and confront the emerging challenges of a rapidly changing world—and the world needs you."

Viewers watched the ceremony, which was available on YouTube and streamed on the Virginia Tech website. Families, friends, and Hokie alumni from near and far congratulated graduates through pre-recorded video messages prior to the start of the official event.

The Class of 2020 celebrated from wherever they were—many from their homes alongside close family members, hosting watch parties and even conducting their own personal commencement ceremonies.

Approximately 5,602 Hokies graduated with bachelor's degrees and 62 earned associate degrees. Also, 1,247 graduate students were recognized, including those from the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine and the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine in Roanoke.

Additionally, each college posted a special video message from its dean, along with a recorded reading of graduates' names.

One of the highlights of the ceremony was a surprise video message from Hoda Kotb, a Virginia Tech alumna and co-host and co-anchor of "TODAY," an NBC News morning show.

Kotb encouraged the graduates to stay strong and resilient.

"We are back-straight kinds of people. We don't curl up in the fetal position," said Kotb, from her NBC News dressing room. "We stand up tall, and that's what we're doing today. You learned things that nobody else has had to learn before you, no other graduating class. Take it forward into your life."

Other special guests included Bud Foster, legendary Virginia Tech football defensive coordinator; Camille Schrier '18, who was crowned Miss America 2020 last year; and Michael Quillen '70, who received the William H. Ruffner Medal, the highest honor Virginia Tech confers.

"You have missed some significant milestone events, but as you will learn over the next 50 years, the last four-plus years have given you memories you will cherish forever," Quillen said.

Nikki Giovanni—poet; University Distinguished Professor; and namesake of the Class of 2020 ring, an honorary role given by students in the class—concluded the ceremony with a special poem dedicated to the graduates.

"The Class of Twenty Twenty has been gracious and brave," Giovanni said. **J**KB



For a recording of Virginia Tech's first ever virtual commencement ceremony, a listing of the 2020 graduates, and other related information, visit commencement.vt.edu.







THE CLASS OF TWENTY TWENTY HAS BEEN GRACIOUS AND BRAVE,

Nikki Giovanni poet

















2020 V S 0UNWAVERING IN UNPRECEDENTED TIMES





SOLUTIONS









RESILIENCE













HOKIES





THE VIRGINIA TECH COMMUNITY IS RESPONDING TO THIS MOMENT IN QUINTESSEN-TIAL HOKIE FASHION, CONFIRMING THE REAL-WORLD BENEFITS OF THE UNIVERSI-TY'S HANDS-ON APPROACH TO LEARNING, AS WELL AS THE STEADFAST NATURE OF THE HOKIE BOND—AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, SEIZING THE OPPORTUNITY TO COL-LECTIVELY LIVE OUT OUR MOTTO.



BY TRAVIS WILLIAMS AND MASON ADAMS

WHEN CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE, CHALLENGES ARISE, AND CALLS FOR ASSIS-TANCE GO OUT, VIRGINIA TECH LEANS INTO ITS MOTTO, UT PROSIM (THAT I MAY SERVE).

THE EMERGENCE OF THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS HAS PRESENTED SUCH AN OCCASION. THE PANDEMIC REQUIRED A PIVOT FROM NORMS. THE ACCELERATION OF TECHNO-LOGICAL ADVANCEMENTS, AND A LEVEL OF PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY THAT HAS SURPASSED ANYTHING MOST AMERICANS HAVE PREVIOUSLY EXPERIENCED.

IN MAY, BRYCE KORABIK FULFILLED A DREAM.

A member of Virginia Tech's Class of 2020, the mechanical engineering major donned his official university cap and gown, and as the notes of "Pomp and Circumstance" began to play, took the first steps of a long-awaited graduation march.

Korabik's path led down a driveway and up a short flight of stairs to the neighbor's front porch, which was now doubling as a stage. There, in a vard in a Cary, North Carolina, neighborhood, friends and family gathered at a safe distance for the heartfelt, makeshift ceremony that lasted less than five minutes.

"It was a wonderful way to celebrate in a nontraditional way, in what's not a normal year for graduations," said Cindy Korabik, Bryce's mom.

Across Hokie Nation, such creative celebrations became the norm following a semester that had been upended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Shortly after spring break, all Virginia Tech coursework, most research, and a semblance of social life shifted to virtual platforms as students, faculty, and the broader university community took steps to comply with guidelines intended to mitigate the virus.

Members of the junior class would miss their long-awaited ring dance, and for seniors, Virginia's restrictions on gatherings would upset traditional graduation events, up to and including the Lane Stadium commencement ceremony.

Crisis is an extraordinarily authentic test.

As the novel coronavirus spread, the pandemic resulted in an unanticipated examination that elevated strengths, revealed weaknesses, and served as a compass for directing change or reinforcing the trajectory of an already established vision.

Responding to the virus demanded the best of people, and as a global land-grant university dedicated to the ethos of Ut Prosim (That I May Serve), Virginia Tech answered the call.

COVID-19 and the resulting quarantine measures called for thoughtful self-evaluation, a shift away from longstanding practices, and the acceleration of alternative solutions for academic outreach and other priorities that were, until spring, in largely developmental phases. The response also ushered in a moment of opportunity, creating a challenge to which Hokies successfully rose.

Responding to COVID-19 affirmed the real-world benefits of Virginia Tech's team-oriented, experiential approach to learning, as well as confirming the steadfast nature of the Hokie bond. The unprecedented moment presented another chance to do what Hokies do best: to serve our communities, our nations, and our world.

"There are many examples of how the Virginia Tech community stepped up when needed," said President Tim Sands during one of multiple virtual town halls held since March to keep the Hokie community informed. "The contributions of essential employees who remained on campus, the application of Virginia Tech's world-class expertise to help the public better understand this disease, and the care for each other that sustained us through these difficult months make us proud to be Hokies."

EARLY CHALLENGES

As university groups began meeting to consider the potential implications of COVID-19 in late January, global travel was among the primary concerns. About 400 students and faculty members were abroad at the time, and as they returned home, and the virus spread, the university's focus shifted to domestic issues.

The university's Incident Management Team (IMT) scheduled a quick briefing on the topic for the first week in March, but the rapidly evolving situation prompted the group to shift from discussion to action. On March 11, President Sands announced a six-day spring break extension to facilitate the move to online learning for the remainder of the semester.

That online pivot required a monumental, rapid transition to remote study led by Virginia Tech faculty and staff, some of whom had never before taught online classes.

"Our faculty's hard work, collaborative spirit, and relentless innovation enabled it to overcome this difficult challenge," said Executive Vice President and Provost Cyril Clarke. "Their efforts enabled Virginia Tech to protect the health and safety of our community, while sustaining our core educational, research, and outreach programs. This was clearly not what we thought we would be doing at the start of the semester, but I've been impressed by our faculty's resilience and ability to thrive even under challenging circumstances."

The move to online education, the transition to telework for most university offices, and later decisions that would necessitate a shift to essential services prompted significant operational changes as well.

"The people who carry out the work of Virginia Tech responded nimbly in the face of an uncertain situation," said Dwayne Pinkney, senior vice president and chief business officer. "Their perseverance and steadfast commitment to our shared mission enabled the university to respond quickly and efficiently during a trying time."

Virginia Tech's IMT, which consists of about 25 representatives from academics and athletics to law enforcement and human resources who train regularly to handle large-scale campus emergencies, essentially steered the ship as the university navigated unknown waters. The team has worked together consistently since March-the longest span it's ever been activated-to ensure faculty, staff, and students remain safe, education and research continue, and Ut Prosim is at the forefront of every decision.

"The team is made of those who are the doers," said Michael Mulhare, Virginia Tech's assistant vice president for emergency management. "We're tasked with making policy decisions operational."

The IMT credited the quick and efficient transition to remote learning in part to technology, specifically noting the use of a software that had been under development for about six years that included a variety of enhanced features, such as shareable dashboards with real-time metrics.

As the university scaled back operations, the IMT was tasked with transitioning a variety of critical services and reorganizing the responsibilities of dedicated essential employees, including those in mail services, which faced a handful of special challenges. Because buildings were locked, commercial drivers delivered departmental packages to a centralized location. With about 600 packages arriving each week, mail services employees worked alongside security personnel to access buildings for mail distribution about twice weekly.

Steve Vantine, interim director of mail services, said employees normally assigned to other departments, such as parking services, migrated over to increase the total workforce to about 25 people. The team worked in two separate shifts to mitigate the potential for an outbreak of the virus.



ONLINE LEARNING

By March 23, 2020, nearly 2,400 instructors were teaching approximately 4,500 classes remotely, leaving empty classrooms in buildings across campus. For Michelle Stocker, assistant professor of geobiology (top left), that meant moving fossils and skeletons used during instruction to her home. Kevin Hamed, assistant professor in the Department of Fish and Wildlife Conservation (in maroon) and Mike Pinder of the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (in blue) worked with students to test fish identification skills virtually (top right).



BE WELL, HOKIES

To prepare for the return of students in the fall, efforts across Virginia Tech's campuses have focused on promoting and supporting public health recommendations. Classrooms and labs have been reconfigured, hand-sanitizing stations have been added to common areas, and university leadership has issued guidelines for pandemic etiquette. Strategically placed signage stresses the role that all Hokies play in the wellness of the Virginia Tech campuses and surrounding communities.

As members of the community, we pledge to care for the health and well-being of others by personally adopting the Community Wellness Commitment. (For details, turn to p. 17.) "The whole operation goes down if one person comes down with COVID," Vantine said.

The mail team needed to develop processes to manage not only the high quantity of deliveries, but also those requiring special care, such as packages containing perishables or those needing refrigeration, as well as rerouting items that had been shipped to students who were no longer on campus. For the latter, Vantine said the university covered the expense to forward the packages.

The once-bustling campus, now devoid of students, faculty, and staff, resembled the setting for a dystopian novel where time simply stopped. Although for most, the quiet grounds appeared to mourn the missing students and faculty, for some, the nowempty buildings created opportunities to get a head start on year-end tasks. The university's facilities department, for example, initiated their detailed cleaning of high-traffic areas and added touch-free dispensers for soap and paper towels, as well as 2,000 new hand-sanitizer stations and several misting machines in 65-plus buildings, said Jarrod Alls, facilities quality control assistant.

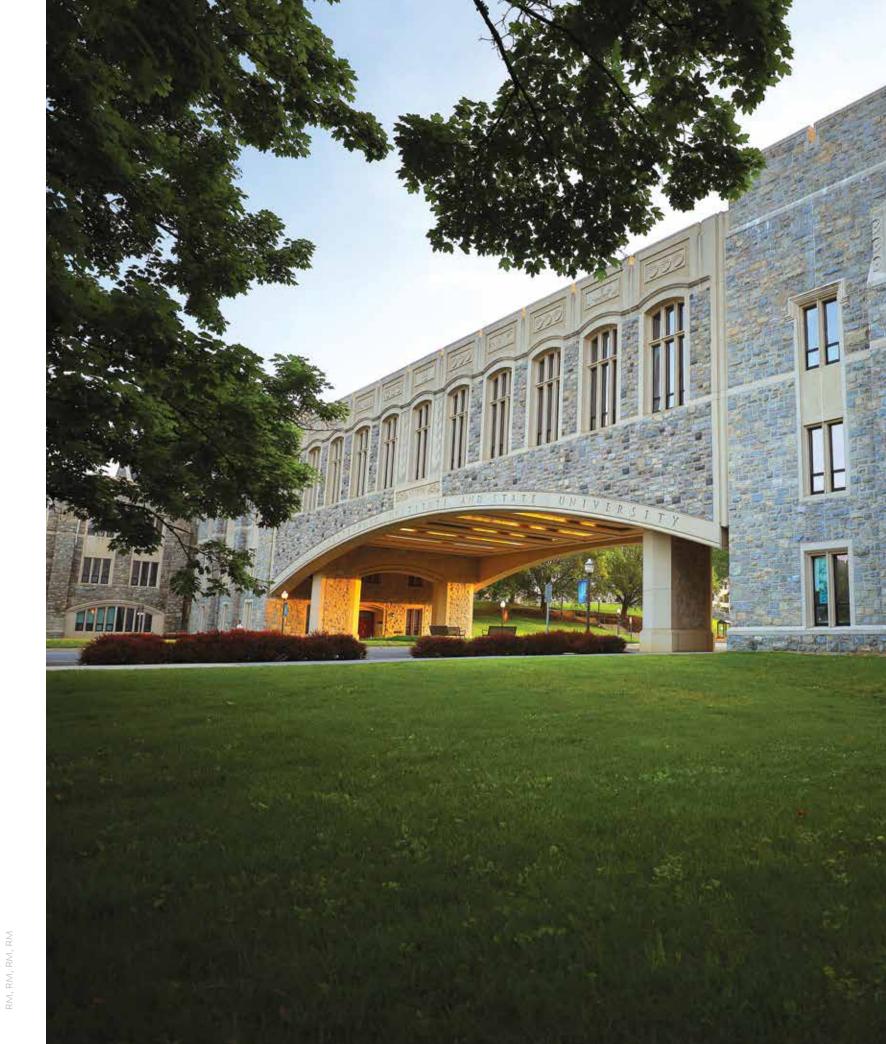
Because the group was able to check off certain cleaning tasks in preparation for the return of students, "once everything is back up and running, our goal will be to stay focused on and increase the cleaning frequency of high-touch areas," said Alls.

REMOTE LEARNING

Meanwhile, Virginia Tech's Technology-enhanced Learning and Online Strategies (TLOS) team focused on the massive task of moving classes online. Building on two decades of advancements in distance learning, it took the group less than two weeks to facilitate the academic transition, enabling more than 2,400 instructors to teach about 4,500 sections of content remotely.

"The focus was on Virginia Tech students and faculty located in various cities around the world," said TLOS Executive Director and Associate Provost Dale Pike. "Because very little was known about what would happen, we considered many scenarios, including the possibility that we'd need to provide instruction to students who were in quarantine or support faculty who needed to teach from quarantine."

Quinn Warnick, TLOS interim deputy executive director, credited the agile shift in part to existing online teaching tools, such



as Canvas, Zoom, and Kaltura, and the faculty's commitment to deepening their knowledge to maximize these resources.

Faced with a daunting task, Virginia Tech's faculty and students picked up the tools available and went to work.

"We had faith that faculty of varying levels of experience with these tools would be able to successfully adjust their instruction. The other part of the equation was the commitment we had to our students," said LuJean Baab, senior director, Learning Experience Design. "Everyone involved was willing to put in the extra effort to best benefit the students."

