Austin Peay

The Magazine for Alumni and Friends of Austin Peay State University Fall 2020

Pushing forward through COVID



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Austin Peay State University legally protected class with programs and activities

From the **President**



A year has passed since the last issue of "Austin Peay: The Magazine for Alumni and Friends" appeared in mailboxes across the country, and it's perhaps the world's biggest understatement to say a lot has happened in that time. On Jan. 11, a few weeks before the start of our spring semester, China reported its first death related to a mysterious illness. On Jan. 21, the U.S. saw its first confirmed case of COVID-19, and nine days later, the World Health Organization declared a global health

By March, the dominoes quickly began to fall. On March

8, Austin Peay issued a moratorium on University-related international travel, and on March 12, we canceled the 36th Annual Candlelight Ball. Spring commencement ceremonies were delayed, classes moved fully online and the spring issue of this magazine — an issue focused on International Education — was canceled days before going to press. This was an unprecedented time in our University's history. Throughout this crisis our faculty, staff and students remained true to the Governor spirit. We've shown that Govs lead no matter the circumstances.

In this issue, you'll read the inspiring ways they have led throughout this pandemic. You'll meet Michael Hunter, the graphic design student who, with help from our GIS Center, developed a 3-D printed face shield for Tennessee's frontline healthcare workers. You'll also get a glimpse at the behind-the-scenes work of our Distance Education team, who worked furiously to ensure our instruction transitioned smoothly into an online format. What else did our Govs do? They traveled to New York City during the height of the pandemic to help the sick and dying, and they worked day and night sewing face masks to keep people safe.

The stories in this magazine show the resilience of the Governor spirit - a resilience that helped two students rush to Paris in order to make it home from studying abroad before the borders closed — and I hope they'll make you as proud as they made me when I first heard them.

In this issue, you'll also meet me — Dannelle Whiteside, the University's interim president. Our Board of Trustees appointed me to this seat after my friend and mentor, Dr. Alisa White, assumed the presidency of Sam Houston State University in Texas. I arrived in Clarksville in 2017 as general counsel and was named vice president for legal affairs a year later. I come from a family dedicated to education — particularly higher education — and as you learn about me, I hope you'll see that my main focus is protecting this special environment where our students, faculty and staff can grow and learn and transform our communities and world.

They're doing important work — especially during this pandemic — and I'm so happy to share with you just how amazingly our Govs Lead.

Dannelle Whiteside **APSU Interim President**





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During the COVID-19 crisis. Dr. Lisa Sullivan and the Department of Chemistry began producing hand sanitizer for the campus community.



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NURSING STUDENT SERVES IN NYC DURING PANDEMIC PAGE 22



GOVS FOOTBALL IN NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT PAGE 28







IF AUSTIN PEAY COULD TALK

The Office of Equity, Access and Inclusion recently launched "If Austin Peay Could Talk," an essay series that shares APSU faculty and staff's personal experiences with racism.

www.apsu.edu/if-austin-peay-could-talk



CRONLEY NAMED PROVOST

In July, Dr. Maria Cronley, a nationally recognized consumer behavior expert and senior administrator at Ohio Northern University, began work as Austin Peay's new provost and senior vice president for academic affairs. www.apsu.edu/news/april-2020-cronley-provost.php



NO TESTS NEEDED FOR FALL

Austin Peay is waiving standardized test requirements – the ACT, SAT and GRE – for any student applying for undergraduate or graduate admission for the summer and fall 2021 terms.



SECOND-HIGHEST GIVING YEAR

The University raised more than \$11 million in gifts and pledges for the 2020 fiscal year, supporting initiatives such as Govs Give Back — an effort to provide financial support to students, faculty and staff in need. www.apsu.edu/news/july-2020-advancement-giving.php



GOVS TAKE FLIGHT

Eleven individuals in APSU's new aviation science program became the first students to take flight last spring, piloting one of the three helicopters in Austin Peay's rotor-wing fleet.

www.apsu.edu/engineering-technology/aviation-science.php



BROWER HELPS SHAPE STATE'S COVID-19 RESPONSE

Last spring, Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee picked retired Brig. Gen. Scott Brower, APSU's military adviser in residence, to serve as chief of staff for Tennessee's COVID-19 Unified Command.

www.apsu.edu/news/may-2020-brower.php



DANNELLE WHITESIDE'S LIFE IN EDUCATION

On a sunny, humid morning in early August, Dannelle Whiteside stepped inside the Browning Administration Building and paused in the quiet, empty lobby. The floor in front of her was decorated with a large Austin Peay State University seal, and plaques hung on the wood-paneled walls, honoring some of the 93-year-old school's legendary faculty and staff. For the last three years, Whiteside often passed through this entrance without much thought, turning right and making her way briskly down a dim hallway to her office as vice president for legal affairs. But on this morning - Aug. 10 - she entered the double doors on the left, leading to the Office of the President.

"That morning, it felt weighty entering that office," she said. "It felt like everything was now on my shoulders."

Three days earlier, Dr. Alisa White ended her six-year tenure as Austin Peay's 10th president to become the next president of Sam Houston State University in Texas. The APSU Board of Trustees quickly named Whiteside as Austin Peay's interim president. It was a historic decision because once she stepped through the doors inside Browning that Monday, she became the institution's first Black president.

"You have people sending emails saying, 'I never thought a Black person would be in this position. I'm so proud of you," Whiteside said. "That's a lot of weight. You're the first, but you don't want to be the last. And you have the COVID-19 pandemic, and you have to get everybody through this challenge."

Whiteside took over Austin Peay's leadership at one of the most challenging moments in the University's nine decades. Earlier in the spring, the pandemic caused Austin Peay to move fully online, and with classes set to begin in two weeks, she had to make sure students, faculty and staff not only remained safe but continued to thrive within the school's physical and virtual educational environments.



Gov News

"People have said, 'You must be crazy,' but I've never backed down from anything," she said. "And when you have an extreme challenge, you come out better than before. The way we've been able to innovate and come up with creative solutions to problems, we'll use those solutions for years to come."

In her new office, Whiteside has a small marquee with the words "You Got This" glowing as a constant reminder. There are challenges, but she's spent most of her life preparing for this moment.

'Education has always been a calling for me'

Whiteside first arrived at Austin Peay in 2017, and the school grounds immediately felt like home. That's because the Nashville-native had spent most of her childhood growing up on college campuses. Her father, the late Dr. David L. Walker, served as music professor and as dean of the School of Graduate Studies and Research at Tennessee State University. He was later named assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs at the Tennessee Board of Regents.

My brother (David Walker, APSU assistant professor of art) and I grew up in academia. It was fun," she said. "I remember running around the music building (at TSU) when I was a kid or watching the band practice."

She must have made an impression because, at the age of 6, Whiteside was invited to sing at a TSU halftime show, with the school's famous marching band backing her up. She agreed to sing Whitney Houston's "The Greatest Love of All" in exchange for an Oopsie Daisy Crawling Baby Doll.

While standing on the field, Whiteside realized the music bounced off the stands and came back at her, and the resulting echo made her unsure of when to sing.

"It almost tripped me up, but my dad stood on the sidelines and said, 'Watch me,'" Whiteside recalled. "He coached me through the whole thing."

When she visited her grandparents in Arkansas, Whiteside again found herself surrounded by marching band music and academic buildings. Before her mother, Deborah, worked as the dietician for the Metro Nashville School System, she attended college at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. That's where she met David Walker.

"They got their undergrad degrees there, and once they got married and had kids, we'd go back and forth for homecomings every year," Whiteside said. "Education has always been a calling for me. When I was 8, I said I wanted to be a professor."

The 8-year-old was so used to academia that she even asked relatives and her parents' friends, who were faculty members at different schools, if they had tenure.

'It really felt like a family'

As Whiteside moved through high school, she discovered she had a talent for listening and communicating with people. She thought she might become a school psychologist, and when she enrolled at her parent's alma mater, the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, she found herself sitting in a class about children with special needs.

"That's when I understood what role the law plays in education," she said. "Then I just started looking down the path of going to law school."

During her senior year, she served as president of the school's Student Government Association, and after graduating in the spring of 2006, Whiteside enrolled in law school at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. That's where her interest in education and the law merged, with her taking class be the university preparing our students for that in higher education policy and education law.

After receiving her Juris Doctorate, with honors,

Whiteside went on to hold several high profile legal positions, including general attorney for the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights, general counsel for the Tennessee State Board of Education and district policy adviser for Metro Nashville Public Schools.

"I've worked in education in K-12, higher ed, local, state and federal," she said.

Then, in 2017, she joined Austin Peay - first as general counsel and then later as vice president for legal affairs.

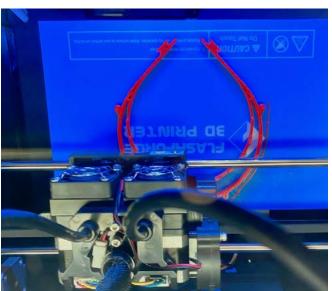
"When I first came here, I loved it," she said. "When I interviewed that whole day, everybody was so friendly and it really felt like a family. I was drawn to that."

Three years later, she's now Austin Peay's interim president, and while guiding the school through this pandemic, she's working to ensure the University remains focused on the future.

"I spent the last year researching artificial intelligence and how that's going to impact our processes, and I've looked at the percentage of jobs that won't exist anymore," she said. "We have to future. We have to be the university of the future.'







When Gov. Bill Lee asked colleges and universities in March if they could help make protective equipment for Tennessee's healthcare workers, an Austin Peay State University student had a prototype face shield built later the same day.

Within three hours, actually.

Graphic design student Michael Hunter, a worker at APSU's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Center, took the lead on refining and building a 3D-printed prototype shield.

"I had seen a bunch of things (on an open-source Facebook group) for face shields already, so I was like, 'OK, I already know what we need to be looking for," Hunter, who was a drone operator with the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment based at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, before enrolling at APSU, said. "We got the first face shield printed, got it put together, and we've been doing it ever since."

Within a week, universities and technical colleges across the state were using Hunter's prototype to produce face shields for medical workers.

Hunter "put it together, and health professionals from the state reviewed it and decided to go with the design," said Mike Wilson, the center's director. "That design was sent all over the state to various universities to start printing."

Austin Peay led the effort from the beginning, and the GIS Center delivered its first shipment of face shields to the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency on Wednesday, March 25, just a few days after Hunter built the prototype.

The GIS Center shipped about 18,000 face shield frames and 180,000 disposable face shields to TEMA during the three-month project.

To read the full story, visit

www.apsu.edu/govlife/students/michael-hunter.php

To learn more

For more about the GIS Center, visit www.apsugis.org/.



Late on a night in mid-March, while Austin Peay State
University freshman Madison Morgan finished her laundry,
French President Emmanuel Macron announced the
European Union was closing its borders. Beginning the next
day at noon, no one would be able to fly out of France's
Charles De Gaulle Airport. Morgan watched Macron on her
smartphone. Her flight back to the U.S. was scheduled for
Thursday – two days after this new travel ban.

"We have to leave now!" Angel Arrington, another APSU student, said. Both women were spending the spring semester as exchange students at France's Université d'Orléans. "We have to get to Paris tonight!"

It was 10 p.m, Monday, March 16. The trip from Orléans to Paris would take about an hour and a half by train, but there was still so much to do.

"I had to close my French bank account, we had to go talk to housing and get our rooms in our dorm closed," Morgan said. "We had planned to leave on Thursday. Now I was packing, freaking, calling my parents. I was a mess."

The two APSU students threw clothes into Morgan's suitcase and then rushed out into the street.

"It was go, go, go," Morgan said. "We didn't have time to close out our dorms. We left our keys and went. We stood outside our building, trying to get an Uber or BlaBlaCar (French ride-share app). It was a mess."

A BlaBlaCar took them to Paris, where they caught their 10 a.m. flight, just two hours before the borders closed.

"It was so weird because it was empty, and then you got to American Airlines and all the American transportation, and it was a huge line of people, they mostly looked like foreign exchange students," Arrington said. "Our pilot told us we were one of the last ones out. It was a mix of emotions. I was happy not being stuck, but I wasn't happy I had to leave. It was a disappointed relief."

To read the full story, visit

www.apsu.edu/news/april-2020-france-covid19.php

Faculty **Success**



THEATRE PROFESSOR SEWS MASKS

for healthcare workers









When the coronavirus pandemic forced Austin Peay State University Professor Leni Dyer to stay home in mid-March, she wanted to find a way to help during the crisis.

"My first instinct was how can I help, what can I do other than just sitting at home waiting for this to end?" Dyer said. "What can I do to help people?"

Dyer, who teaches costume design in the Department of Theatre and Dance, found a way to help as she worked to move her sewing and advanced makeup classes online in response to the crisis.

Dyer had returned from a cruise and was in self-quarantine at her house when she contacted Operation Come Together.

"I didn't leave the house," she said. "I didn't see anybody. So, they actually brought people to the house. They'd leave a bag (with materials) on the front step, and I'd go get the bag and make the masks."

Operation Come Together then retrieved the finished masks from Dyer's front step.

In a month, Dyer made more than 100 masks in several exchanges with the operation.

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To me it's a great honor because I feel like anything that I can do to help somebody, anything that I can do to give back is always at the forefront of anything that I do.

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She saw a social media call for volunteer sewers from Operation Come Together – a locally run effort working to produce fabric masks and face shields for healthcare workers in the region.

"Being a costume designer is one of my skill sets that I've learned over the years is how to sew," Dyer said. "Sewing as part of a way to help people is really very gratifying to me." Dyer said helping was a no-brainer for her, especially with her sewing skills.

"To me it's a great honor because I feel like anything that I can do to help somebody, anything that I can do to give back is always at the forefront of anything that I do," Dyer said.

To read the full story, visit

www.apsu.edu/news/april-2020-leni-dyer-masks.php



On a quiet afternoon in early March, Amor Moran, director of Distance Education at Austin Peay State University, gathered her team and told them to start drawing up a plan of attack. Colleges across the country were beginning to move all classes online, and while Austin Peay still remained fully open, her office needed to be

prepared for such an unprecedented event.

"We support any online or digital education that Austin Peay wants to take advantage of," she said.

If Austin Peay moved completely online, then every faculty member and student across campus would potentially need their help. Moran, who spent 10 years in the U.S. Air Force, knew her team had to be prepared for a crisis.

"We got the team together and said, 'If this were to happen, let's write out everything we need to

do and who would work on it."

Her team went to work on Operation Govs Go Digital, putting in long hours to ensure the University was ready to transition completely away from traditional, on-ground teaching. Then, on March 23, APSU went fully online. "We got the word from Austin Peay, and everyone was able to pivot quickly," Moran said. "We launched the plan, and it helped us execute quickly."

The team developed a series of webinars, hosted throughout the week, to train faculty on all the technology they had to offer. Instructional designers made a generic class shell on D2L,

> APSU's online learning management system where all online classes live.

> "Some of our students lived in places and didn't have access to computers or the internet, and that was something we never planned for," Moran said.

Her team searched campus for unused laptops that students could borrow for free. They also loaned MiFitablets to students in rural areas with limited or no internet access. A MiFi is a wireless router that acts as a mobile Wi-Fi hotspot.

"I think we did a pretty good job this first time, and now we're looking at how we can make it better and easier," Moran said. "Instead of showing how to use the technology, we'll say, 'here are the best practices. This is what students respond to well."