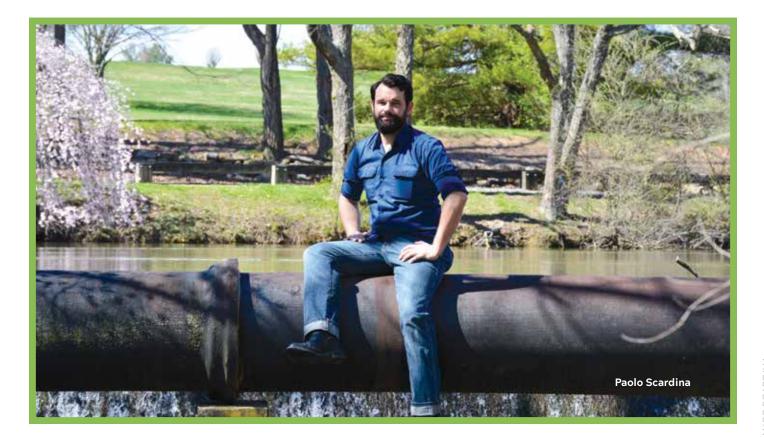
Across the university, instructors not only maintained their scheduled lessons, but explored ways to apply the technology to enhance their students' experiences. Advanced instructor of painting and drawing Besty Bannan provided practical advice to help students create makeshift art studios in their homes. Professor of biochemistry Glenda Gillaspy turned a course's focus to the molecular biology of SARS/COV-2, and Paolo Scardina recorded lectures from waterways around campus, using realworld examples to illustrate specific concepts and theories.

"With online education, we can now do some of the stuff that we weren't able to do before," said Scardina, an assistant professor of practice who teaches courses in fluid mechanics and water resources engineering. "Now I can make the classroom wherever I want."

These are just a sample of the many innovative ways Virginia Tech's faculty members raised the bar in continuing to provide a world-class education and an exemplary student experience during one of the university's most challenging times.

Students took notice of that extraordinary effort, according to Madelynn Todd, a rising senior and the 2019-20 undergraduate student representative to Virginia Tech's Board of Visitors.

"They are really great people who took the input of the students very seriously," said Todd of the university's pandemic response. "I think it really speaks volumes about our administration."



As the board representative, Todd, who is studying animal and poultry science, often heard student concerns, and she fielded dozens during the spring semester.

COVID-19 affected not only academics, but every facet of student life. For some Virginia Tech athletes, the pandemic derailed their last opportunity to reach new heights as Hokies. This included point guard Taja Cole, who helped move the women's basketball team to its best record in 14 years, at 21-4, before the NCAA Tournament was canceled, and four-time All-American wrestler David McFadden, who had a national title in his sights.

Though disappointed, McFadden said he saw the missed opportunity as simply doing his part to fight the spread of the virus.

"You know, there's a lot worse things than missing a party or something, and this thing is really serious," McFadden said. "But I have a feeling that something good is going to eventually come out of all this. It just has to."

Echoing Virginia Tech's core mission of service, that type of response was common among students, even through the tension of the nontraditional semester, according to Todd.

"During this time, I think Ut Prosim was at its highest, even though we weren't all together," she said. "We weren't going to let this crisis break this community."

CONNECTED VIRTUALLY

There is perhaps no more visual example of the resilience of the Virginia Tech community than the annual 3.2-Mile Run in Remembrance, an event held to recognize the 32 individuals who lost their lives on April 16, 2007. Each April, thousands of Hokies trek to Blacksburg to join with the Hokie community for the solemn occasion.

By mid-March, organizers and participants alike knew that the traditional annual Blacksburg event would need to be modified to control the spread of the coronavirus. In true Hokie form, the Virginia Tech community created an inspirational alternative.

The run, which typically begins and ends around the Drillfield, was swiftly converted into a virtual event, and Hokies around the globe were invited to join via the Stridekick app. Participants accessed the app to log their Run in Remembrance miles.



RESILIENCE

Student leaders, like Madelynn Todd (top left), who served as an undergraduate representative on the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors, and athletes like David McFadden (top right) and Taja Cole (above), whose final collegiate sports seasons were cut short, maintained positive attitudes and demonstrated resilience in the face of numerous challenges and disappointments this spring.

"I have a feeling that something good is going to come out of all this. It just has to," said McFadden.



IN THIS TOGETHER

For alumni, students, and friends of Virginia Tech, being a Hokie means joining a family network that spans the globe. Staying connected during the pandemic involved creativity and patience. University leaders hosted virtual town halls to keep the community informed. Virtual options for events like the Run in Remembrance brought Hokies together in new ways. Student organizations held meetings online and used social media, video, and the internet for everything from origami instruction to outreach for elementary school chemistry projects. Although Hokies couldn't be side-by-side in their favorite place, their virtual connectivity reinforced that we are all in this together.

According to the official statistics recorded over a three-day period, more than 11,500 participants from four continents logged more than 81,000 virtual miles.

The run was just one of a myriad of online events that encouraged Hokies to come together, lean on one another, and interact with the university community even though face-to-face interactions were restricted.

Virginia Tech stepped up to keep the university community across the country and around the globe informed not just of campus updates, but of evolving state and federal guidelines via electronic communications, PSAs, social media posts, news releases, and other media. Faculty experts from a wide range of departments shared their perspectives via newspaper stories and appearances on network and cable news shows. University and regional leaders conducted a series of town halls to answer questions, dispel misinformation, and convey the most up-to-date data available regarding a variety of COVID-19-related topics. And previously scheduled events moved online to accommodate the physically distanced landscape embraced by much of the world.

"As Hokies, it's our community that sets us apart, and it's during these unprecedented times that we need each other more than ever," said Charlie Phlegar '78, M.A.Ed. '87, vice president for advancement at Virginia Tech. "At a time when getting together in-person wasn't possible, it was important for us to keep Hokies around the globe informed and united by staying connected."

Student Affairs, Human Resources, and other departments partnered with University Relations to publish information related to health, economics, and general life during a pandemic. Virginia Tech mental health professionals and support groups used a total of 132 secured Zoom accounts to provide an average of 250 hours per day of counseling and other services.

Hokies around the world boosted outreach efforts and worked hard to keep people connected. Student organizations moved meetings and events online. The annual student-led Relay for Life expanded from a 24-hour event to a week full of informational and social programming that set the bar for virtual relays held at colleges and universities across the nation. Parents, alumni, and other volunteers even transformed University Libraries' Cheesy Nights—a service project-turned-Blacksburg campus-tradition that distributes grilled cheese sandwiches and other treats during finals week—into a virtual, at-home event.



ven during a pandemic, ve remember. We will PREVA #neVerforgeT

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Therese Walters, also known as the Grilled Cheese Lady, is married to University Libraries Dean Tyler Walters. She initiated the Cheesy Nights tradition and has played an integral part in coordinating the project since 2011. According to Walters, going virtual was meant to tap into some of the students' emotional memories and nostalgia. She supplied a simple, fun how-to video and encouraged parents to treat their students during exam week.

"I'm sure there were plenty of students saying, 'Man, right now I'd be at the library and when you walk in, it smells like cooking skillets," Walters said. "It's just like the 'chicken soup for the soul' thing."

Alicia Stoltzfus, the parent of a rising junior at Virginia Tech, took the event to the next level, packaging and delivering DIY grilled cheese kits-containing items for sandwiches, hot chocolate, and more-to students living in and around Winchester, Virginia. During finals week, Stoltzfus and a group of volunteers, including fellow student mothers Amy Stock and Nancy Vining, made 15 deliveries within a 70-mile area. The volunteers announced their arrival at each home by blasting "Enter Sandman" through a Bluetooth speaker.

"As soon as they [the students] heard the music, every single one of them started jumping," Stoltzfus said. "We got messages afterwards from parents saying, 'This is exactly what my Hokie needed.""

THAT WE MAY SERVE

As a public land-grant university, Virginia Tech prioritizes teaching, research, and outreach that meet the needs of our surrounding localities, state, nation, and world. The university's dedication to that mission has perhaps never been more evident than during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Virginia Tech researchers and scientists responded to the dire need for rapid testing by developing a new test and securing government approvals to process samples in Blacksburg and Roanoke. Enterprising students and employees used their skills to create thousands of face shields and implement projects to fund and secure resources to address shortages of critical equipment and supplies. The Blacksburg campus hosted a federal personal protective equipment (PPE) decontamination site, one of only three in Virginia.

With offices in 108 counties and cities across the commonwealth, Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) often stands at the forefront of education and service outreach. When the pandemic and resulting shutdown began to disrupt life, VCE disseminated a wide range of information on topics, ranging from health and safety to grocery shopping, food planning and recipes, and stress management. Later, Extension agents produced online embryology courses, virtual cooking contests, and livestock showcases.

"Extension is here to serve the commonwealth at all times, and we strive to address the new challenges in our communities by providing convenient and powerful resources for them, wherever they may be," said Ed Jones, director of Virginia Cooperative Extension. "Our agents are incredible resources who continually work to be beacons of light for communities across the commonwealth."

VCE also held its annual Southwest Virginia Bull Test Program virtually. The auction routinely brings more than 350 beef cattle producers together each year. This year, 115 bulls and seven heifers were sold for a total of \$381,950.

With fewer people on campus, the university's Dining Services scaled back operations; however, Campus Kitchen at Virginia Tech, which typically preserves unserved food for nonprofit agencies, continued to help fight hunger in the New River Valley, delivering more than 10,100 pounds of food to community organizations during March, April, and May.

Across the country, Virginia Tech alumni stepped up, serving on the front lines of the medical field, helping educators navigate options for remote learning, and lifting spirits and raising funds through a variety of projects, from making and sharing origami crafts with children and senior citizens to organizing online dance parties. When Chris Kopec '00 first had the idea to take his DJ service online, his plan was intended to entertain his family, who were feeling a little restless after being confined at home. Much to Kopec's surprise, the first event, broadcast from the basement of his home, garnered more than 20,000 views in two hours and eventually, more than 1.4 million. It inspired the DJ to continue offering weekly dance parties and to use the platform to raise funds for various charities. From March through May, Kopec's virtual events raised more than \$1 million.

"Ut Prosim was really the way I was brought up," Kopec said. "I think that's part of why I loved Virginia Tech so much while I was there."

RISING TO THE MOMENT

Virginia Tech's Roanoke campus continues to provide critical support in responding to the coronavirus pandemic. The Fralin Biomedical Research Institute at VTC led an effort with the Fralin Life Sciences Institute to conduct COVID-19 testing in Roanoke and Blacksburg, providing consistent, reliable results at a time when Virginia was struggling to deploy more tests across the state.

A professor of medicine at the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine partnered with Carilion Clinic and Virginia Tech engineers to upgrade bilevel positive airway pressure (BiPAP) machines, commonly used for sleep apnea, into makeshift ventilators, helping to relieve potential ventilator shortages. The medical school has also committed volunteer support for contact-tracing with the Medical Reserve Corps in Virginia.

And, just a few hours away, in the greater Washington, D.C., metro area, the pandemic is shaping the still-emerging Innovation Campus.

When the outbreaks escalated in early March, Lance Collins had recently been named as the Innovation Campus's inaugural executive director. Rather than preparing for his move to Alexandria, he found himself scrambling at Cornell University, where he was wrapping up a decade-long stint as dean of its College of Engineering.

Now, as he prepares to lead Virginia Tech's newest campus, Collins feels that the university's mission in the world has become even more relevant and urgent than it was just a few months ago.

"Virginia Tech's dedication to service and its emphasis on interdisciplinary teams put it in an ideal position to effectively respond to this pandemic, to adapt to changing conditions, and to build upon the lessons that we're learning during the process," Collins said. "The Innovation Campus is taking shape during this historic moment, and will no doubt be influenced by the pandemic and our response for decades to come."

The pandemic is an encompassing crisis that demands the best of us. But then again, Hokies have always risen to challenges.



SOLUTIONS

From the greater Washington, D.C., metro area and Roanoke to Blacksburg and beyond, the Virginia Tech research community worked tirelessly to develop and implement testing (above), make personal protective equipment, alleviate shortages of supplies and medical devices, find alternative treatment methods, and support the efforts of public health officials in their regions. Ryan Pieper (top right), an associate collegiate professor who teaches and oversees the workshop facilities at Virginia Tech's Washington-Alexandria Architecture Center, created an open-source design, which is available online at no charge, for a tool (top left) to assist with opening doors and pushing buttons.

TEN WAYS VIRGINIA TECH FACULTY AND STUDENTS GOT CREATIVE

Fourteen students in a general chemistry course created and filmed kid-friendly science projects in their kitchens to help Wonder Universe, a nonprofit children's museum in Christiansburg, Virginia.

While live-streaming, Kevin Hamed, an assistant professor in the Department of Fish and Wildlife Conservation, collected fish in a nearby stream so that students could see the process of catching and identifying fish.

In a four-part video series, the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute provided virtual demonstrations of its Sharing the Road with Trucks safety program to high school students throughout the mid-Atlantic region.

Undergraduates who participated in University Libraries data programs created tools and studied patterns in COVID-19 research data. This was a response to a request from the White House Office of Technology.

Students in a Department of Sociology feminist activism class held an online auction and raised \$1,150 for Aarti for Girls, a home for abandoned children in Kadapa, India.

Without a whiteboard at home, Mike Ellerbrock, a professor in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, used Zoom, blank paper, and Word documents to walk students through solving economics problems.

Michelle Stocker, assistant professor of geobiology, loaded up her skeletons and other specimens and streamed video of them from her home for students in her Morphology of the Vertebrates class.

Paolo Scardina, an assistant professor of practice in the Charles E. Via Jr. Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, filmed parts of his course lectures while standing up to his ankles in creeks and waterways.

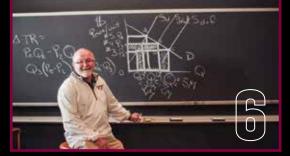
A Virginia Tech team with the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Integrated Pest Management swapped in-person meetings with radio and virtual communications to help farmers in <u>Africa and Asia</u>.

Students in instructor Elizabeth McLain's History and Analytics of Musical Style class each were assigned a vocabulary word to teach to the class-by creating a 60-second TikTok video.