To read the full story, visit www.apsu.edu/news/may-2020-distance-ed.php









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Austin Peay State University students this fall could be cleaning their hands with homemade sanitizer from the APSU Department of Chemistry. That's because University officials decided to tap their own resources this summer when the COVID-19 pandemic made hand sanitizer – an important tool in combatting coronavirus – almost impossible to find.

"We have everything we need in a chemical laboratory to do these types of things," Dr. Lisa Sullivan, chair of the APSU Department of Chemistry, said. "While the commercially available products have proprietary ingredients, basically what they are is chemicals, and we have those and can order them. They're not in short supply."

In April, Austin Peay's Campus Police announced they were down to their last bottle of hand sanitizer. Clarksville's Old Glory Distillery had donated several bottles to the department, but APSU officers often encountering high-touch areas - quickly went through that supply. During a Zoom meeting,

Michael Kasitz, assistant vice president of public safety, asked if anyone could help.

"I had my lab manager start experimenting, because that's what we do as chemists experiment," Sullivan said. "We made some for campus police. It wasn't my favorite but they needed it immediately. The first batch had too much

> glycerin; it was oilier, took too long to rub in."

Knowing the entire campus would need hand sanitizer when classes resumed this fall, the chemists went to work perfecting their product. They found a winning recipe using ethanol, hydrogen peroxide and glycerin.

The Centers for Disease **Control and Prevention**

recommend regularly washing hands to prevent contracting the new coronavirus.

"We want people to feel safe when they return to campus," she said. "And it's what we do. If we didn't step up to do something like this, it would be awfully embarrassing. That's the Austin Peay way, not just the Department of Chemistry."

To read the full story, visit www.apsu.edu/news/may-2020-chemistry-hand-sanitizer.php







Many of the hundreds of COVID-19 patients that Registered Nurse Sarah Sullivan cared for in New York died in the emergency room where she worked for 30 days last spring.

"As a nurse, I've lost patients before, but loss on such a grand scale and when they're so young," she said during an interview last spring.

"I don't think any of us came out here thinking we were going to be superheroes and save the world," she continued. "It is a very, very helpless feeling when you have no beds, and there's nothing you can do, even through all of your best efforts.

"That's incredibly challenging for me," she paused again.

"I never wanted to be a hospice nurse for that very reason," she continued. "That's been my role lately, just holding people's hands.

"They're alone. They don't have visitors. And they know they're dying."

Sullivan worked 12- to 14-hour shifts every day except one during her 30 days in New York City to help with the coronavirus pandemic.

"I have a skill, and it was needed," said Sullivan, an Austin Peay State University student who earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing this summer. "I went into nursing to help people, and there were a lot of people here who needed help.

"Not just the patients but other health care workers," Sullivan added. "The nurses here were drowning."

To read the full story, visit

www.apsu.edu/news/may-2020-nyc-nurse-sarah-sullivan.php

To learn mor

For more about Austin Peay State University's School of Nursing, go to www.apsu.edu/nursing/.



TELEHEALTH PROVIDES NEW CREATIVITY FOR COUNSELING SESSIONS

In the months before face-to-face interactions became taboo – something to dread the world over – Sara Beth Geoghegan often sat within six feet of her clients, listening compassionately to their fears and stresses. Then, in early March, the COVID-19 pandemic struck Tennessee, and Geoghegan, a mental health counseling intern at Austin Peay State University's Boyd Health Services, had to find a way to help APSU students without being anywhere near them. The age of telecounseling was suddenly thrust upon her profession.

"We had to make a lot of allowances, and telehealth wasn't really something in my tool belt," she said. "There were no telehealth classes, so we've done crash course trainings." Now, instead of sitting across from her clients in the University's counseling rooms, Geoghegan is using telemedicine software to meet with students through impersonal computer screens.

"It's a great tool because it's such a generation of screens," she said. "Computers and iPhones are definitely not new to students, so they're pretty comfortable. And it's allowed a new creativity in counseling which, again, they're open to because they've grown up behind screens."

In a traditional, pre-pandemic counseling setting, a client and a counselor sat across from each other, which could sometimes be a little daunting.

"It can be hard to sit and stare at someone and pour out your feelings," Geoghegan said.

"In those types of sessions, we have a different set of opportunities than we do in telemental health. Recently, I've started using Google image searches for some of my clients as a prompt. I asked them to use a Google search and show me a picture of what they were feeling right then."

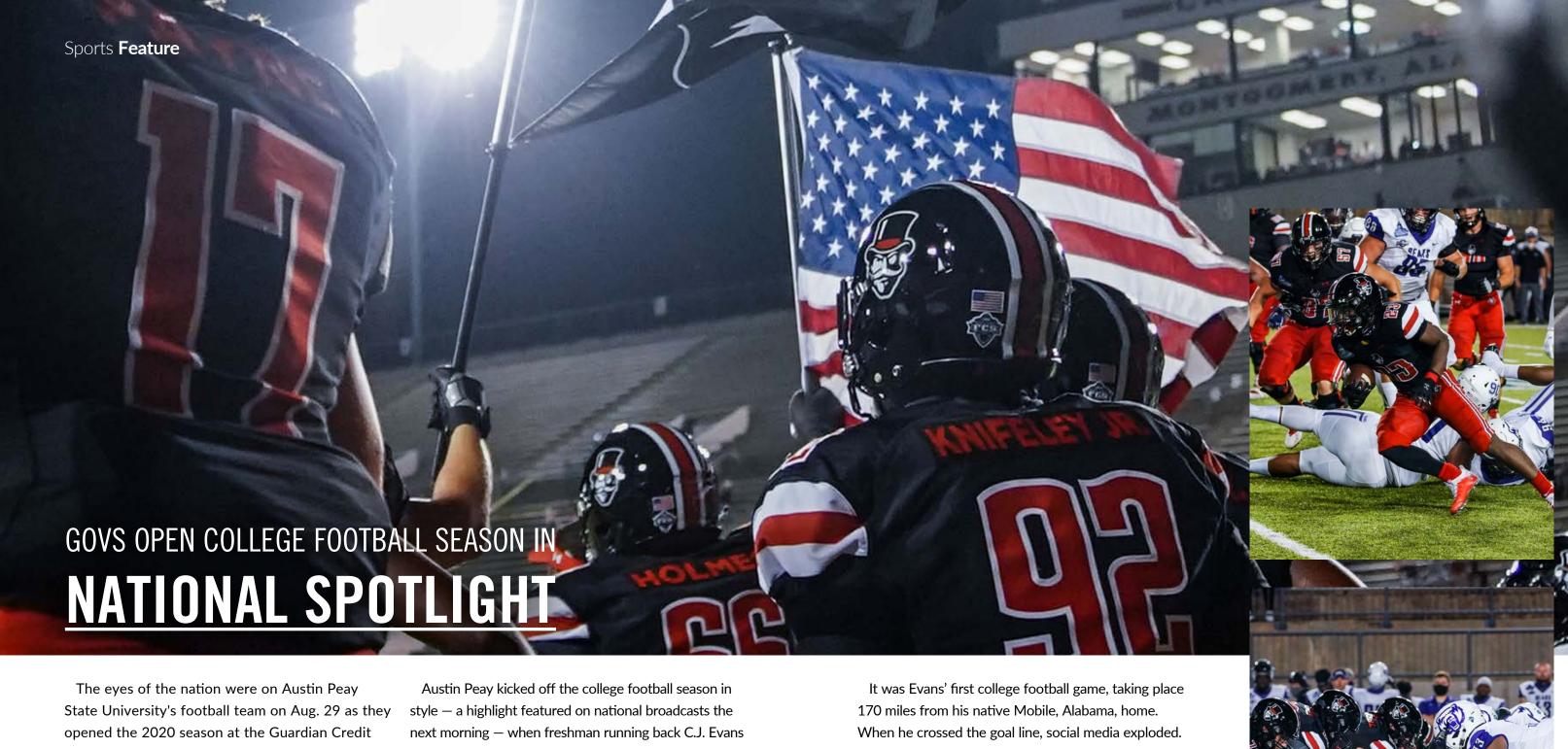
While most of her clients – like the rest of the world – are stuck at home, Geoghegan is using telecounseling to explore her client's personal environments, something she can't do as easily in her office.