19 WAYS HOKIES STAYED CONNECTED



- 1. Hokies from everywhere participated in the annual R membrance, held virtually for three days in April.
- 2. Avocado toast anyone? Hokie Wellness' peer educato nutritional cooking videos via Instagram.
- 3. Student clubs and organizations continued their mee Zoom.
- 4. The Marching Virginians performed "Tech Triumph" or
- 5. Hokie graduate students delivered food to Roanoke Valle children.
- 6. The PanJammers, an award-winning steel drum orc Blacksburg, recorded a virtual version of "Pomp and stance" for the Class of 2020.
- 7. Moss Arts Center created an online space, the Stud Spotlight, where students shared their art creations.
- 8. Virginia Tech Rescue Squad held a virtual swearing-in c
- 9. Cooperative Extension offered numerous virtual progra fitness instruction to a farm e-commerce webinar.
- Scott Watson, executive chef at the Inn at Virginia Tecl online cooking tutorials.

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Run in Re-	11. Tayo Oladele, a Hokie senior, held a Zoom photography class for his friends.
ors posted	12. This summer, each first-year Hokie has a virtual orientation lead- er assigned to help them maneuver the university's first virtual
etings via	orientation for new students.
	13. Moss Arts Center offered performances and engagement oppor-
nline.	tunities online by hosting special viewings of past music, dance, and theater performances.
lley school	
	 Tatsu Takeuchi, an associate professor of physics at Virginia Tech, hosted free online origami classes.
hestra in:	
d Circum-	15. The Relay For Life fundraiser took place virtually, with musical performances, special guests, and tributes.
dent Arts	16. Mental health professionals throughout campus transitioned therapy sessions to online platforms.
ceremony.	17. With the Pylons as the background, Virginia Tech's Student
ams, from	Government Association held its officer inauguration via Zoom.
	18. Campus Kitchen continued donating food to local nonprofits.
h, offered	10 Disactivity a student modical design group, mat caling and
	 Bioactivity, a student medical design group, met online and designed a ventilator model that a company could produce and manufacture.

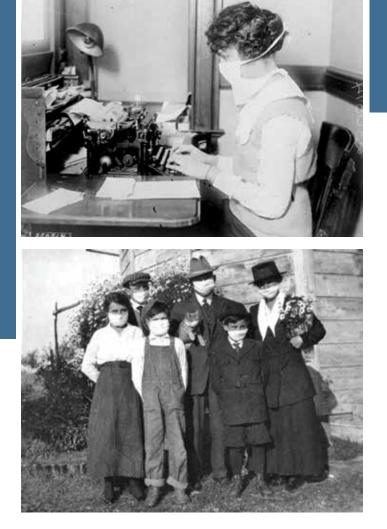
SUPPORT AND SUPPLY: Red Cross workers make anti-influenza masks for soldiers during the Spanish Flu pandemic, Boston, Massachusetts.

BY RICHARD LOVEGROVE WITH BRUCE HARPER AND ANDREW ADKINS

WE'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE

FALL 1918 AT VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTI-TUTE WAS ALREADY A TIME OF CONFUSION AND CHAOS.

With World War I raging in Europe, the U.S. War Department had turned the Blacksburg campus into a Students' Army Training Corps site. Prospective students—some of whom were underage or not academically prepared—came and went throughout September amid mass confusion about who would be eligible to attend. Battles raged over what would be taught, ultimately resulting in all of VPI's four-year courses of study being ditched in favor of two-year courses.



On Oct. 1, 1918, according to the 1919 Bugle, more than 600 students wearing khaki and olive drab instead of the usual blue and gray were finally sworn in.

But just when the environment seemed to be settling into a positive routine, a new threat emerged in Blacksburg, creating even more chaos.

"Just as the confused turmoil of September was fading into memory and instruction in the new program was getting underway, influenza hit the campus and spread like wildfire," according to Lyle Kinnear's "The First 100 Years: A History of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University."

All instruction except outdoor drills was suspended. The Field House was converted into a hospital, nurses recruited, and physically able students called into service as orderlies. At one time, there were more than 200 confirmed cases on campus.

According to Professor Thomas Ewing, who has received National Endowment for the Humanities funding to run workshops on the 1918 pandemic and taught a data course on the topic this spring while all Tech instruction was online, the number of students who died is unclear, but it was between five and 10. "If you think about 600 or so students, 10 is a lot," he said. Worldwide, as many as 50 million died, 650,000 of them in the U.S.

The first VPI death was reported by the Roanoke World News on Oct. 9: 18-year-old Anthony V. Clarkson, of Claremont, Virginia. The Oct. 19 edition of the paper reported that "authorities have the situation well in hand," but also said, "the nurses who are attending the Virginia Polytechnic Institute cadets in Blacksburg are very busy."

The historic documents also demonstrate an early commitment to outreach education, especially through the network of educators and experts now known as Virginia Cooperative Extension.

During the epidemic of 1918, Extension agents across the state employed innovative strategies to serve their constituents. The Alexandria Gazette reported, "Substantial aid came to the State Board of Health Sunday when Miss Ella Agnew, chief of the home economics division of the extension work of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, tendered the use of her county agents, many of whom have had experience in nursing." Agnew was the first female demonstration agent in the country and the namesake of Virginia Tech's Agnew Hall.

The Staunton News Leader also said that Jesse M. Jones, director of Extension work in Virginia, told agents, "Serve your people to the best of your ability in the present epidemic," including opening soup kitchens for temporary hospitals and clinics. According to the paper, "In many of the counties there is an appalling lack of doctors and nurses, and the agents are being called upon to take their places.... In counties and towns where there are no hospitals, the agents will go from house to house helping any and every way they can."

Some agents went to great lengths. The Nov. 20, 1918, edition of the Big Stone Gap Post reported that "one young woman agent left her car at the foot of the mountain and walked four miles to the home, carrying a basket laden with food and such medicine as she could secure in the village where she has her office.... It is no exaggeration to say that the death rate would have been much higher but for the work of the agents."

At VPI, students returned to class on Nov. 3, only to be disrupted again by a "false armistice" on Nov. 7, which "created an emotional orgy which dulled the reception of the real armistice four days later," according to Kinnear. Interest in studying waned even further amid rumors of impending demobilization, followed by an exodus of the "boy soldiers" between Dec. 5 and 12.

Faculty members gamely continued offering classes through the end of the semester, but in late December gave it up and decided to start the semester all over again Dec. 31.

COVER YOUR FACE: (top) Individuals wore face coverings to help reduce the spread of infection in their communities.

PANDEMIC PERSPECTIVES

As communities across the globe confronted the COVID-19 pandemic, a group of Virginia Tech students explored the history of another major outbreak.

The 1918 influenza epidemic served as the central research project for history Professor Thomas Ewing's Topics in the History of Data in Social Context course.

When Ewing, an expert on the history of epidemics, selected the research project in the fall of 2019, he didn't anticipate the themes of the course would dominate daily life just a few months later.

Following Virginia Tech's transition to online learning in March, students in Ewing's class continued to pore over news articles and other data related to the 1918 outbreak. The class also collaborated with the National Library of Medicine on a virtual symposium based on the research.

The program, "Reporting, Recording, and Remembering the 1918 Influenza Epidemic," debuted on April 29, and was made possible through the National Library of Medi-



cine's formal partnership with the National Endowment for the Humanities to collaborate on research, education, and career initiatives. This partnership also resulted in a summer seminar for K-12 teachers and a workshop and book on viral networks.

The students found that like present-day leaders, health officials and state governments encouraged citizens to practice distancing and take other precautionary measures during the 1918 event. Governments closed schools, churches, and other venues to prevent large gatherings. Many cities encouraged residents to wear personal protective equipment. Some, including San Francisco and Seattle, forced residents to wear masks by law.

According to Ewing, statistics from the 1918 epidemic were used to help quide public policy recommendations in 2020.

Also, the 1918 outbreak provided important lessons about taking appropriate public health measures, relying on expert guidance, and understanding the uncertainty of predicting the scope and severity of an epidemic, said Ewing.

"In 1918, public health officials warned of the potential impact of a widespread disease outbreak, yet they also underestimated how many people would fall ill and the total number of deaths," said Ewing. "In 2020, Americans received similarly inconsistent messages, as the warnings of public health experts about the need for urgent and strict measures were undercut by other officials."

In contrast to 1918, however, the voices of those urging alarm in 2020 were heeded more quickly, leading to officials implementing measures on a wider and more complete scale, Ewing noted.

SICK ROOM: In September of 1918, soldiers at an army base near Boston suddenly began to die. The cause of death was identified as influenza, but it was unlike any strain ever seen. Nearly every hospital bed was full. It was the worst epidemic in American history.



HOKIE NATION **49** Class Notes **50** Alumni Profiles 56 Retro 58 Family

BUSINESS CLASS

LYNNE DOUGHTIE '85 ACHIEVED PROFESSIONAL SUCCESS, BREAKING BARRIERS IN BUSINESS ALONG THE WAY.

In 2015, she became the first female top executive at KPMG LLP, one of the world's leading professional service firms. In June, she retired as the company's U.S. chairman and CEO. Throughout her career, Doughtie regularly was named one of Fortune Magazine's Most Powerful Women in Business.

Doughtie has remained involved with Virginia Tech as a member of both the Pamplin College of Business Advisory Council and the Accounting and Information Systems Advisory Board. She is currently serving alongside Morgan Blackwood-Patel '03 and Horacio Valeiras '80 as a tri-chair of Boundless Impact: The Campaign for Virgina Tech. In 2018, Doughtie was awarded Virginia Tech's University Distinguished Achievement Award.

Doughtie recently shared her thoughts on her career, her alma mater, and the direction of higher education.

Why did you pursue a career in professional services?

"Growing up I watched my parents build businesses and, from an early age, they allowed me to 'help.' I recall summers as a young girl, sitting with my mother and her teaching me to post accounts receivable and make deposits. Their drive sparked my desire to pursue a business career. Eventually, I made what felt like a natural choice to major in accounting at Virginia Tech.



FAMILY PHOTO: The Doughtie family, Ben, Lynne, Evie, and Schuyler, who are all Virginia Tech alumni, celebrated Lynne's recognition as a recipient of the University Distinguished Achievement Award in 2018.

"As the first in my family to go to college, it was important to me to find a university, and later a place to work, with a nurturing, supportive culture. I found that at Virginia Tech and at KPMG.

"When I was looking at what was next after graduation, I met recruiters from what was then the 'Big 8' accounting firms, and the recruiter from KPMG was a woman. That was unusual in 1984. She was impressive, articulate, and kind, and I walked away from that conversation thinking that KPMG would be a good fit for me."

Each turn of your career has involved additional responsibilities and a widened scope of influence. What prepared you for these transitions?

"The foundation I had was strong. My parents instilled in my sister and me the confidence that we could achieve anything. I also had great mentors and sponsors at Virginia Tech and at KPMG who invested their time in me and supported me in career growth opportunities."

What was the most unexpected turn in your career?

"When you've been at it as long as I have, you're definitely going to have times when things don't go as you expect.

"In the late 1990s, I was up for partner at KPMG and feeling confident I would be promoted that year. And then, market forces and client consolidation impacted my promotion that year.

"I was really upset about it. It seemed unfair because it wasn't anything I did wrong; there were external factors beyond my control. It was a time when I was disappointed and upset, but it actually led to a much bigger opportunity for me. I joined a different part of our business. It was a brand-new area for me where I learned so much, and it gave me a different experience to be a more successful leader down the road. I'm not sure I would have become chairman and CEO of KPMG if I hadn't taken some risks, gotten out of my comfort-zone, and tried new things."

By a number of measures, KPMG is regarded as a great place to work. Why do you feel this is the case?

"Our caring and inclusive culture is what stands out the most to me. It attracts extraordinary people who want to work and build their careers here.

"Culture is something that can't be replicated. To ensure it remains the cornerstone for years to come, I've led initiatives that further strengthened the firm's culture and accentuated our values, while also continuing to advance diversity and inclusion within our firm and the marketplace."

Describe the principles that govern your life, professionally and personally.

"It starts with integrity and your character and ensuring that doing what's right is front and center. Also important to me is authenticity-being true to who you are and not trying to be something you are not. In our family, we value humility and hard work. We are all here for a purpose and have a responsibility to help others-in other words, Ut Prosim (That I May Serve).

"Professionally, I trust my values to guide me, especially when making tough decisions. I focus on leading with my head, my heart, and my gut. Leading with your head is getting the facts and using your intellect to get to the truth. Leading with your heart—caring about others and being empathetic-is important, too. Leaders who care get to the right decisions. And leading with your gut means sometimes you have to do the really hard thing because it's for the greater good. I put decisions through the head, heart, and gut check and move forward with courage to do what is right. It goes back to the core value of integrity."

Why have you continued to serve on the Pamplin advisory board and the accounting and information systems board?

"Virginia Tech had a huge impact on my life. My husband, son, and daughter are all alumni, too.

"I graduated with the educational foundation and the confidence to launch my career. I want to make sure tomorrow's Hokies can build on their experience, just like I did, and I want them to know their horizons are only limited by their imagination, attitude, and willingness to work hard.

"Virginia Tech invested so much in me, and I want to pay it forward by serving and investing in future business leaders and Virginia Tech graduates.

"Ut Prosim lives on in me. and I will continue to do what I can to support Virginia Tech."

What are your thoughts about Virginia Tech's momentum and direction?

"Graduates today must be skilled in their disciplines but also be able to work together in teams, problem-solve, think critically, and function professionally.

"At KPMG, for example, leaders must inspire trust, deliver impact, and seek growth-for themselves, and their teams. We look for individuals with the requisite skills to meet the fast-evolving needs of our profession, who also lead with passion and purpose, live and uphold our firm's long-standing values, drive quality, and value an inclusive and diverse culture. VT students are well-positioned to succeed and lead."

As you think about the top-rate talent needed for a successful business, what is higher education doing well, and where can it improve?

"Higher education has evolved in its approach to how students learn, particularly by using technology, inside and outside the classroom.

"The university's focus on bringing students together from different disciplines to tackle challenges, with a curriculum that gives students the opportunity to

Virginia Tech modified its fundraising efforts so that members of the Hokie community could focus on their personal, business, and community responses to the pandemic. What would you say to Hokies about taking care of the needs closest to them, while also considering how they might someday continue giving to Virginia Tech to help students and faculty?

"This unprecedented crisis has thrust us into an uncertain world. We are navigating many unknowns, and it is more important than ever that we focus on those closest to us-our families, neighbors, colleagues, and communities.

"We have seen tremendous acts of kindness during this time, and I am certain that my fellow Hokies are amongst those who are doing their part in this crisis.

"Virginia Tech has given us so much, and we are a strong and resilient community. This will pass, and we will find ourselves in a new normal. When that happens, I encourage the Hokie community to continue supporting Virginia Tech."

work on real-world, multifaceted problems that require people with different mindsets and skills, really prepares students for a working world where diversity of thought and experience is the norm.