"One of my techniques is to prompt my clients to find an object around the home that represents what they are feeling right now," she said. "One of my clients chose a large bag of toilet paper which, for her, represented feelings of fear around COVID-19, feelings of safety associated with being prepared, and feelings of anger for having to fight for a common household item."

To read the full story, visit www.apsu.edu/news/april-2020-telecounseling.php







Union FCS Kickoff in a nationally broadcast game against Central Arkansas at the Cramton Bowl.

Saturday's game, the lone game on the college football slate, was broadcast nationally on ESPN the Governor's second-ever appearance on the network. In a game that simmered along for 56 minutes, the Govs brought the contest to a rolling boil by trading touchdowns in the final four simply may never get this chance again — all those minutes, with the Governors falling by a 24-17 margin.

dashed for a 75-yard score on the game's opening play from scrimmage. A couple of broken arm tackles, a burst of acceleration, one cutback and 75 yards later, Evans had found the end zone and Austin Peay found itself with a sideline in a state of full-on pandemonium.

After everything — the breaks, the stops and starts, the uncertainty and fear and worry that the Govs emotions unfurled themselves in one great, big sigh of relief at the 14:44 mark of the first quarter.

The Austin Peay sideline exploded. The fans in red who made the journey to Montgomery exploded. If it couldn't be normal, because nothing can be right now, it was the next-closest thing: pure, unbridled fun.

"It was awesome," Evans said. "It's great exposure. I knew I had to ball out. We were just ready to show the world what we had. I know we fell short, but I thought we played great tonight."

To read the full story, visit letsgopeay.com/sports/football/archives



NEW DOWNEY BASEBALL OPERATIONS CENTER OPENS

The long-awaited Austin Peay State University
Downey Baseball Operations Center and Clubhouse
grand opening was held early October during a virtual
ribbon-cutting ceremony for donors and baseball
alumni.

The latest step in modernizing Austin Peay's baseball facilities was made possible by the generous support of Austin Peay donors and alumni, including a lead gift by Doug ('79) and Linda Downey.

The more than 5,000-square feet facility includes updated locker room space and team room for the

Governors baseball student-athletes and new, larger office spaces and a meeting room for the coaching staff.

Austin Peay recognized its impressive baseball history throughout the facility with displays of the Governors' championship teams, All-America team honorees, All-OVC and OVC award winners and past and present alumni playing in Major League Baseball.

Alumni and friends may donate to the clubhouse project and recognize a teammate or loved one by donating a locker in the updated locker room. Contact Jordan Harmon at harmonj@apsu.edu or 931-221-6357.





ATHLETICS WELCOMES 2020 HALL OF FAME CLASS

During a special ceremony on Jan. 24, 2020, four former Governors athletes were inducted into Austin Peay's Athletics Hall of Fame. This year's inductees were Vanja Tomic, who earned Ohio Valley Conference Player of the Year honors en route to an OVC title as a sophomore in 2010; Derek Wright, who remains Austin Peay's all-time steals leader and earned second-team

All-OVC during the championship 2007-08 season; and Melissa Luckey (nee Gailey), whose 101 service aces in 1991 during the Govs first OVC Tournament title season remain a program record. Melton Self, an All-Volunteer State Athletic Conference football selection as a senior in 1950, entered through the Honors category.

To read the full story, visit letsgopeay.com/honors/hall-of-fame

ATHLETICS PARTNERS WITH BRAND MARKETING EXPERT FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES

Austin Peay State University's athletics department has teamed with brand marketing consultant and author Jeremy Darlow to help educate its student-athletes on ways to develop and capitalize on their personal brands.

With this partnership, Austin Peay's student-athletes will be the first in the Ohio Valley Conference to have access to Darlow's online course, The DARLOW Rules, which will feature short, easy-to-understand video-based lessons

teaching athletes from every sport the fundamentals of brand development and communication.

Darlow's program joins Austin Peay's ever-growing Student-Athlete Development Program, which prepares Governors for success during and after their college sports experience through community service initiatives, financial education, and various leadership and personal advancement activities.

To read the full story, visit letsgopeay.com/news/2020/8/25/football-apsu-athletics-partners-with-brand-marketing-expert-jeremy-darlow.aspx

34 GOVS EARN OVC ACADEMIC HONORS

Austin Peay State University student-athletes took down another departmental academic record in August, as 34 Governors received the Ohio Valley Conference's Academic Medal of Honor.

The 34 Austin Peay student-athletes awarded the 2019-20 OVC Academic Medal of Honor each carried a

perfect 4.0 grade-point average for the academic year. The award recognized those conference student-athletes who achieve the highest GPA in a conference-sponsored sport. The league recognized a record 285 recipients of the Academic Medal of Honor in 2019-20.

To read the full story, visit letsgopeay.com/news/2020/8/4/athletics-program-record-34-govs-earn-ovc-academic-medal-of-honor.aspx

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Alumni News and Events



While we can all agree that this year has presented many new and unique challenges for everyone, we are proud that the Austin Peay community has adapted so quickly to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In just a few short months, alumni and friends like you gave nearly \$70,000 to support the Govs Give Back Fund, which provides urgent financial assistance for our students, faculty and staff who have suffered economic, medical or similar hardships during times of crisis. That funding has now covered various student expenses related to the pandemic, including rent, electric bills, childcare, healthcare

and access to technology.

During this time, we also achieved a fundraising total of \$11.4 million in gifts and pledges for the 2020 fiscal year. The total surpasses the more than \$10 million raised in 2019, making this the third consecutive year that APSU has set a record for the second-highest giving year in University history. We are grateful to the alumni and friends who made it possible for us to raise \$1 million more this year, even as we continue to face unexpected changes during this global pandemic.

This year has also brought several other benefits to the University, including an expanded partnership with Coleman Tractor to loan the APSU Department of Agriculture new pieces of Kubota equipment to help improve hay production at the APSU Farm and Environmental Education Center. The APSU Southeastern Grasslands Initiative (SGI) also received new major gifts from the BAND Foundation of Washington, D.C. This contribution brings the organization's total giving amount to date to more than \$800,000.

Like other areas of the University, the APSU Offices of University Advancement and Alumni Relations have been working remotely and on campus on a staggered schedule with increased precautions for health and safety. During that time, we have enjoyed staying connected with our Gov family through new email, video and social media initiatives. Some of those initiatives include the Ann R. Ross Bookstore Grand Reopening Virtual Ceremony on Oct. 6 and the Downey Baseball Operations Center & Clubhouse virtual Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Oct. 9. These and other virtual events have been shared via the Austin Peay Alumni Facebook https://www.facebook.com/APSUAlumni and Twitter https://twitter. com/APSUAlumni pages. Though the ways in which we do our work may have changed, our ultimate goal remains the same - promoting student success. That goal would not be possible without you. We hope you are well.

Sincerely.

Kris Phillips ('91) Assistant Vice President for University Advancement



NATIONAL ALUMNI **ASSOCIATION**

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Tom Chester, '73

thomas.w.chester@tn.gov

Vice President

Victor Felts, '91

feltsv@apsu.edu

Past President

Nicole Aquino Williamson, '04

nicole.aquino615@gmail.com

2020-21 ALUMNI

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For the first time in University history, Austin Peay State University is moving its traditional fall homecoming activities to spring, in conjunction with the Ohio Valley Conference (OVC) decision to postpone fall sports until spring. Because this global pandemic is an evolving situation, information on upcoming events will be released at a later date. Visit the alumni website, www. alumni.apsu.edu. as well as www. alumni.apsu.edu/homecoming. for the latest information.