"And, importantly, Virginia Tech should continue making investments like it has in its Innovation Campus. Not only will this investment drive economic growth in Virginia, but it affords Virginia Tech students the unique opportunity to be at the forefront of the expansion of technology education in this country, where they will learn the critical skills businesses are looking for in hiring."

SUPPORTING BUSINESS **EDUCATION**

Virginia Tech will name the KPMG/ Lynne and Ben Doughtie Undergraduate Programs Suite, within its planned Global Business and Analytics Complex, in recognition of \$2.5 million that was recently committed toward the project.

The naming will highlight the positive impact on the university made by Lynne Doughtie '85, her family, and KPMG, the firm for which she served as U.S. chairman and CEO from July 2015 through June 2020.

"We are extremely grateful to the Doughties, KPMG LLP partners, and the KPMG U.S. Foundation Inc., for this generous gift, which brings our Global **Business and Analytics Complex one** step closer to completion," said Virginia Tech President Tim Sands. "This facility will provide tomorrow's leaders with the skills they need to analyze complex data and help solve problems faced by businesses and communities around the world."

The Global Business and Analytics Complex, which will add four buildings to Virginia Tech's Blacksburg campus, is part of the university's push to build on its expertise in data analytics and decision sciences.

Joining Lynne and Ben Doughtie in making the gift were several alumni who are KPMG partners, including Chris Xystros '84, through the KPMG Foundation Matching Gift Program.

"I know I speak for all KPMG Hokies when I say that I am extremely proud that Lynne Doughtie, a fellow Hokie, rose to the top of our firm and served us well as chairman and CEO," Xystros said. "We are equally proud to join with Lynne in making this commitment in support of Virginia Tech's Global Business and Analytics Complex." \blacksquare AR

STUDENT EMERGENCY FUND HELPS ADDRESS



HELPING VIRGINIA TECH STUDENTS who face sudden and unexpected financial hardships is one part of Anthony Scott's job as an associate dean of students.

It's never been a bigger part.

Since mid-March, widespread disruptions related to the COVID-19 pandemic have led to an unprecedented number of requests for help from students struggling to afford basic necessities, such as food, rent, or internet access to continue their educations remotely.

Emergency federal assistance has allowed the university to help many of the more than 2,000 students who have reached out. But in numerous instances the university was only able to help thanks to donor gifts to Virginia Tech's Student Emergency Fund by generous alumni, friends, university employees, and parents of current or former students.

"We made 27 grants from the Student Emergency Fund during all of the spring 2019 semester," said Scott, who administers the program. "Since mid-March, this year we have made 190 grants, and counting."

More than 220 donors have given to the fund since March, and fundraising for the program is ongoing. Scott said he was in the process of reviewing nearly 100 additional student applications for support, and he expected many more would continue to come his way. The amount each student receives varies, but is typically a few hundred dollars.

"We look at this as a way that we can at least assist with a rent payment, food, utilities, or something important," Scott said. "A lot of students are now in a position where they just don't have options. Because of the pandemic, summer internships have been canceled and opportunities for summer work are gone."

While roughly seven-times as many students have been assisted compared to last year, the program has always served an important function. By providing critical help for students at tough points in their lives, the fund has helped make it possible for many Hokies to stay on track toward earning their degrees.

During his senior year, Dustin Dorph was carrying 18 credits, serving as Student Government Association president, and working at Jimmy Johns to help support himself. It became too much to juggle. After falling behind on bills and having a hold placed on his university account, Dorph was referred to the Office of the Dean of Students. He received a grant from the Student Emergency Fund. The aid, along with other support, helped Dorph resolve his financial situation. He completed his bachelor's in civil engineering in 2013, and is now a development director with Manifold, a real estate development firm based in Austin, Texas.

Dorph said he makes a point of donating to the Student Emergency Fund and also serves on the Student Affairs Young Alumni Advisory Board because "Virginia Tech threw me a life raft when I needed it as a student. I'm forever grateful for that and for the people who made such a significant impact on my life. I want to make sure that all students can have that kind of help when they need it. So it was never if I was going to give back, but when and how. I always knew I wanted to pay it forward and help students who found themselves in a pinch financially, like I did my senior year."

It's been nearly three decades since Tom and Martha Murdock's daughter, Beverly Murdock, earned two degrees at Virginia Tech. Nevertheless, the Leesburg, Virginia, couple said the thought of today's students having to worry about basic necessities while also juggling challenging classwork inspired them to step forward and give.

"Our daughter had a wonderful experience at Virginia Tech, and we believe in doing what we can to help others get the most out their time at the university," Tom Murdock said. "It has been great to see the benefit of small grants geared to helping students directly at their time of need. It seems that small amounts applied at judicious times can really make an impact."

"College can be a very stressful time, and we want students to be able to focus on what they should be concentrating on like classes and career opportunities instead of where their next meal or rent payment will come from," said Martha Murdock.

Byron Hughes, Virginia Tech's dean of students, said the generosity of donors to the Student Emergency Fund has been particularly inspiring as he and colleagues in Student Affairs seek to help students navigate the unprecedented situation caused by the pandemic.

"The scope of need among students has grown and remains a challenge to address, but having our alumni, employees, friends, and parents step forward to support the Student Emergency Fund makes a big difference," Hughes said. "We are incredibly grateful to all who have given, or will."

Thinking back on his uncertain situation as a student, Dorph said: "It's hard to express the frustrations and anxieties of financial hardship—to worry about how to pay rent or for food while keeping grades up and meeting other obligations at the same time. For students in need, don't be afraid to ask for help. There's a community that's around to support you getting to a better spot." \blacksquare *AR* COLLEGE CAN BE A VERY STRESSFUL TIME, AND WE WANT STUDENTS TO BE ABLE TO FOCUS ON WHAT THEY SHOULD BE CONCENTRATING ON-LIKE CLASSES AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES-INSTEAD OF WHERE THEIR NEXT MEAL OR RENT PAYMENT WILL COME FROM."

Martha Murdock

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY



HURRICANES, TORNADOS, FLOODS, disease outbreaks, and more—Jeff Stern has seen it all. At age 18, Stern was drawn to protecting the public good, so he became a volunteer firefighter and paramedic in Montgomery County, Maryland.

"What I enjoyed doing as an avocation as a volunteer was directly helping people," said the Virginia Tech alumnus, who holds a Ph.D. in philosophy from the university's Center for Public Administration and Policy, housed in the School of Public and International Affairs.

Stern ultimately turned that passion into a career as a professional firefighter and paramedic in Arlington, Virginia, and later in Colorado.

As leader of the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM), Stern was at the forefront of the commonwealth's response to COVID-19. VDEM is responsible for carrying out preparedness and emergency response functions on behalf of Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam, buying personal protective equipment, and managing and distributing supplies across the commonwealth.

As soon as the pandemic began, a small group, including Stern, his employees, and representatives from 40 state agencies, manned the commonwealth's Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Stern recently transitioned to a new role as superintendent of FEMA's Emergency Management Institute.

You have dealt with about 50 emergencies in Virginia. How is this one different?

STERN: The first difference is the need to distance. We can't physically be together other than that small staff in the Emergency Operations Center. About 1,000 people are working virtually or out in the field. It's a very big scale and doing it remotely is a new challenge.

Another major difference is that normally when there is an event, you can quickly build out an estimated timeline of how long it will last, an arc of the event from preparation to response to recovery. With this, there is not an easily designed end stage, because there is the uncertainty of the disease.

The third difference involves our engagement with the private sector. We have over 1,000 private companies that have offered to assist in some way. What has been the hardest decision during the pandemic?

STERN: At the governor's level, the hardest decision was to shut down the economy.

Additionally, virtualizing the EOC structure early on was a critical choice. In those first four weeks, we had to be transparent with local governments about our limitations. We couldn't necessarily come to their aid with equipment the way we normally would in a hurricane or tornado. Supplies are limited. Orders for things like PPE [personal protective equipment] are being processed, but it takes two to three weeks to get them to our warehouse.

Our logistics team did an amazing job building a warehouse hub and distribution system in partnership with the Virginia National Guard and Estes Express, a Virginia trucking and logistics company.

How can Virginians stay positive?

STERN: The most important thing is to have hope and believe that this, too, will end. Other generations have gone through crises that have lasted for months and years.

Also, understand that it's okay to have mixed feelings and fears. There are a lot of resources in the communities. The meaning of 'commonwealth' is so paramount right now. **J**KB





HELPING OTHERS IS WHAT HOKIES DO

Our community has stepped up to help during an unprecedented time. Hokies all over have given to support students facing financial hardship and to fund COVID-19 research.

Hokie Nation is the embodiment of generosity and compassion.

Thank you for being a part of the Virginia Tech community.

To learn more about how gifts are making a difference, visit crowdfund.vt.edu



TURNING THE TASSEL IN 2020



FOR THE CLASS OF 2020, THE Virginia Tech experience came to an abrupt halt during the spring semester. The coronavirus pandemic would interfere with the final weeks of class, exams, and goodbyes. The move online would culminate with a virtual commencement ceremony filmed in an empty Lane Stadium.

And yet, the Class of 2020 marched resolutely onward.

Although this was not the way that students or the university would have chosen to close the academic year, the weeks between March 7 and May 15 did not fully define the Class of 2020. From move-in day in the fall of 2016 through midsemester in the spring of 2020, these students experienced all of the traditions and activities that connect Hokies generation to generation.

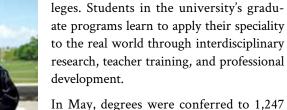
As individuals they learned and grew and planned for the future. And now, they take their spots as the newest Virginia Tech alumni.

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2020 ONCE A HOKIE, ALWAYS A HOKIE

GRADUATE DEGREES







In May, degrees were conferred to 1,247 Virginia Tech graduate students. including those in the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine and the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine in Roanoke.

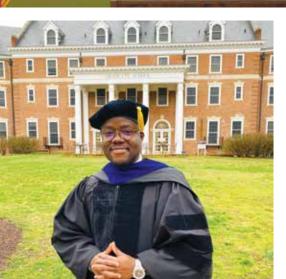
MORE THAN 170 GRADUATE PROGRAMS are offered across Virginia Tech's nine col-





GRAD SCHOOL





.SHLEY PERALTA, IBUKUN "DAMI" ALEGBEL



 Virginia Tech Carilion

 School of Medicine's

 Class of 2020

Members of the Virginia Tech Carilion

Members of the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine's Class of 2020 will go into programs representing 14 specialties in 16 states. The most represented specialties in the class include emergency medicine, internal medicine, and general surgery.

Recognized in the veterinary college community as trailblazers, members of the Class of 2020 were the first cohort to participate in the college's newly designed curricula. While 63 percent of the class secured work in private clinical practice, 22 percent are pursuing clinical internships or residencies, and 11 percent are serving in government, corporate, or military sectors, including three grads who were commissioned into the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps as captains.



MEDICINE







graduation poem

 ${
m I}~{
m join}$ -----in gentle sadness and silent tears the pride of the class of Twenty Twenty in accepting their duty

 ${\rm I}~{
m join}$ -----the unheard steps across the stage And the shouts when that diploma is put in their hands

 ${
m I~join}$ -----the bravery of the class of Twenty Twenty in understanding: some gave their health; some gave their lives; some gave their possibility of kindness because of the selfishness of others

I join-----the understanding of forgiveness

I join-----my students in writing about their first kiss and

I join----them in the heartbreak when he is gone

I join-----the laughter after a winning football game And the pouts when UVA finally almost evened the score

 ${
m I~join}$ ----our parents who struggled to make this day a possibity that is not possible that will always be possible because The Hokie Nation is the possibility of ourselves

 ${
m I}~{
m join}$ -----those who hope our campus will find room for a monument to celebrate these youngsters. Most of our monuments honor those who cannot know how we praise them.

I join-----those who praise the living

 ${
m I}~{
m join}$ -----all of the Hokie family who welcome the newest Hokie members Who one day will bring their grandchildren to show "See? I was a different soldier in a different war"

 $I \ join$ -----the pride we take in the Hokie family The Class of Twenty Twenty has been gracious and brave

I join-----all of us all over the globe who applaud their sacrifice

 ${
m I~join}$ -----the sun shining for your warmth and the rain for quenching your thirst Spring will come and winter will be embraced

I join-----all people of goodwill wishing you congratulations

Milli Ferrain

*This poem, which was written for the Class of 2020, was read by Nikki Giovanni during the virtual commencement ceremony on May 15, 2020.

 ${
m I~join}$ -----us all in the struggle to be a better nation through the betterment



2016 TO 2020





2019: Virginia Tech recognized the 40th anniversary of Denim Day, the first gay rights event on campus. The celebration was held in conjunction with Pride Week.



ESPN's College GameDay broadcast-ed live on the Blacksburg campus before the Hokies' Sept. 30 game against Clemson University. 5



2020: The annual Run in Remembrance went virtual for three days in April.



2020: Virginia Tech extends spring break, moves classes online for the remainder of the spring semester, in response to COVID-19.





2018: Virginia Tech announced plans for the Innovation Campus, a 1 million-square-foot graduate campus located in Alexandria, less than two miles from Amazon's new headquarters.









2016-17: Four cultural centers debuted-the Asian Cultural Engagement Center; the American Indian & Indigenous Community Center; El Centro, a Hispanic and Latino center; and the LGBTQ+ Resource Center. They joined the Black Cultural Center, which opened in 1991.









Anderson .Paak & The Free Nationals, Fitz and The Tantrums, and DJ Earworm performed on the Drillfield at the launch of Boundless Impact: . The Campaign for Virginia Tech.



44 doctors of medicine

123 doctors of veterinary medicine

824 master's degrees

13 education specialist degrees

18 Ed.D.s

> 104 advanced graduate certificates

288 Ph.D.s

GRADUATE DEGREES

> FROM STUDENT TO ALUMNUS >

Find it all online at alumni.vt.edu/youngalumni.

Your graduation is a milestone. Your journey with Virginia Tech is just getting started. Here's how you can stay connected.

- Update your contact information so you don't miss news and updates.
- □ Attend an event online with fellow alums.
- Find your local chapter so you can connect with Hokies wherever you are.
- Check out the Hokie Club Recent Graduate Program for discounted game tickets and more.
- Get career help with our Hokies job board and virtual networking opportunities.

507 College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

354 College of Architecture and Urban Studies

Pamplin College of Business

1616 College of Engineering

970 College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences

216 College of Natural Resources and Environment

> 930 College of Science

BACHELOR'S DEGREES

CONGRATULATIONS, HOKIES!

You have attained something you can never lose, something upon which you will stand to reach your dreams-your Virginia Tech education. While your last semester was not what any of us expected, nothing can diminish your achievement, and you've proven that nothing will stand in your way. For every obstacle you overcame to reach this goal, we congratulate you. For every sacrifice you and your family made to get you here, we applaud you. For the spirit of Ut Prosim (That I May Serve) you will carry with you always, we commend you. Class of 2020, you will forever hold a special place in our hearts and minds.

We celebrate you now and always. -President Tim Sands



CLASS NOTES

Alumni, we want to hear what you've been doing. Mail career, wedding, birth, and death news to Class Notes, Virginia Tech Alumni Association, Holtzman Alumni Center, 901 Prices Fork Road, Blacksburg, VA 24061; email the information to classnotes@vt.edu; or submit the news online at vtmag.vt.edu/submit-classnote.php, where photos may also be uploaded for consideration. For assistance, call 540-231-6285.

'51

CAREER Brooks M. Whitehurst, New Bern, N.C., received the Who's Who Lifetime Achievement award.



CAREER Stephen Richard Huggins, Madison, Ga., authored "America's Use of Terror," published by The University Press of Kansas.



CAREER Cloyd Nelson Long Jr., Bedford, N.Y., was inducted into the Met Section PGA Hall of Fame.

Robert L. Pack, Miami, Fla., authored "Boomer Strong 1946-64: One Boomer's Simple Message to the Rest of His Generation.'

Stephen Tyler Rasnic Tem, Centennial, Colo., published "Figures Unseen: Selected Stories," "UBO," and "Blood Kin" and won a Bram Stoker Award for "Blood Kin.



CAREER William Andrew Simantel, Hardeeville, S.C., retired after 38 years of service at Northrop Grumman Corp., Baltimore, Md.



CAREER Brenda Eileen McDaniel, Pilot, Va., authored "My Angel, My

Robert Alan Rapaport, Virginia Beach, Va., was reappointed commissioner of the Virginia Workers' Compensation Commission during the 2020 Session of the Virginia General Assembly.



CAREER Kevin Gregory Goodwin, Newark, Del., retired after 39

ment

Linda Dexter Griffin, Myrtle Beach, S.C., retired as dean of student development for Louisiana Tech University.

Johann Richard Kinsey, Helotes, Texas, was promoted to major general.

'78

CAREER Thomas Pendleton Hood, Henrico, Va., was inducted into the Richmond Tennis Hall of Fame, 11/16/19.

Ricky Lee Schoenthaler, Abu Dhabi, UAE, joined Dewberry as vice president and program manager in the Mid-Atlantic Water Group.

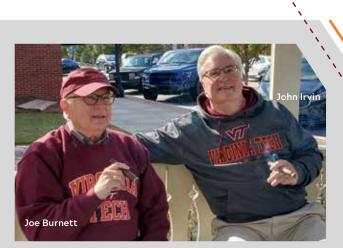
Steven Lee Spurlock, Washington, D.C., was appointed to the 2020 American Institute of Architects College of Fellows jury.

Robin Denis Stewart. Downers Grove, Ill., retired after 42 years with Armstrong Flooring. Joseph Edward Wells, Reston, Va.,

was promoted to senior principal at Dewberry.



years with DuPont Capital Manage-



FRIENDS FOR LIFE

Joe Burnett and John Irvin began what would become a lifelong friendship when they attended each other's first birthday parties in Lynchburg, Virginia, in 1945. The pair attended church school and high school together before eventually enrolling at Virginia Tech. Both served in the Corps of Cadets: Burnett was a platoon leader in L Company, and Irvin was the drum major of the Highty-Tighties.

After graduating from the university in 1967, Burnett and Irvin were initially assigned to Fort Bliss as second lieutenants.

"At Fort Bliss we were both assigned to the same command," said Irvin." We just couldn't seem to get away from each other."

The friends, who now live in Georgia, meet every few weeks. And they still find time to celebrate their birthdays and the friendship that began over cake and ice cream.



AT YOUR SERVICE

AS THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS SPREAD

this spring, Virginia Tech alumni wasted no time finding ways to put Ut Prosim (That I May Serve) into action. From fashioning face masks to serving on the front lines of the health professions, our alums worked hard to offer support and help curb the spread.

Although it would be impossible to quantify the names and actions of everyone who stepped up to help, we appreciate the efforts of each and every alum who generously gave of their time, talent, and resources to keep our communities safe and healthy.

These next few pages highlight some of the simple and extraordinary contributions of Virginia Tech graduates across the nation and the globe. These individuals represent the resilience, character, and service that are central to true Hokie Spirit.

Thank you, Hokies.

JOE DESIMONE PH.D. '90

Alumnus Joseph DeSimone's California-based business took a proactive approach to a problem that emerged as a result of the pandemic-a shortage of nasopharyngeal or upper nasal cavity testing swabs and face shields for health care workers.

Carbon, a digital manufacturer that uses rapid 3D technology, designed test swabs made with a material typically used in dental and orthodontic products, such as nightguards.

Carbon also produced more than 350,000 face shields using a dental resin or a polyurethane material often found in the midsole of an Adidas shoe.

Through Carbon's work with Resolution Medical, a medical device company, more than a half-million test swabs have been shipped to hospitals around the country.

CHRIS KOPEC '00

To escape the tedium of the shutdown, Chris Kopec decided to throw his family a dance party to lift their spirits. He hooked up his DJ gear and headed to Facebook Live, expecting to get 20-50 viewers, but soon there were over 20,000 people tuning in. Based on the success of the first event, Kopec recognized the opportunity to use his family dance parties for something more than just fun.

Kopec transformed the virtual events into fundraisers for first responders and people who had been affected by the virus.

Over time, the viral videos reached millions, inspiring support from various corporations. To date. Kopec's dance parties have raised more than \$1 million.



UT PROSIM: Pictured above: (center) Eric Parlette, (top to bottom) Elsa Murano, John Ross, Justin Graves, Joe DeSimone, Camille Schrier



ELSA MURANO '90

Virginia Tech Department of Food Science and Technology alumna Elsa Murano was selected as the sole U.S. representative on the newly formed Food Security of the Americas Advisory Council, which was established to address the mounting food supply issues resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Food Security of the Americas Advisory Council is made up of representatives from eight countries, including Costa Rica, Barbados, Colombia, Mexico, Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, and the United States, each specializing in varying areas of agriculture and food policy.

Murano is currently the director of the Norman Borlaug Institute for International Agriculture at Texas A&M University.

DEBIE MCDONALD '79



On St. Patrick's Day, Debie McDonald, a patient advocate, learned that her local hospital, AdventHealth in Celebration, Florida, expected to run out of critical PPE and cleaning supplies. McDonald jumped into action and secured items, including goggles and bleach, and organized a fleet of volunteers willing to craft cloth facial masks.

To date, the group she created, Sewing for Life, has donated more than 1,000 cloth masks to churches, a community outreach program for low-income families, essential workforce members, and medical professionals. So far, more than 750 of the masks have gone to the hospital, where they serve as an emergency backup for caregivers. McDonald said the sewing group, which includes several furloughed costume creators from the nearby amusement parks, continues to manage requests for masks from both individuals and groups on a daily basis.

RICK DEVENS '06



Rick Devens was one of 18 people selected to take part in the most recent iteration of CBS' Emmy Award-winning reality television competition, "Survivor: Edge of Extinction."

A graduate of Blacksburg High School, Devens studied communication at Virginia Tech and currently works as a newscaster in Macon, Georgia.

This spring, Devens took to social media, capitalizing on his recent celebrity to offer support and encouragement for Virginia Tech students in their adjustment to remote learning and the loss of their campus experiences, including graduation.

CAMILLE SCHRIER '18

On Dec. 19, 2019, Camille Schrier was crowned the 99th Miss America in Uncasville, Connecticut, making history as the first contestant to complete an on-stage chemistry experiment during the talent portion of the competition. In March, it became clear that her reign would include additional milestones. Schrier would become the 99th and 100th Miss America, as the 2020 event was suspended due to the pandemic.

Schrier's reign has been anything but traditional, which she admits is pretty "onbrand" for her. She has continued to advocate for young girls with STEM interests though virtual science lessons. In addition, Schrier has tapped into YouTube to demonstrate home chemistry projects, highlight how the process of diffusion works, or explain the science of floral arrangements.





BRIAN CONNOR M.D. '19

Brian Connor, an internal medicine resident at the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington, found himself on the front lines of the pandemic in its earliest days. "Being in one of the initial 'hot-spots' for the pandemic in this country certainly came with its share of anxiety-personally, professionally, and socially," Connor said.

Some of Connor's residency learning experiences had to be canceled, and staffing shifted to acute and intensive care units.

"At first, it was disappointing," Connor said. "But it was inspiring how tirelessly and selflessly my co-residents volunteered to staff some of the most affected and time-consuming services, including the medical intensive care unit. The sense of camaraderie and selflessness was pervasive and infectious. The desire to serve the community and support one another outmatched personal trepidation."

JOHN ROSS '99

John Ross realized that the pandemic would affect not only universities, but also K-12 schools. As an instructional design consultant and author, he knew his expertise could help others. Ross joined Jeff Mann and Jane Wemhoener, faculty members in the Virginia Tech Department of English and co-leaders of an Iceland study abroad program, to organize safe travel home for students prior to the closure of international borders. Ross also helped the faculty find effective ways to replicate their book-discussion-based course in a virtual environment.

As a volunteer, Ross is co-leading an online session for Dell Technologies and conducting educational technology planning and implementation. Dell is a large contributor of technology for schools, but does not offer training. When the coronavirus pandemic began, Dell's education department wanted to demonstrate how its services could benefit educators by working through education contractors to offer a series of free webinars. Ross agreed to help. His contribution is focused on how to develop community online.

ERIC PARLETTE '94

Eric Parlette, a Navy reservist and doctor in the Medical Operations Center on the USNS Comfort, quickly responded when summoned to the front lines of the battle against COVID-19. Parlette and other crew members dropped anchor near New York City on March 30 to aid the city's hospitals, which were overwhelmed with patients infected with the coronavirus. The crew spent the next month caring for various types of patients, including those who had been diagnosed with COVID-19.

While on the Comfort, Parlette served as one of four physicians in the Medical Operations Center, which was responsible for communications with surrounding medical facilities and with facilitating logistics, admissions, and discharges of patients on and off the ship. From the dock in Manhattan, they could see the tops of the buildings in Times Square and feel the eeriness of the city's situation. Parlette said that his sense of duty was cultivated in Blacksburg.

"It was fundamental, the culture at Tech, revolving around the motto Ut Prosim. I think the mindset of service comes with a sense of humility, which is incredibily important and produces the best kind of leaders," Parlette said.

JENNIFER MCQUISTON DVM '97 AND CAITLIN COSSABOOM '10, MPH '14, DVM '15, PH.D. '15

On Feb. 1, Jennifer McQuiston, deputy director, Division of High Consequence Pathogens and Pathology, National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases, was called to serve the Centers for Disease Control in the field. McQuiston was deployed to Lackland Air Force Base in Texas to oversee a team coordinating the

repatriation of U.S. citizens being evacuated from Wuhan, China. The team was responsible for safely managing the personal and medical needs of 91 Americans, who would be quarantined at the base for at least 14 days. Later, additional staff added to manage the volume of the work included Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine grad Caitlin Cossaboom.

Members of the team coordinated access to meals, monitored health, and managed all other aspects of care for those quarantined. Of the 91 citizens, only one tested positive for COVID-19.

Upon returning to the CDC from the field, McQuiston helped coordinate a field team deployed to respond to newly identified community transmission efforts in California. Then from March-May, McQuiston served as principal deputy incident manager for the CDC's COVID-19 response.

"I describe myself in this role as being like a border collie herding sheep," said McQuiston. In that role, she worked to coordinate the tasks across various scientific areas and other COVID-related work to ensure goals are achieved and to avoid duplication of services and maximize efficiency. McQuiston noted that the CDC response was an "all hands on deck" effort, which she anticipated would continue until there is a vaccine.



JUSTIN GRAVES '12, M.A.'14

Motivational speaker Justin Graves hopped on YouTube on March 30 to share a little positivity as the reality of COVID-19 reached the United States and Virginia Tech. He encouraged people to "do their part," asking viewers to consider people like him as they made choices about staying at home and adapting to infection control recommendations. Graves is immunocompromised, meaning that, for him, the dangers of the virus are far more severe than they might be for his friends and neighbors.

Graves thanked Hokies for staying home, staying connected, and practicing social distancing. "Thank you for being a part of the best community in the world: the Virginia Tech community," he concluded. "Go Hokies!"

KEEGAN CZESAK '18

Agricultural technology and management major Keegan Czesak was tasked with creating a business plan for a farm as his last project before graduating from Virginia Tech. The project represented a culmination of everything he had learned about agriculture. Following commencement, Czesak continued to refine his plan, which ultimately resulted in the development of an independent agricultural business, Eno River Farm.

Czesak was just launching a four-acre strawberry field on St. Mary's Road, north of Hillsborough, North Carolina, when COVID-19 hit. The young entrepreneur implemented a pandemic plan to keep his dream alive and ensure the health and safety of customers and staff. But Czesak took the efforts a step farther, donating around 70 gallons of his farm's homemade ice cream along with freshly picked berries to area food pantries.

Eno River remains open today, enforcing quidelines that help ensure customer safety.

TORI ALLEY '19 AND CARLEY PAVAN '18

Tori Alley and Carley Pavan teach agriculture at Pulaski County High School, Pulaski, Virginia, but their work extends far beyond the classroom. The pair helps manage a school-based horticulture enterprise known as Pat's Patch. Each May, Pat's Patch holds

Transitioning to an online learning format in Pulaski County required more logistics than in more urban regions across the state. Many of the students did not have internet access, so learning became almost entirely individualized. Although they were new to their roles, the rookie teachers rose to the challenge. Pavan even shared her cell phone number with students, encouraging them to give her a call or send a text to prove they had completed the work. To meet their class requirements, students uploaded videos demonstrating lawn care techniques or promoting tractor safety and sent pictures of home-grown onions, cabbage, and even corn ready to transplant.







a community plant sale, but the commonwealth's shelter-in-place order rendered the 2020 event impossible.

Alley and Pavan didn't want to see their students' work go to waste. Alley created a Facebook group and invited community members to join. The teachers posted pictures of the plants, instructions for care, and suggested amounts for donation. The pair, who also provided door-to-door delivery of the purchases, sold out of most offerings and raised \$2,500 for the school.