For the most up-to-date alumni events and National Alumni Association information, visit www.alumni.apsu.edu.

APSU ALUMNI RELATIONS COVID-19 TIMELINE



March 12 The 36th Annual Candlelight Ball is canceled due to the emergence of COVID-19.





March 30

The first Govs Love spotlight is shared with the APSU alumni social media audience. These posts share the love stories of alumni who began their relationships at Austin Peay.



April 2

The first member spotlight of the APSU National Alumni Association (NAA) Board of Directors is shared with the APSU alumni social media audience. These posts recognize the NAA leaders and their accomplishments.



April 9

The first Govs Lead Conversation is shared with the APSU alumni social media audience. This series features campus leaders giving their insight on the University's response to COVID-19. Previous guests include APSU President Alisa White, APSU Director of Athletics Gerald Harrison and U.S. Congressman Dr. Phil Roe.

ABOUT COVID-19



April 30

From A Gov. To A Gov letters from alumni are emailed to current APSU students to motivate and encourage them after the University moved all classes online on March 23.



The APSU NAA Executive Board welcomes May 2020 graduates with a special video message following the University's virtual commencement celebration.



May 14

The first Govs Eat is shared with the APSU alumni social media audience. This video series shows individuals and local businesses giving tips on recipes, drinks, snacks and more. Featured businesses include Johnny's Big Burger, Yada on Franklin and The Thirsty Goat



May 1

The first PEAYple Helping People spotlight is shared with the APSU alumni social media audience. These posts honor alumni, students, faculty or staff who have helped others in need during COVID-19 and other challenging times.

THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING!

As we plan for the future of Austin Peay, all areas of the University will need your help more than ever. Due to the pandemic, the APSU colleges' Funds of Excellence, athletics and student affairs were not able to receive the support from Govs Give, the University's annual online giving campaign. To assist the University area of your choice, visit any of the links here.

College of Arts and Letters College of Behavioral and Health Sciences College of Business Eriksson College of Education

College of Graduate Studies College of STEM **Athletics Student Affairs**



During the Spring 2020 semester, Austin Peay State University students, faculty and staff made many adjustments to conduct all classes online as a result of the new coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

The pandemic has also caused many members of the APSU campus community to experience unique personal difficulties in their lives. In response to this need, the Govs Give Back Fund was created. This initiative is intended to provide urgent financial assistance for students, faculty and staff who have suffered severe economic, medical or similar hardships during COVID-19 and in other times of crisis.

More than 100 Austin Peay alumni and friends have contributed nearly \$70,000 to the initiative. That money has covered expenses related to the pandemic, including rent, electric bills, childcare, healthcare and access to technology.

"We are grateful to our community for their support during a time that has been challenging for us and for them as well," Assistant Vice President for University Advancement Kris Phillips said. "Their selfless giving spirit has helped the members of our Gov family who need it most. We cannot thank them enough for their caring response."

To contribute to Govs Give Back, visit alumni.apsu.edu/govsgiveback.

To support this and other APSU fundraising initiatives, contact the Office of University Advancement at 931-221-7127.

Class Note



RILEY DARNELL ('62)

Riley Darnell ('62), a dedicated public servant and advocate of Austin Peay, died on Oct. 2, 2020. He served as Tennessee's Secretary of State from 1993 to 2009.

Darnell majored in economics at Austin Peay, and after graduating in 1962, he went on to earn his juris doctor from the Vanderbilt University School of Law. He joined the U.S. Air Force in 1966 and was assigned to the Judge Advocate General Corp. After his honorable discharge in 1969, he returned to Clarksville to practice as a lawyer for the firm Welker and Darnell.

In 1970, he was elected to the Tennessee General Assembly as a member of the State House of Representatives, representing District 67 Montgomery County. In 1980, he was elected to the State Senate for District 22 representing Montgomery, Stewart, Houston, Cheatham, Robertson, Dickson, and Humphreys counties. In the State Senate, he served as the Chair of the Transportation Committee, Senate Democratic Majority Leader and held positions on numerous other committees.

Throughout his public service career, Darnell remained an active champion of his alma mater. He supported the Woodward Library Society Fund of Excellence, the Baggett Carroll Endowed Scholarship, the History Philosophy Fund of Excellence, the History Alumni/Preston Hubbard Fund and the Academic Scholarship Fund. He also was a member of the Governors Club, the National Alumni Association and the Woodward Library Society, and he regularly attended the Candlelight Ball and Austin Peay football games.

In 1992, he received the APSU Outstanding Service Award. In 2009, the Arts and Heritage Development Council of Clarksville/Montgomery County awarded him the Lifetime Achievement Award. In 2019, the Riley C. Darnell Legislative Internship Endowment was established to honor Darnell's life of service and to benefit APSU students majoring in political science and public administration who have been accepted into the legislative internship program in the Tennessee General Assembly

Darnell is survived by his wife of 57 years, Penny, his five children, Whit, Eddy, Eve, Joy and Dawson, nine grandchildren, his brother Alex and extended family.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE



JOEY SMITH ('99)

Smith is the public health director for the Montgomery County Health Department in Clarksville, Tennessee. He has over 20 years of experience working for the Tennessee Department of Health, is a veteran of the Navy and a graduate of Austin Peay. Smith has earned a certificate in risk communication from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, a certificate in leading change from the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business and a certificate in business excellence from the Vanderbilt University Owen Graduate School of Management.

Smith has won several awards and appointments, including Tennessee Public Health Association's Public Health Worker of the Year, Kresge Foundation's Emerging Leaders in Public Health, appointment to the inaugural class of Governor's Excellence of Service and appointment to the National Association for City and County Health Officials Board of Directors.

Smith has led the local COVID-19 response, assisting in safe reopening plans across the county.



BRAD & JAN ('78) KIRTLEY

Brad was Austin Peay's sports information director for 32 years, and Jan spent 36 years in information technology at Trane. Now in retirement, the couple continues to assist Austin Peay athletics by providing sports statistics and making monetary and in-kind gifts. They also have created an endowment and given to multiple areas within the University.

Jan graduated from Austin Peay in 1978 with a bachelor's degree in business administration and a minor in computer science. Jan was one of the original members of Trane's Austin Peay support group. She won APSU's 2017 Women in Philanthropy award. She also helped to initiate the Brad and Jan Kirtley Sports Information Scholarship.

Brad was inducted into the Austin Peay Hall of Fame in 2014. He's an active member of the Hall of Fame committee and continues to work the scorer's table for men's and women's basketball and a color commentator for baseball broadcasts.

OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNI



ASHLEY WILLIAMS ('13)

Williams is a human resources project manager and strategic partner with HCA Healthcare. She earned her bachelor's degree in business administration from Austin Peay in 2013. During her more than seven years with HCA Healthcare, she has served in a variety of roles.

One of her most prized accomplishments is being able to serve as an HR business partner at HCA Healthcare's flagship hospital. Throughout her time at TriStar Centennial Medical Center, she worked "boots on the ground" and learned firsthand about the company's culture, needs and day-to-day operations. While she served the employees and leaders at the facility, they also impacted her life, ultimately changing her outlook on her aspirations.

Williams is passionate about creating an inclusive culture and providing leaders with the tools they need to meet both business and employee needs. Williams is working on her MBA with plans to be an effective leader within her organization.



DR. DIARESE GEORGE ('07, '11)

Dr. George is the founder and executive director of the Tennessee Educators of Color Alliance, an organization focused on developing, supporting and connecting educators of color with decision-making power to shape, create and influence policy.

Dr. George started his career in education teaching five years as a high school teacher with a focus on business for the Clarksville-Montgomery County School System. During his tenure, he was selected to participate in several education leader fellowships focused on policy and advocacy. Afterwards, he served as the director of recruitment for the Nashville Teacher Residency where his primary focus was recruiting more people of color to the education profession.