Additionally, the Tech alums took responsibility for temporarily rehoming animals from the school's small animal care program, ranging from a bearded dragon to a potbellied pig named Ellie May.

EDMUNDS BROTHERS

Terrell '17. Trey '15. and Tremaine Edmunds all played football at Dan River High School and then Virginia Tech. They're all now in the NFL. On March 25, the trio returned to Danville to distribute nearly 1,000 lunches to their community following the grim announcement of the massive spread of coronavirus in the United States. The Drive-Thru Service was sponsored by the Danville chapter of The Links Inc., a national service organization.

"It's everything," Terrell said. "Just putting smiles on people's faces coming by to grab some lunch and enjoying a good time through all the bad that's going on in the world. Just knowing it's a tough time, but we're tougher people and we're going to get through it. It's amazing being out here, helping out, putting it on with everyone, seeing big smiles around the city."

JACK '12 AND ALLEY '13 DUFOUR

Jack and Alley DuFour, Blacksburg, Virginia, founded Taaluma Totes in 2012. The company has sold thousands of bags crafted from unique international and domestic fabrics. Manufactured by a nonprofit organization in Southwest Virginia that supports jobs for dozens of workers with disabilities, a portion of the profits from the sale of the bags assists people living in the communities where the fabric originated.



Like most companies, Taaluma Totes realized it would need to change its business model when the pandemic hit. The DuFour's original operation was deemed "nonessential," but they were met with requests from clientele to manufacture masks. By repurposing materials, they were able to meet these requests and also shipped masks to hospitals all across the country.

"Our goal is to provide as much help as we can during this time," said the founders. "We assume with the combined effort of other individuals and companies we will be able to make enough PPE equipment where there is no longer a shortage. When we started, we had no idea how long this would last."

PANJAMMERS

To honor the Virginia Tech Class of 2020, the PanJammers, an award-winning steel drum orchestra based in Blacksburg, Virginia, recorded a virtual version of the traditional graduation song, "Pomp and Circumstance." The Blacksburg recording was organized by Sheryl Ball, an economics professor in the College of Science.

More than half of PanJammers have Virginia Tech affiliations, either through employment or as alumni.

The video ran roughly three minutes and was shared online via the university's social media platforms and played during the Department of Economics' virtual commencement celebration.

TYROD TAYLOR '10

Los Angeles Chargers quarterback Tyrod Taylor donated \$25,000 to the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank in his hometown, Hampton, Virginia. Taylor's support provided a truckload of fresh food for distribution to individuals impacted by the COVID-19 crisis.

Earlier in 2020, the former Virginia Tech athlete participated in a shopping spree connected to the grand opening of a new Kroger location in Hampton to help stock the shelves at the foodbank.

Rising junior Rosie Hutchinson, an intern with Virginia Tech Magazine, curated the information for this story.





SAVE THE DATES

A NOTE ABOUT OUR EVENTS

All Hokies are eager to be together again so we can celebrate our special community.

We've seen the novel coronavirus change the world we live in, and together we are all adapting to the uncertainty.

While we are looking forward to the time when we're together again, we are also closely monitoring the effects of COVID-19. Right now, we are exploring what Virginia Tech events on campus and in your communities would look like and when they could resume.

We will communicate with you reqularly about our future plans and the virtual events we are planning.

Even if we must be physically distant, we can still remain close.

For more information, visit alumni.vt.edu/events.

'79

CAREER Richard Lewis Fitzgerald, Middlebrook, Va., was presented with the Carl G. Luebben Lifetime Achievement Award



CAREER Thomas Edward Goode, APO, AE., retired from the Department of Defense Dependents Schools System after 31 years.



CAREER Barbara Kretchman Jones, Hightstown, N.J., published "Wild Capital: Nature's Economic and Ecological Wealth."



CAREER Vera L. Turner, Alexandria, Va., joined Maryland Public Television as managing director of membership



CAREER Terry Keith Hull, Centreville, Va., joined Dewberry as a program manager for its intelligence community market segment, based in Fairfax, Va.

Thomas Joseph Wilson, Henrico, Va., authored "The Tennis Commandments" under the pen name TJ Faultz.



CAREER Barbara Ann Knuth, Ithaca, N.Y., received the Debra W. Stewart Award for Outstanding Leadership in Graduate Education from the Council of Graduate Schools.



CAREER Sandra Lee Smith Tucker, Leesburg, Va., was named 2019 Virginia Association of Marketing Educators Teacher of the Year.



CAREER Douglas Keith Clark, Springfield, Va., was appointed brigadier general in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve.

Tracy Tate O'Dowd. Frederick. Md., accepted the job of director of sponsorship, Mid-Atlantic Division, Major League Lacrosse.

George Joseph Weinstein, Roswell, Ga., authored "Watch What You Sav (Southern Fried Karma)."



CAREER L. Christine McGinn Barbour, High Point, N.C., founding partner of Barbour Spangler Design, received the Triad Business Journal 2020 Outstanding Women in Business award for executive leadership. community involvement, and mentoring.

Larry Wayne Hasson Jr., Danville, Va., was promoted to associate principal at Dewberry.



CAREER Svlvia M. DeSantis. Ardmore, Pa., recently published a book "\ ka tas tro phe $\ n.$, the dramatic actions of Kat Morgan.

Bryan Michael Hertweck, Moneta, Va., published a book, "Unabashed: Breaking the Bottle."

Usha Munukutla Parker, Annandale, Va., was promoted to counsel at Cantor Colburn.



CAREER Richard McNeil Wardrop III, Madison, Miss., has been selected to serve in governance on the American Board of Internal Medicine on the Internal Medicine Specialty Board.

WEDDING Richard McNeil Wardrop III, Madison, Miss., and Mackenzie M. Cary, 9/21/19.



CAREER Rosalee Edelstein Opengart, Signal Mountain, Tenn., published her first book, "Find Your Where: Turn the Tables, Negotiate your Success, and Live Life on Your Own Terms."

Alfred O. Taylor Jr., Arlington, Va., received the PathMakers Leadership Award at the University of the District of Columbia's 2020 Founders Day Ceremony



CAREER Erin Garvin. Roanoke. Va., published a book, "The Bare Minimum Stretch Guide for Competitive Shooters. Easy Stretches You Can Do on the Range to Up Your Game and Reduce Pain.

'97

CAREER Sally Jewell Allain, Cabin John, Md., was selected head of the JLABS at Washington, D.C., Johnson & Johnson Innovation site opening on the new Children's National Research & Innovation Campus.

Susan Paige Drobny, Fairbanks, Alaska, placed seventh in the 2020 Iditarod

Heather Redmon Leise. Richmond. Va., received her second R.E.B. Award for Teaching Excellence through the Community Foundation for a Greater Richmond



CAREER Gregory "Bo" Dwayne Elam, Great Falls, Va., assumed the role of CFO at General Dynamics Mission Systems

Amy Marie Zielenbach, Tampa, Fla., is digital adoption campaign director for Fidelity National Information Services Inc.



CAREER Christy Renee Soyars Dula, Charlotte, N.C., was named chief digital officer of MHI and is the first female executive in the association's 75-year history.



RINGING IN HOPE

Laura Hachani '98 was prepared to be on the front line of the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. A physician assistant at MedStar Good Samaritan Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland, Hachani usually works in the internal medicine department.

Hachani said she leans on her foundation of service for others, which was established early and enhanced during her time at Virginia Tech, where she majored in dietetics and nutrition.

Hachani was happy to hear that Virginia Tech joined many around the world this year in signaling solidarity with medical professionals with the ringing of bells or chimes at 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., traditional shift change times.

"That really helps give people encouragement to know we're doing this for a greater good," said Hachani of the ringing.





LIMB BY LIMB: A 1947 map of the campus identifies a number of stands of trees: Crumpacker Woods, North Crumpacker Woods, Turkey Pen Woods, Price's Fork Woods, Locust Thicket, Boundry Wood, Center Wood, and Heath Woods. Remnants of some of these stands of trees still exist around campus. Learn more about Virginia Tech's trees on p. 18.

ROOTED IN THE PAST

TREES HAVE ALWAYS BEEN IMPORTANT on the Virginia Tech campus.

Expansion at the turn of the 20th century saw the removal of trees, but there were also efforts directed at including ornamental trees in the campus plan and for the addition, expansion, or protection of orchards and groves.

In 1902, then-president John McLaren McBryde moved from what is now Henderson Hall to a newly constructed Colonial Revival house on a tree-covered knoll known as The Grove.

When John "Dr. Jack" Hutcheson became president in 1945, he began to plan for a campus that could accommodate 10,000 students. The plan inlcuded an entrance from Main Street, now called The Mall.

The plan did not sit well with alumni, unhappy that a grove of trees would be bulldozed for the road. Duncan Lyle Kinnear, in "The First 100 Years," recounted: "During much of its construction, The Mall was indeed a desolate, uninspiring sight. A faculty member who had supported the proposed mall ... asked, 'Dr. Jack, do you think we will ever get this spot restored to the beauty and dignity it had before construction was started on this mall?"

Dr. Jack's answer: "It may not look that way now, but remember we will plant far more trees and shrubbery in connection with the mall than we are destroying. People are blaming me for putting the forces into operation which led to this mall. I am perfectly willing to accept the blame for The Mall now if the people will give me the credit for it when they view it twenty-five vears from now."

Elise C. Caruso Foster, Cincinnati, Ohio, president and executive coach for Leadership Potential Consulting, has co-authored a new book, "Beautiful Questions in the Classroom

Joseph Carter Medley, Staunton, Va., was promoted to shareholder at Timmons Group.



CAREER Eric L. Couch, Frederick, Md., is working in his small family business to help with the N95 PPE shortage. They have developed DE-CON95, a conveyor for health facilities to use in-house to decontaminate and reuse critical PPE, such as N95 respirators, through ultraviolet germicidal irradiation.

WEDDING Amy Melissa Smarr and Russell "Rusty" Louis Mclaughlin '02, Alexandria, Va., 06/29/19.



CAREER Travis E. Hardy, Leesburg, Va., joined Dewberry in Northern Virginia as associate vice president and senior program manager.



CAREER Russell "Rusty" Louis Mclaughlin III, Alexandria, Va., delivered two TEDx talks on the freelance economy in 2019.



CAREER Liz Snyder Bowman, Alexandria, Va., joined the American Exploration & Production Council as vice president of communications.

Amanda Kathryn Giobbi, Brooklyn, N.Y., made her movie acting debut in "The Social Ones."

Candace Leah Brintnall Steele, Arlington, Va., was named to the Presidents Council at Wilmington Trust N.A.

BIRTH Brittany Hardesty Tomblin, Stephens City, Va., a daughter, 09/28/19.



CAREER Jeffrey O'Neal Smith, Toano, Va., superintendent of Hampton City Schools, Va., was selected as one of four finalists for the AASA National Superintendent of the Year.

BIRTH Amith Sharan Ratnavibhushana, Herndon, Va., a daughter, 2/27/20

'06

CAREER Sonia Schmitt, McLean, Va., is capture executive director. Raytheon Intelligence & Space.



CAREER Christina Adrian Rustenbach Bump, Alexandria, Va., was promoted to principal at SmithGroup.

Archana Prasanna. Potomac. Md., has a new novel, "Auspicious Beginning.

Jason Keith Steele, Radford, Va., is senior environmental scientist at Freese and Nichols in Winston-Salem NC

Alexander Rian Young, Warrenton, Va., has joined the Institute for Defense Analyses as a research staff member

BIRTHS Ashley Anne LeFrois Flora and Michael E. Flora '09, Christiansburg, Va., a daughter, 10/09/19.

Robert Ryan Radspinner, Virginia Beach, Va., a son, 1/26/20.



CAREER Michael Robert Couch, Point Of Rocks, Md., is working in his small family business to help with the N95 PPE shortage. They have developed DECON95, a conveyor for health facilities to use in-house to decontaminate and reuse critical PPE, such as N95 respirators, through ultraviolet germicidal irradiation

Griffin Murphy O'Hanlon, Virginia Beach, Va., was named partner at Cooper Hurley Injury Lawyers.

Manisha Pravinchandra Patel, Greensboro, N.C., earned the "Legal Elite" distinction as published by Business North Carolina magazine.

BIRTHS Benjamin Ernest Roudabush and Karen Ann Roudabush '09. Mitchell. S.D., a son, 12/17/19.

Kristin Moreno Westover, Fairfax Station, Va., a daughter, 08/17/19.



CAREER Scott William Wiley, Richmond, Va., was promoted to shareholder at Timmons Group.

'10

CAREER Nicole Rae Baldwin, Saint Leonard, Md., joined Klinedins San Diego as counsel

Laura Anne Pennington Briggs, St. Paul, Minn., published her first book, "How to Start Your Own Freelance Writing Business.

John James Gannon III, Columbia, S.C., completed his studies in medicine at St. Matthews University School of Medicine, received his M.D. in June 2019, and entered the Family Medicine Residency Program at USC School of Medicine, Columbia, S.C.

WEDDING Courtney Marselle Lantier, Stafford, Va., and Adam Lantier, 02/29/20.

CAREER David K. Glenn. Glen Burnie, Md., was named a principal of NV5, an international professional and technical engineering and consulting services firm.

BIRTHS John Robert Joyce III and Jessica Rose Joyce '12, Dunn Loring, Va., a daughter, 11/23/19.

Rachel Elizabeth Fieweger Moran and Sean Robert Moran, Philadelphia, Pa., a daughter, 3/12/20.

'13

CAREER Danylo Andriy Villhauer, Mechanicsville, Va., was promoted to associate vice president at Dewberry.

WEDDINGS Emily Anne Mounce Ciarrocchi, Front Royal, Va., and Aaron Ciarrocchi, 3/28/20.

Sue Mawyer White, Blacksburg, Va., and Eric Alton White, 2/29/20.



CAREER Travis Lee DePriest, Arlington, Va., has joined the Institute for Defense Analyses as a research associate.

WEDDING Benjamin Galen Wilson, Ashland, Va., and Mackenzie M. Cary, 09/21/19.



CAREER Thomas Oliver Riegel, Glasgow, Va., was hired at Upstate Veterinary Specialists in Greenville, S.C., as a veterinary surgeon.

'16

WEDDING Eric Michael Zimmerman and Jocelyn Lamb Zimmerman '17, North Bethesda, Md., 11/02/19.



WEDDING Ashley Dawn Toth Washburn and Gavin Michael Washburn '19 Yorktown, Va., 9/22/19.

CAREER Rebecca Lvnn Bish. Blacksburg, Va., joined GuernseyTingle as an architectural designer.