Dr. George holds a bachelor's degree in business administration and a master's degree in corporate communication from Austin Peay. He also received an MBA and a doctorate in education leadership from Trevecca Nazarene University. He serves as an adjunct professor and dissertation adviser at APSU and Trevecca. He serves on several councils and committees statewide.

OUTSTANDING ALUMNI



DR. CAMILLE HOLT ('67, '71)

Dr. Holt is a retired professor who spent 32 years in teacher education at Austin Peay and at the Peabody College at Vanderbilt University. She earned her bachelor's and master's degrees at Austin Peay. For several years, she taught in elementary and middle schools in Tennessee and Kentucky. She then completed doctoral work at the University of Memphis and returned to teach at Austin Peay in 1975.

She moved into various administrative positions, including graduate dean and special assistant to the president. While in the latter role, she expanded the APSU National Alumni Association (NAA) to a national organization. The contacts she developed led to major contributions to Austin Peay.

While at APSU, Holt received the Community Service Award and the Clarksville Chamber of Commerce Award for Volunteer of the Year. She has served on the APSU Tower Club and the APSU Foundation. In 2019, Holt established the Jo and Isaac Buck Scholarship for reading specialist majors in memory of her parents.



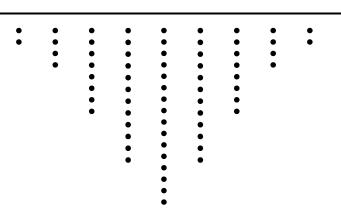
JOE GILES ('61)

Giles is a native of Clarksville, Tennessee, who played in Austin Peay's Governors' Own Marching Band when it marched in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in 1960.

Giles began teaching in the former Davidson County School System in the fall of 1961 and continued through the merger of the Nashville City Schools and Davidson County Schools, serving in several schools. He led Hillsboro High School's varsity choir to the Gold Medal in Festival of the Nations International Choral Festival and performed in the Washington National Cathedral and St. Paul's Chapel in New York City. Giles also directed the Sounds of America Youth Chorale that performed in six European countries.

Giles became first director of arts education at the Tennessee Department of Education. Through this position, establishing the Tennessee Arts Academy, which has trained thousands of teachers and continues as a national spotlight event for arts education. He also has served on many national arts boards during his long career.

CANDLELIGHT BALL



37th Annual Candlelight Ball set for May 8, 2021 Omni Nashville Hotel

For 36 years, the Candlelight Ball has served as one of Austin Peay's premier social events. Last March, the Candlelight Ball Committee and University staff were very disappointed about the event's cancellation. The committee will resume the tradition next year with the 37th Annual Candlelight Ball on Saturday, May 8, 2021. The primary purpose of the Candlelight Ball is to assist in providing scholarships to deserving students, and during the 2021 celebration, the University will also honor the 36th Annual Candlelight Ball award recipients - Sammy Stuard (Wendell H. Gilbert Award) and Kevin & Rhonda Kennedy (Spirit of Austin Peay Award).

To make your reservation or for more information, contact the Alumni Relations Office at 931-221-7979 or visit www.alumni.apsu.edu.



36TH ANNUAL CANDLELIGHT BALL AWARD WINNERS TO BE RECOGNIZED AT 2021 CANDLELIGHT BALL EVENT

WENDELL H. GILBERT **AWARD**



WILLIAM "SAMMY" STUARD JR.

William "Sammy" Stuard Jr. is president/CEO and chairman of the Board of F&M Bank. Under his leadership, F&M has grown to be among the largest state-chartered banks in Tennessee. Stuard was named a 2007 Community Banker of the Year by the American Banker magazine. He has served as chairman of the Tennessee Bankers Association, a member of

the Montgomery County Commission and chairman of the Clarksville-Area Chamber of Commerce, Industrial Development Board and Clarksville Downtown District Partnership. He was past director of the Two Rivers Company, and he currently serves on the Clarksville-Montgomery County Airport Authority and the APSU Foundation Investment Committee.

SPIRIT AWARD



KEVIN KENNEDY

Kevin Chambliss Kennedy, senior member of the Kennedy Law Firm, graduated from Austin Peay State University, with honors, in 1978, and went on to receive a Master of Arts degree in 1979. He graduated from the Nashville School of Law in 1983, and in 1989, he was admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court. Kennedy has contributed legal expertise to numerous media outlets, including The Oprah Winfrey Show, Trinity Broadcasting Network, The New York Times, The Washington Post and CNN. He was named the City of Clarksville Citizen of the Year, Montgomery County Citizen of the Year and Volunteer of the Year.

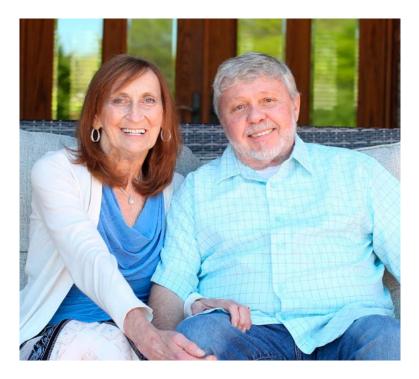


RHONDA KENNEDY

Rhonda Jean Kennedy, principal at Barker's Mill Elementary School, earned a Bachelor of Science in Education ('83) and a Master of Arts ('85) from Austin Peay State University. She served in the classroom at various Clarksville-Montgomery County schools until she was named assistant principal at St. Bethlehem Elementary School. In 1999, Kennedy was named principal of Hazelwood Elementary School, and in 2006, she opened Barker's Mill. The Clarksville Jaycees named her one of its Outstanding Young Teachers, and the Korean American Association honored her for her contributions. In 2005, Kennedy received the Tennessee Principal of the Year Award.

Each year the APSU Board of Trustees selects three individuals to be recognized for their service to the University or for distinction they've brought to their alma mater through their accomplishments.

APSU PHILANTHROPIST OF THE YEAR AWARD



JOE AND CATHI MAYNARD

Joe and Cathi Maynard are the 2020 APSU Philanthropists of the Year. Since 2017, Mr. and Mrs. Maynard have given generously to the University, including the baseball field – now named Joe Maynard Field – and the softball park – known as Cathi Maynard Park. Their total giving to Austin Peay has now surpassed \$1.4 million.

Mr. and Mrs. Maynard have also helped other areas of the University, including sponsorship opportunities with their business, ECHO Power Engineering. They have suite memberships for both the APSU football and baseball seasons, and they show their support at APSU basketball games. They attend many other Austin Peay events throughout the year and are avid supporters of the campus community.

Mr. Maynard retired from the U.S. Army having spent most of his career as a prime power production specialist with the Corps of Engineers. In that position, he traveled the world, providing critical infrastructure to developing nations. He met Mrs. Maynard while serving in the military. She also served in the U.S. Army, as did several other members of their family.

Mr. Maynard is co-owner of ECHO Power Engineering, a power engineering company with customers such as the Hospital Corporation of America (HCA), the Tennessee Valley Authority and NASA.

GOVS WHO LEAD THROUGH MILITARY SERVICE AWARD



RETIRED LT. COL. THOMAS MERCER

Austin Peay State University alumnus retired Lt. Col. Thomas Mercer ('84) received the 2020 Govs Who Lead Through Military Service Award. Mercer serves as manager of the Small Business Program Office for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Memphis District.

In this capacity, his primary responsibilities are executing the mission of the Small Business Program Office and taking appropriate actions to facilitate, preserve and strengthen small business enterprises and ensure the full participation of Small, Small Disadvantaged, HUBZone, SDVOSB, WOSB business concerns and HBCUs in federally sponsored programs.

Mercer began his acquisition career in 1994 as a captain in the U.S. Army. From 1994 to 1997, he served in various acquisition positions with the Aviation and Troop Command in St. Louis, Missouri. Upon completion of the Command and General Staff College residence course at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, in 1998, he was assigned to the USACE St. Louis District where he served as assistant division chief and chief of the contracting division.