'**19**

Nikki Maureen O'Regan, Williamsburg, Va., joined Guernsey Tingle as an architectural engineer.



Make sure the university has your up-to-date mailing address, phone number, and email address. You can easily check your information online and make updates. Visit alumni.vt.edu/contact.

You can also email your updates to alumnidata@ vt.edu. Make sure you include your full name and class year in the email.

FAMILY

1 "We are very happy to introduce the newest member of the Virginia Tech Class of 2042." –Douglas Alistair Lindsey '13, Webster, Texas, who welcomed a son, Davis Alistair, 4/7/20.

2 "Celebrating One Love in paradise required one special day." —Courtney Marselle Lantier '10, Stafford, Virginia, who married Adam Lantier, 2/29/20.

3 "A VIP guest helped us celebrate Hokie-style." —Jordan Sara Shanahan '20, Leesburg, Virginia, who married Jackson Smith, a member of the Class of 2021, 3/7/20.

4 "My wife, Olivia Sandown, and I welcomed a new little girl into the world in February." —Brian Rock '07, Norman, Oklahoma, who welcomed a daughter, Gloria Valentina, 2/19/20.

5 "A perfect day at Clover Forest Plantation in Goochland, Virginia, was just the beginning." —Benjamin Galen Wilson '14, Ashland, Virginia, who married Mackenzie May Cary, 9/21/19. Ц



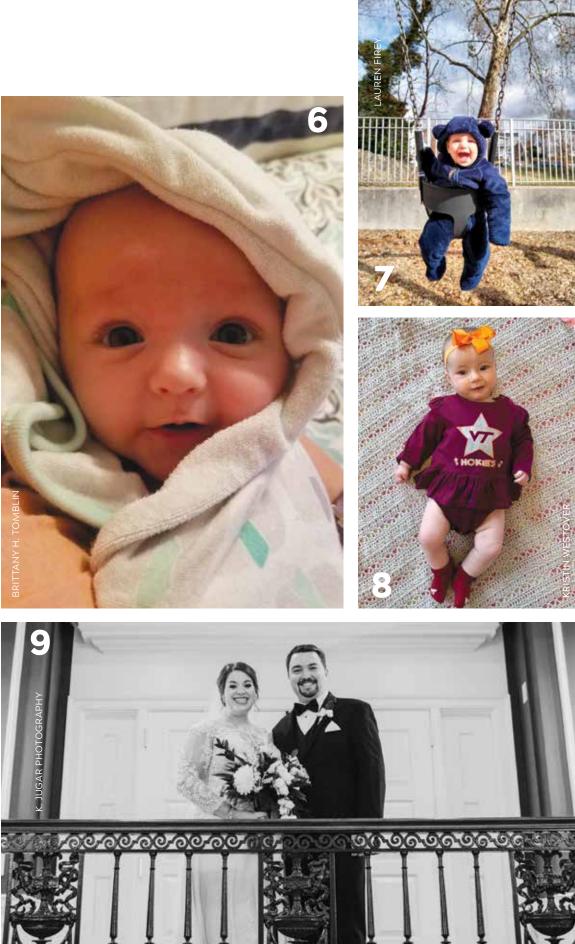














6 "Peek-a-boo, Hokie Nation." -Brittany Hardesty Tomblin '04, Stephens City, Virginia, who welcomed a daughter, Ryann Elizabeth, 9/28/19.

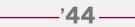
7 "We welcomed our son, Neil, with a big Hokie Hokie Hi." -Lauren Lemieux Firey '13, Arlington, Virginia, who along with Peter Firey '12, welcomed a son, Neil, 6/24/19.

8 "Never too young to start cheering on the Hokies!" -Kristin Moreno Westover '08, Fairfax Station, Virginia, who welcomed a daughter, Caroline Parker, 8/17/19, just in time for Hokie football season.

9 "The Patrick Henry Ballroom in Roanoke was the setting for our special day." - Emily Sue White '13, Blacksburg, Virginia, who married Eric Alton White, 2/29/20.



These listings include notices shared with the university Oct. 1, 2019, through Jan. 15, 2020.



Edwin Carroll Kilgore, Newport News, Va., 8/23/2019.

Bascom "B. J." Joseph Rowlett Jr., Potomac, Md., 12/26/2019.

'45 James Hampson Digges, Kihei,

Hawaii, 12/28/2019

___`46_

Steve Themis Catafygiotu, Raleigh, N.C., 11/18/2019.

Harry W. Philpott, Winston-Salem, N.C., 12/2/2019.



thian. Va., 12/8/2019.

-'49

Ohmer O. Crowell, Bethlehem, Pa., 10/6/2019.

Janet Keyser Goode, Beckley, W.Va., 9/2/2019.

William L. Gunter, Apex, N.C., 12/9/2019.

Charles "Jack" H. Havnaer Jr., Stuart, Fla., 9/23/2019.

George Wall Nickel Jr., Lancaster, Pa., 10/30/2019.

William B. Smith, Willow Spring, N.C., 10/8/2019.

_'**50** _

Richard C. Beck, Fredericksburg, Va., 12/9/2019.

Austin Allen Bradley Sr., Pueblo, Colo., 9/18/2019.

Walton Egelanian, Easton, Md., 12/15/2019.

60 | HOKIE NATION | IN MEMORIAM

John W. Hunton, Utica, Mich., 9/10/2019

Doris M. Oshinski, Houston, Texas, 9/30/2019.

Evelyn Barker Starling, Fayetteville, Ga., 10/6/2019.

H. Neal Troy, Franklin, Tenn., 9/8/2019

Robert L. Waring, Fredericksburg, Va., 10/16/2019.

- '51

George W. Austin Jr., Virginia Beach, Va., 11/10/2019.

Louis S. Button Jr., Richmond, Va., 9/12/2019.

William H. Jewell, Wilmington, Del., 10/19/2019.

Lester L. Knight Jr., Newport News, Va., 9/3/2019.

Robert M. Montgomery Jr., Newport News, Va., 11/16/2019.

Morgan L. Staples, Fredericksburg, Va., 12/16/2019.

·52 -Arthur "A.L." Lewis Dillon Jr.,

Salem, Va., 9/19/2019.

William Thomas Green, Newport News, Va., 10/17/2019.

Roger E. Hedgepeth, Bristol, Tenn., 11/12/2019

Gus E. Hnarakis, Pulaski, Va., 11/23/2019.

Samuel T. Isaac, Lexington, Ky. 12/1/2019

C. Franklin Jester Jr., Franklin, Va. 9/19/2019

Robert "R.G." Granville Leonard Jr., Front Royal, Va., 12/30/2019.

Robert Leonard McClanahan Jr., Salem, Va., 12/18/2019.

Robert Gene Montgomery, Lynchburg, Va., 12/4/2019.

Edsel R. Rudy, Galax, Va., 12/22/2019

Aubrey "A.R." Slayton, Minneapolis, Minn., 12/12/2019.

Alfred W. Turner Jr., Ashland, Va., 11/3/2019

B. Gordon Watkins Jr., Lynchburg, Va., 12/24/2019.

-'53 Maks Albert Etingin, New York, N.Y., 11/17/2019.

John Dunn Farmer Jr., Henrico, V_{a} , 8/30/2019

Clarence "C.F." Franklin Golladay, Durham, N.C., 12/24/2019.

Wilbert Raymond Minor, Hockessin, Del., 10/2/2019.

Daniel J. Moncol, Raleigh, N.C., 9/13/2019.

William C. Murray Jr., Greensboro, N.C., 9/15/2019.

Maurice A. Person, Virginia Beach, Va., 8/13/2019.

Chantland Wysor, Flagler Beach, Fla., 11/24/2019.

'54 -

John Marshall Andrews, Alexandria, Va., 9/10/2019 Pete Calos, Hopewell, Va.,

10/26/2019 Eddie T. Hall. Millbrook. N.Y.. 9/6/2019.

Charles Donald Herb, Fairfax, Va., 10/28/2019

David C. Meyerhoeffer, Owasso, Okla., 9/27/2019.

Albert E. Motley Jr., Tampa, Fla., 10/2/2019.

Stephen Hurt Williamson, Franklin, Tenn., 8/17/2019.

_'55 _ Frederick T. Anstey, Rustburg, Va., 10/7/2019

Robert A. Hastings, Smithville, Tenn., 12/1/2019.

Ralph Gene Kester, Alamogordo, N.M., 12/28/2019.

Glenwood Howard Lyons, Richmond, Va., 10/24/2019.

Philip Jeckel Moore Jr., Bradenton, Fla., 11/5/2019.

Francis "Doc" A. Shane, Roanoke, Va., 8/13/2019.

H. Melvin Smith, Severna Park, Md., 11/23/2019.

Bobby Leon Tilley, Charlottesville, Va., 9/4/2019.

William E. Winfrey Jr., Bumpass, Va., 9/28/2019.

__`56 ___

James "Jay" Howard Camp, Raleigh, N.C., 9/19/2019.

Paul P. Graham, Blacksburg, Va., 12/29/2019.

Kenneth Carroll Moore, Providence Forge, Va., 10/2/2019.

William Berry Phillips, Sandersville, Ga., 10/22/2019.

Jake Massie Stone, Franklin, Va., 12/15/2019.

_____'**57** _____

Richard H. Adams, Destin, Fla., 11/11/2019.

William D. Beasley, Hampton, Va., 10/27/2019.

James Berkley Drinkard Jr., Appomattox, Va., 12/31/2019.

Harold Dean Henry, Danville, Va., 9/12/2019.

John E. Hubard, Virginia Beach, Va., 10/1/2019.

Halley A. Merrell Jr., Davidson, N.C., 9/2/2019.

Wiley "Bill" Everett Ring III, Kingsport, Tenn., 11/25/2019.

Kenneth Irvin Smith, Boykins, Va., 11/10/2019

Joseph A. Washington, Richmond, Va., 12/28/2019.

-'58 -

Marvin J. Burnette Jr., Slidell, La., 9/3/2019

Robert Allen Heatwole, Pittsboro, N.C., 10/5/2019.

Perry Allan Newman, Newport News, Va., 9/30/2019.

Frank S. Nolt, Lititz, Pa., 12/20/2019

Samuel A. York, Chesapeake, Va., 12/2/2019.

-'59 -

William C. Garrett, Portsmouth, Va., 8/3/2019.

Charles R. Howard, Kalispell, Mont., 9/30/2019.

Ann Elizabeth Jones, Winchester, Va., 1/2/2020.

Gordon Clinton King, Jr., Char-

Henry Dewey Laster, Stockbridge,

Otwa Lee Meetze, Lexington, Ky.,

William Robert Webb, Catonsville,

_'60 –

Marty Harold Holland, Williams-

Arthur "Jack" Jackson King Jr.,

John "J.E." Sheridan, Celebration,

William Weaver Snidow, Rich-

Timothy M. Todd, Blacksburg, Va.,

William Gernon Wall II, Radford,

David G. Wilson, Fayetteville, N.C.,

Ronald Lee Wynn, Harpers Ferry,

lotte, N.C., 9/25/2019.

Ga., 9/7/2019.

12/21/2019.

Md., 9/11/2019.

burg, Va., 12/17/2019.

Bland, Va., 9/19/2019.

mond, Va., 10/10/2019.

Fla., 10/15/2019.

12/28/2019

11/24/2019.

Va., 11/11/2019.

W.Va., 11/20/2019.

Raymond Ward Arritt, Powhatan,

- '61 -

Va., 9/17/2019.

Va., 12/8/2019.

Va., 11/3/2019.

12/14/2019.

Va., 9/5/2019.

12/25/2019.

Md., 11/16/2019.

Va., 1/10/2020.

Va., 11/22/2019.

Ga., 10/26/2019.

11/23/2019.

11/26/2019.

9/29/2019.

Ga., 8/20/2019.

Va., 11/12/2019.

10/21/2019.

Va., 10/10/2019.

_____'63 _

_`64-

10/1/2019.

7/31/2019.

lotte, N.C., 10/19/2019.

<u>-'62</u>

Douglas Duane Burnett, Danville,

Irving Anthony Frye, Rosedale,

Frank Staunton Harkins Jr., Charlotte, N.C., 11/12/2019. James Monroe Johns Jr., Alto, Ga.,

Charles Newman Smith, Moneta,

George Dalton Spangler III, Char-

A. Leon Tomblin, Fincastle, Va.,

Clarence "C.W." Waskey Jr., Blacksburg, Va., 11/10/2019.

William Clayton Donley, Upperco,

Don L. Fariss, Hiwassee, Va.,

Lacy Hartwell McClain, Roanoke,

John Kevin Molloy, Hampton, Va.,

Charles Stanford Stevens, Norfolk,

Samuel David Wilson, Cumming,

James Schmauch Bauchspies, Annapolis, Md., 10/30/2019.

Joe Steven Brodie, Thomaston, Ga.,

John C. Harrell Sr., Suffolk, Va.,

Charles Roland Moss Jr., Danville,

Fielding Rolston, Kingsport, Tenn.,

Phillip William Tillman, Smyrna,

Yih Jian Wang, Lake Lynn, Pa.,

Thomas Vanston O'Neill, Floyd,

Albert Stanley Paulson, Ballston Lake, N.Y., 9/20/2019.

Joe Dison Savage Jr., Plano, Texas, 11/28/2019

'65

Allan Robert Kjeldsen, Roanoke, Va., 12/15/2019.

Garry D. Sale, Winchester, Va., 7/30/2019.

Charles Martin Silvious, Ooltewah, Tenn., 6/2/2019.

Harry Harvey Wade, Martinsville, Va., 10/30/2019.

Frederick Elbert White, Lynchburg, Va., 9/2/2019.

-'66 -

Maynard Lee Guill, Richmond, Va., 10/13/2019.

Robert Roy Johnson, Chevy Chase, Md., 12/27/2019.

John Robert McCloskey, Albuquerque, N.M., 12/15/2019.

Jerry Thomas McFalls, Albuquerque, N.M., 10/1/2019.

Stanley Phillip Rife, Vinton, Va., 11/3/2019.

Norman James Williams, Portland, Ore., 11/19/2019.

_____`67 __

James Garland Baird Jr., Christiansburg, Va., 11/12/2019.

Gary William Bowen, Roanoke, Va., 10/31/2019.

Dirk Frederick Kingma, La Jolla, Calif., 11/13/2019.

Frederick Logan Robinson II, Williamsburg, Va., 9/16/2019.

Iohn Voorhees Roland, Virginia Beach. Va., 10/26/2019.

-'68

Jack Dyer Clark Jr., Taylors, S.C., 9/21/2019.

Richard Combs Henderson, Massillon, Ohio, 9/25/2019

Julian "Joe" Hudson Williford Jr., Bowling Green, Ohio, 12/5/2019.

Barry Victor Woodford, Roanoke, Va., 11/14/2019.

-'69

Emmett Loring Aleshire Jr., Gibsonville, N.C., 11/24/2019.

Jerry Michael Bunn, Fredericksburg, Va., 10/11/2019.

Rodney Parham Furr, Salem, Va., 8/10/2019.

Jerry Wayne Jamison, Wirtz, Va., 8/16/2019.

Barbara May Loveless, Roanoke, Va., 11/29/2019.

Donald Rae Massie, Blacksburg, Va., 10/18/2019

Richard Wayne Piland, Warrenton, Va., 10/18/2019.

·**70**

Geoffrey Scott Anderson, Rockport, Texas, 10/30/2019.

Carl "C.L." L. Nunnally Jr., Murfreesboro, Tenn., 10/18/2019.

Wayne R. Roach, Severna Park, Md. 10/29/2019.

_ '**71** —

John Carl Boling, Raleigh, N.C., 8/9/2019.

W. Glenn Clingempeel, Florence, S.C., 12/23/2019.

Lloyd H. Hicks, Mechanicsville, Va., 11/4/2019.

James Conn Parker, Dawsonville, Ga., 10/5/2019.

Bittle Wilson Porterfield III, Roanoke, Va., 11/29/2019.



Stephen Vincent Galloway, Diamond Bar, Calif., 11/10/2019.

Collins Paty Jones Sr., Richmond, Va., 1/3/2020.

Karen Murray Yolton, Newport, Va., 11/3/2019.



Robert Scott Boling, Blacksburg, Va., 12/10/2019.

Gary Whit Newell, Fuquay Varina, N.C., 1/1/2020.



Walter Bright Jr., Richmond, Va., 9/17/2019

Thomas Howard Dehaven Jr., Phoenix, Ariz., 10/1/2019.

Maynard "Mike" Levi Dunn Jr., Rochester, Pa., 11/6/2019.

John Rohan Guilfoyle IV, Monett, Mo., 11/30/2019.

Carol Altizer Tuning, Frankfort, Ky., 12/3/2019.

__`**75** __

Donald H. Beck, Ocean View, Del., 10/16/2019.

Wilbur Woodrow Clayton, Leesburg, Fla., 1/7/2019. Dennis "Doe" Keith Dodson, King

George, Va., 11/22/2019.

Patrick Joseph Murphy, Richmond, Va., 12/8/2019.

Joyce Lester Presley, Vansant, Va., 11/2/2019.

Robert G. Sutherland, Lebanon, Va., 12/4/2019.

Daniel Henry Ward III, Holly, Mich., 12/26/2019.

'76 Gary M. Diehl, Sterling, Va.,

11/14/2019. Bruce Loren Johnson, Suffolk, Va.,

9/24/2019. Mark Edwin Roudabush, Chester,

Va., 12/29/2019.

-'77 -

Margaret A. Amos, Critz, Va., 10/4/2019.

Richard Wayne Anderson, Blue-field, W.Va., 9/4/2019.

Elden Leo De Porter, Lenoir City, Tenn., 11/26/2019.

Claudia Frank Hertling, Roanoke, Va., 5/27/2019.

James Patrick Howlin, Dry Prong, La., 12/15/2019.

David William Johnson, Glen Allen, Va., 12/8/2019.

Omar Garland Ross, Christiansburg, Va., 10/5/2019. Arthur Leo Woods III, Bentonville,

Va., 11/29/2019.

-'78 John Edward Allen, Lynchburg,

John Edward Allen, Lynchburg Va., 10/25/2019.

62 | HOKIE NATION | IN MEMORIAM

Suzanne Nelson Carlson, Louisa, Va., 12/1/2019.

Michael Lawrence Poe, Allison Park, Pa., 10/9/2019.

William Floyd Stagg Jr., Ridgway, Colo., 9/8/2019.

°**7**9

Christopher Gracey, Branford, Conn., 9/4/2019.

Thomas Dale Mays, Chevy Chase, Md., 10/31/2019.

Thomas Edward Munns, Gambrills, Md., 11/11/2019.

Claudia Irene Price, Piedmont, S.C., 9/10/2019.

David Kevin Walter, Woodridge, Ill., 11/4/2019

David Melson Bentz Sr., Virginia Beach, Va., 12/16/2019.

Robert Gary Freelin, Colonial Heights, Va., 9/12/2019.

Paul Joseph Gonzalez III, Herndon, Va., 12/2/2019.

Lasinda Lee Greenwood, Glenview, Ill., 10/23/2019.

Bradford Layton House, Chesapeake, Va., 12/25/2019.

Charles Stanley Thomason, Bluefield, Va., 12/31/2019.

_'**82** _

Paul Dennis Cross, Chesapeake, Va., 10/13/2019.

Rosemary Borck Goodwin, Huddleston, Va., 7/22/2019.

Walker Edwin Linkous, Christiansburg, Va., 12/18/2019.

Rebecca Hale Bondurant, Radford, Va., 10/17/2019.

Rodney Dean Massie, Yorktown, Va., 9/1/2019.

John David Pendleton, Leesburg, Va., 11/16/2019.

'84 Cherylynn "Cheri" F. Suttle Beck-

Cherylynn "Cheri" F. Suttle Becker, Charlottesville, Va., 12/15/2019. **Thomas David Haykin**, Pittsburgh, Pa., 8/29/2019.

Napoleon C. Johnson, Newport News, Va., 9/27/2019.

James Maroney, King George, Va., 12/10/2019.

Dan H. Nix, Cordova, Tenn., 8/31/2019.

Ruth B. Rosenberg, Falls Church, Va., 8/29/2019.

Laurie Pfister Shea, Blacksburg, Va., 10/17/2019.

William "Skip" I. Wood, Alexandria, Va., 10/6/2019.

____'**85** ___

Steven Vincent Burke, Monroe, Conn., 12/6/2019.

Joseph Michael Coppola, White Plains, N.Y., 1/13/2019.

'86 Allen Herndon, Redmond, Wash.,

10/23/2019. **Robert C. Matthews,** Fairfax, Va., 12/15/2019.

James Edward Minor, Warsaw, Va., 8/16/2019.

____'**87** –

Elizabeth Leonard Leonard-Ryan, Yorktown, Va., 12/29/2019.

Jennifer Ray Pascua Maher, Midlothian, Va., 10/23/2019.

***88** Barbara J. Aud, Midlothian, Va., 9/25/2019

Martha T. Campbell, Lynchburg, Va., 8/31/2019.

Cecelia Ferguson Taylor, Greensboro, N.C., 12/14/2019.

Allan Reese Boitnott, Salem, Va., 8/30/2019.

Linda Hudgins Duncan, Fredericksburg, Va., 12/4/2019.

Kent E. Glindemann, Blacksburg, Va., 11/20/2019.

James Wellesley Hunderup, Galveston, Texas, 12/14/2019.

Gerald Wendell Lucas, Fredericksburg, Va., 11/24/2019.

Suzan W. Mauney, Blacksburg, Va., 10/7/2019.

Carol Snyder Camper Brenner, Fincastle, Va., 10/14/2019. Bruce Anthony Lacina, Dacula,

Ga., 10/1/2019.

Thomas Lanier Orr II, Roanoke, Va., 9/10/2019.

__`93-

Jeffrey Scott Bartel, Pittsburgh, Pa., 12/3/2019.

Joe Allen Hairston, Reisterstown, Md., 12/28/2019.

Horst Rudolf Mellenberg, Stafford, Va. 10/24/2019.

'95 Steven Edward Modesto, Las Vegas, Nev., 11/11/2019.

'96 Stephen S. Inguanti Jr., Ashburn, Va., 11/8/2019.

Erik D. Johnson, Salem, Va., 11/15/2019.

Brady Neal Ware, Wilmington, N.C., 10/18/2019.

-'98

William Larry Goodman Jr., Douglasville, Ga., 10/15/2019.

Earle H. Clubb, Troutville, Va., 8/6/2019.

Christopher M. Trimper, Berlin, Md., 10/24/2019.

_____ '**01** ____

Megan Kesler Gregores, Blacksburg, Va., 10/9/2019.

"04 Michael Rhodes Johnston, Baton

'06

Edward Matthew Fiss, Charlotte,

Megan Nichole McGuire, Waynes-

_'**07** _

'08

·**10**

Peter Allan Kraines, Cameron,

Harris Goodall Squires, Fairfax,

Rouge, La., 10/27/2019.

N.C., 9/22/2019.

10/3/2019.

Va., 11/12/2019

N.C., 10/8/2019.

boro, Va., 11/13/2019.

Colt Malone, Victoria, Va.,

Sheamus John O'Connor, Lawrence

'11

'13

_'**14** __

'15

'16

Township, N.J., 8/26/19.

Va., 9/26/2019.

Va., 11/30/2019.

Va., 12/11/2018.

Va., 10/27/2019.

Jeffrey Angelo Scialabba, Suffolk,

Samuel Ryan Phipps, Blacksburg,

Jason Alec Hilsen, Charlottesville,

Timothy Dean Collins, Blacksburg,

Adrian Henrietta Newcomb, Blacksburg, Va., 12/26/2019.

OBITUARIES-

FACULTY/STAFF

Fred Donald "Don" Bloss, a longtime professor with the Department of Geosciences and the first professor at Virginia Tech to be appointed as an Alumni Distinguished Professor, died April 22, a month shy of his 100th birthday.

Raymond Dessy, professor emeritus of chemistry in the Virginia Tech College of Science known for his mentoring of graduate and undergraduate students, died March 17.

Douglas K. Lindner, associate professor emeritus of electrical and computer engineering in the College of Engineering, died Feb. 1.

Raymond "Ray" Harold Myers '59, M.S. '61, Ph.D. '63, a faculty member with the Department of Statistics, died March 26.

Cheryl Anne "Mira" Peterson, executive director of the Office of the President, died July 1.

Beverly Huston Sgro M.S.'73, Ph.D.'90, former Virginia Tech dean of students, Board of Visitors member, and secretary of education of the Commonwealth of Virginia, died March 13.

Thomas Carl Ward, a professor emeritus in the Department of Chemistry in the College of Science, died Feb. 28.



Charlie Phlegar

END NOTE WITNESSING HISTORY



ON THE FRONT LINES: Master of Public Health students Jaclyn Abramson, Teace Markwalter, and Hannah Reed at a COVID-19 testing site.

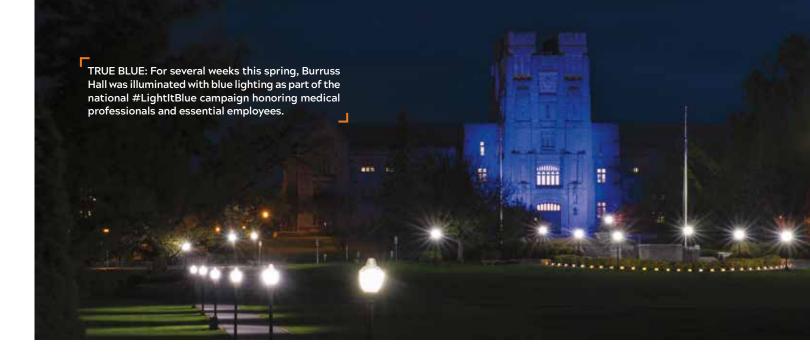
WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO OUR WORLD

during the last few months has led to changes in our perspectives and our work.

The global COVID-19 pandemic and the ways it has affected all of us are unprecedented. The reckoning with race relations in America is a turning point generations in the making. I have found myself rethinking priorities and having difficult conversations with family, friends, and colleagues.

In this moment, we are all witnesses to history. Together, we find ourselves at a crossroads. The directions we each choose will determine our individual paths forward. While these times are challenging, I am continually seeking ways to learn and how to make my community better.

Our alma mater is dedicated to a course that drives positive change, and the role of Virginia Tech has never been more important. I am honored to be part of the leadership team at our university. Led by President Tim Sands, we are acknowledging our challenges, uniting to do and be better, and committing to being living examples of our Principles of Community.



It is heartening to witness how Hokies have also stepped up to support one another in the face of a new normal. You have made gifts to our university to provide aid to students and assist with faculty research. This generosity has the power to change lives.

The Hokie Nation is a collective, powerful force that has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to help provide for the needs of our great institution. With your help, we have achieved yet another year of record giving, which is especially remarkable amid uncertainty on so many fronts. Giving is the highest it has ever been to the university. And leading by example, the university's leadership and many of our volunteer advisory boards have achieved 100 percent philanthropic participation over the past fiscal year.

Since the COVID-19 crisis began, an unprecedented number of students have come forward asking for help, suddenly facing financial hardship and personal turmoil. Generous Hokies gave and so far have helped more than 200 students through the Student Emergency Fund, in addition to providing numerous current-use scholarships through the Beyond Boundaries scholarship initiative with \$1 million dollars raised in the past fiscal year. Virginia Tech researchers have also answered the call to explore the science behind COVID-19, which will hopefully lead to more knowledge and help save lives.

One bright spot during these challenging times has been the opportunities to come together online to find friendship, fun, and support. So much has changed in the world, including how we now connect. We have a renewed emphasis on engagement to remain connected as an energetic body of alumni, students, and friends. From online networking events and town halls, virtual committee meetings and happy hours, and even Zoom game rooms, we continue to innovatively explore ways to safely work and play together.

Even though we have not been able to gather in person, we can still stay in touch, strengthen our community, and share information about Virginia Tech's role in the world. Through our virtual offerings, Hokies anywhere can come together. This is an opportunity for more of us to gather more frequently, keeping our bonds strong.

While you manage your personal priorities amid our changing world in the months ahead, let us continue to support one another, maintain our Hokie pride, and stay connected. Let us know how you are doing, what your alma mater can do for you, and any feedback you wish to share.

Thank you for all that you do for Virginia Tech—and continue to be well. ■

Charlie Phlegar '78, M.A.Ed. '87 is the vice president for advancement at Virginia Tech.

IN OUR NEXT ISSUE

Over the past decade, advances in technology and improvements in global connectivity have changed many businesses and industries. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit in the spring, people around the world found new ways to manage career responsibilities and adapt their businesses to the new reality.

Virginia Tech is preparing the leaders of the future for jobs that haven't even been thought of yet. What is the future of work? Which skills are required to launch a successful career in a changing world?

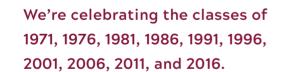
Read this story and more in the fall issue of Virginia Tech Magazine.

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