After his military retirement in 2000 as a lieutenant colonel in the Army Acquisition Corps, Mercer joined his wife in owning and operating their Captain D's Seafood Restaurant franchise in St. Peters, Missouri. After 10 years of operations, they sold their restaurant ownership and returned to the workforce as federal employees in the St. Louis area with Mercer as a contract specialist and branch chief with USACE St. Louis and his wife as an IRS tax return auditor. In 2014, both were transferred to the Tennessee area, Mercer with the USACE Memphis District and his wife with the IRS Division in West Tennessee. Mercer is a native of Tennessee and received his bachelor's degree in finance from Austin Peay in 1984 and his master's degree in material acquisition management from the Florida Institute of Technology in 1993. He went on to become the first president of the APSU Military Alumni Chapter. He and his wife live in Arlington, Tennessee, and have two children. His awards and honors include the Bronze Star for Desert Storm, the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Commander's Award for Civilian Service and a Master Certificate in contract management.

GOVS WHO LEAD THROUGH SERVICE AWARD



TOM AND SUSIE PERRY

Austin Peay State University alumni Tom ('73) and Susie Perry ('73) received the 2020 Govs Who Lead Through Service Award.

The Perrys have faithfully served their alma mater through their continued commitment to student success. They have established the Perry Intervention Fund, an emergency fund intended to help students with unexpected and critical needs. They also spent a number of years organizing a trip for select students from the APSU College of Business to tour business and industry in Memphis, Tennessee.

The Perrys are active members of the APSU Tower Club, and Mr. Perry was a founding member of the APSU College of Business Advisory Board. Mr. Perry earned his bachelor's degree in accounting from Austin Peay in 1973, and he is now retired from his position as vice president and chief financial officer of Delta Dental of Tennessee. Mrs. Perry received her bachelor's degree in elementary education from Austin Peay in 1973, and she is now retired from teaching in Cheatham County, Tennessee.

Homecoming

SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 2021

APSU VS. UT MARTIN

2 P.M. KICKOFF

Student events hosted March 15-21, 2021.

For a full, updated list of Homecoming events and announcements, visit alumni. apsu.edu/homecoming.



Class **Notes**



THREE APSU ALUMS CELEBRATE HIGH SCHOOL'S FIRST VICTORY

Thursday, Aug. 27, turned out to be a special night for three Austin Peay State University alums. That evening, Rockvale High School – the newest high school in Rutherford County – won its first football game in school history.

"It was crazy," Rick Rice ('88), Rockvale's coach, told The Daily News Journal. "(Players) were sliding on the field, turning flips, everything. As coaches, we acted like kids too. It was a total celebration. It was well deserved for Rockvale and the community."

In the late 1980s, Rice was the quarterback for the Governors football team. As an APSU student, he sometimes watched the baseball team play in the spring. There's where he first saw a young athlete named Steve Luker ('85). A few decades later, Luker was named principal of Rockvale High School.

The two Austin Peay alums watched the team suffer through its 0-10 inaugural season. When the 2020 high school football season began, the Rockvale Rockets lost their first game to La Vergne High School. Then, on a muggy Thursday night, the team traveled to Franklin County, where they defeated the local high school 20-17.

As Luker and Rice cheered, another Rockvale fan raised his arms in celebration. Dean Delk ('69), the uncle of an assistant coach at Rockvale, suddenly felt more connected to the young team. Delk graduated from Austin Peay in 1969 and played football for the Governors. That night, three former APSU student-athletes shared in the excitement of a small town high school's historic first victory.

JOE WINN ('63), a

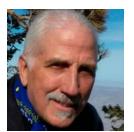
World War II veteran who retired from the Navy in 1959 after 20 years of service, returned to his hometown of Clarksville and completed a degree at APSU in 1963 to become a local



high school teacher, where he retired. Last December, Winn celebrated his 100th birthday.

SANDRA WILSON ('68)

was named deputy commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Children's Services' Office of Child Programs. As deputy commissioner, she is responsible for child program staff and operations in 12 regions across the state.



STEVE SHIA ('73), who spent 35 years as a correctional educator in Connecticut and California, recently published "Stay Out of Prison and Don't Go to Jail ABCs," targeting at-risk individuals.

DR. ROY THOMPSON ('75)

and his wife, Margrey Thompson, recently published "Progress Not Perfection–Building a Powerful Marriage While Raising Challenging Children."



KATHY FLOYD-BUGGS (1978) was named director of the Office of Neighborhoods by Nashville Mayor John Cooper. She previously served as director of Office and Community Services for U.S. Congressman Jim Cooper.

JUAN SMITH ('78) recently retired after 17 years as the girls basketball coach at Ashbrook High School in Gastonia, North Carolina.

DIANE CUMMINGS TURNHAM ('81)

is senior associate athletic director and senior women's administrator with Middle Tennessee State University Blue Raider Athletics. This year, she is chair of the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Committee for the NCAA Women's Basketball Championship.



In January, **STEPHANIE OSBORN** ('83) published her
new science fiction novel, "Mega
Moth," about a giant moth that attacks
Manhattan.

SALLIE SCOVILL ('84)

was promoted to full professor of health promotion and human development at University of Wisconsin Stevens Point.

CHRIS TRAUGHBER ('84) was re-elected in August as Assessor of Property for Robertson County, Tennessee.

KIZZIE JONES ('86), an

ordained United Church of Christ minister and a boardcertified chaplain, recently completed her trilogy of dachshund children's picture books with "A Tall Tale About Dachshunds in Costume: How MORE Dogs Came to Be."



GREG SULLINS ('86) was named executive vice president of strategy, quality and productivity at Wilson Bank & Trust.

TOMMY WALSH ('88), a former APSU baseball player, recently retired from the Brentwood Police Department as assistant chief, after almost 32 years of service.

SUSAN BLACK STEEN ('91) is a writer, photographer and a columnist for Main Street Media in Middle Tennessee.

JEFF BUCHANAN ('92), a park service professional for 25 years with Tennessee State Parks, was named park manager at Cedars of Lebanon State Park in Wilson County. Buchanan had been manager at Long Hunter State Park in Hermitage since 2014, where he managed facilities, natural resources, historic earthworks and guest services as well as the park budget.



published his latest book,

"Johnsonville: Union
Supply Operations on the
Tennessee River and the
Battle of Johnsonville,
November 4-5, 1864."
Wooten is the park manager
of the Bicentennial Capitol
Mall State Park in Nashville.



LATRICE WESTBOOKS ('94), a Mississippi Court of Appeals judge, is seeking to become the first African American woman on the Mississippi Supreme Court. She is running for the position, which will be voted on during the November

General Election.

SHERRY BAKER ('95) was recently named principal of Sango Elementary School. She served as the principal of Liberty Elementary School since 2012, and she was selected as a district-level CMCSS Elementary Lead Principal in 2018. Baker led Liberty to earn the Tennessee Reward School distinction in 2016 and 2018.

NATALIE COX ('97)

was recently sworn in to a 14-year term as a federal judge on the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Nevada by Chief Bankruptcy Judge Bruce Beesley. Her appointment was made by the judges of the U.S. Court of Appeals

for the Ninth Circuit in San Francisco, California.

RANA LACER ('97)

was named chief financial officer of Park University in Parkville, Missouri. She oversees the financial and accounting operations of the university and is responsible for all fiscal services.



MELINDA FORTNER ('00) was named interim principal of Stuart Burns Elementary. She previously worked as an assistant principal at Dickson County High School. Fortner has 19 years of experience as an educator with the Dickson County Board of Education.

ERIN D. HEDRICK ('00) was named administrator of the new Clarksville-Montgomery County School System K-12 Virtual Learning option. She served as principal of Sango Elementary School since 2015. Hedrick began her career in CMCSS in 2000 as a teacher and then served from 2008-2015 as an assistant principal.

CARLOS D. PEREZ ('02) received the Secretary of State Award for Outstanding Volunteerism Abroad (SOSA) for his work in Frankfurt, Germany. The Associates of the American Foreign Service Worldwide (AAFSW) administers the SOSA award, which honors up to six individuals annually, Foreign Service officers and family members, for their exceptional volunteer efforts while posted overseas. Perez is the spouse of a Foreign Service Officer with the State Department.



('03, '06), director of instrumental music at Clarksville High School, was honored with a 2019 Country Music Association (CMA) Foundation Music

Teachers of Excellence

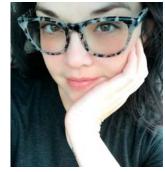
ROBBIN JOHNSTON

BRYAN JOHNSON ('04), superintendent of Hamilton County Schools in Tennessee, was named the Southeast Tennessee Superintendent of the Year by The Tennessee Organization of School Superintendents.

Award.

MELISSA TYNDALL

('04, '07) presented at the Clute International Conference on Education (ICE) in Orlando, Florida, in December. Her presentation titled "The Age of The Internet and Its Effect on Plagiarism and Creative Theft" received a Best Presentation



Award. In addition, Tyndall published poems in Peculiars magazine, Dark Marrow and Vamp Cat Magazine in 2019.

JOHN BEAMER ('05) was recently appointed as judge to Florida's Ninth Judicial Circuit by Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis. The Ninth Circuit encompasses Orange and Osceola counties.

CAROLINE SAWYER ('06), assistant professor of communication studies at University of South Carolina Beaufort, is the producer of a PBS South Carolina author series, "By The River."



DR. MELONY SHEMBERGER ('06), associate professor of journalism and mass communications at Murray State University, is serving a three-year term on the Murray State University Board of Regents. She began her service as faculty regent on July 1, 2019, after being elected by her peers.

STACI HOOKER ('08) joined FLH Medical, P.C. Finger Lakes Gastroenterology in Finger Lakes, New York, as a family nurse practitioner. She is board-certified in family medicine by the American Association of Nurse Practitioners.

LINDSEY RADCLIFFE ('08) is CEO at Morning Star Behavioral Associates. The company works to help people with disabilities achieve and maintain independence through a radical approach to behavior science called applied behavior analysis. The staff at Morning Star focuses on listening to the needs and hopes of their clients and then coaches them in real-world skills to help them achieve their goals.

L'OREAL STEPHENS ('08), a lecturer in the Middle Tennessee State University Department of Communication Studies and an adjunct professor in the Department of Women's and Gender Studies, received the Outstanding Teaching Award in Women's and Gender Studies. Stephens is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Memphis.

DAVID CROCKARELL ('10), a 25-year veteran of the Clarksville Police Department (CPD), was named chief earlier this year. He began his new role, leading the CPD, on July 1.

CHRIS REDIKER ('11) is a nurse practitioner working for Vanderbilt LifeFlight in Gallatin, Tennessee.

HEATHER CARBAJAL ('13) was named executive director of the Northeast Tennessee Chapter of the American Red Cross in Kingsport. She previously served as the disaster program manager of the Mid-West Tennessee Chapter in Jackson.

ASHLEY CURTICE ('13) was named deputy health director of the Cumberland County Department of Public Health. She has served Cumberland County for four years in several roles at the health department. She is also the public information officer and the agency accreditation coordinator for the department.

REBECCA BROWN MCCULLOUGH ('15) teaches sixth grade social studies at Cheatham Middle School.

BRITTNEY ANTHONY ('17) is associate director of operations and engagement for The Sycamore Institute, an independent, nonpartisan public policy research center for Tennessee.

RYNE HARPER ('17) is a Major League Baseball pitcher who was recently traded by the Minnesota Twins to the Washington Nationals. Harper was originally drafted by the Atlanta Braves in 2011, eventually traded to the Seattle Mariners and later signed with the Twins as a free agent in 2018.

TWANA THARPE ('17), an APSU Department of Agriculture alumna, is manager of regulatory affairs at the National Propane Gas Association (NPGA).



ASHLEY SLAY GLOTTA ('18), a former OVC Player of the Year, was named the new high school volleyball head coach at Ensworth School in Nashville.



(KATIE) PALMER ('18, **'19)** is an enterprise services project specialist for the RJ Young Company in Nashville.

MARY KATHERINE

She previously served as a major accounts project specialist and an inbound sales representative with the company.

DANI BOUDREAU ('19) was named traffic and communications manager for Martin & Company, a full-service marketing solutions firm specializing in national automotive aftermarket brand building. She previously served in numerous communication management roles in the wedding industry, logistics and the Tennessee State Park system.

SUMMER ROSE DAVIDSON ('19)

recently completed first vear of veterinarian school at Purdue University.



ROBERT RIGGS. former Austin Peay State University president, was named Volunteer of the Year by the city of Fairhope, Alabama.

IN MEMORY

James Lenon Dixon ('65)Sept. 17, 2019 Henry Eugene Lentz Sept. 24, 2019 **Charles Edwin** Everhart, retired staff Sept. 25, 2019 Alice Lorraine (Welch) Burton Sept. 26, 2019 Justin Tyler Kail ('19) Sept. 26, 2019 Jeanetta Hudson Cheatham ('71, '73) Sept. 27, 2019 Richard Luke Phelan Sept. 27, 2019 Mickey Lynn Temps Sept. 29, 2019 **Arnita Denice** Coleman ('87) Sept. 29, 2019 Martha Williams ('54) Oct. 13, 2019 Shirley Wiedeman ('06) Oct. 21, 2019 Oct. 29, 2019

Nov. 29, 2019 Clarence Edward Hicks ('74) Dec. 5, 2019 Mary Jo Gee Dec. 14, 2019 CSM (Ret.) Jan. 3, 2020 Jan. 6, 2020

Monnie Powers Jan. 7, 2020

Jan. 8, 2020 William Paul Wallace

Jan. 26, 2020

Feb. 5, 2020

Ewing Hester ('69)

Jeremy Carpenter, staff Nov. 8, 2019

Larry Harris ('74) Nov. 17, 2019

Dr. Robert Lewis Hunt Lee Roy Overstreet ('61)

March 7, 2020

John Roe Dowlen ('50)

Donald Winters ('68)

Sr. ('52)

Charles Henry Hood, retired staff

Dr. Larry Lowrance, retired faculty Feb. 14, 2020

Douglas Donsbach ('76) Feb. 16, 2020

Frank McGregor Feb. 17, 2020

William Ross Harvey ('52)Feb. 25, 2020

James Holleman Feb. 29, 2020

Harriett Mabry ('73)

Eula Gardner Dowdy

March 8, 2020

('65) March 9, 2020

Darol Walker Sidney Brown ('83, '85) March 17, 2020

> Charlie Winkler ('69) March 18, 2020

> > Peggy Carol Byard ('63) March 19, 2020

Durward Harris ('54), retired faculty March 27, 2020

Larry Vaughn April 18, 2020

Billie Wyatt May 5, 2020

Carlisle Mitchum May 24, 2020

Sarah Forte May 30, 2020

Dr. Wynella "Mickey" Badgett, retired faculty June 1, 2020

Johnnie Gilreath June 1, 2020

> Melvin Van Hooser June 1, 2020

Eddie Watson ('76) June 4, 2020

Charles Pinder, former faculty Aug. 13, 2020

Carroll Smith June 23, 2020 Lillian Bradley, retired faculty Edgar Settlers ('51) Aug. 14, 2020

Brenda Sue Ray

June 22, 2020

June 30, 2020

July 7, 2020

retired staff

July 9, 2020

July 12, 2020

July 17, 2020

Aug. 2, 2020

Aug. 2, 2020

Tom Morgan ('58)

Nancy Shumate ('62)

Jamie James ('86)

Barbara Johnson,

Advisory Council

Aug. 3, 2020

former President's

Jane Chitwood,

Betty Phillips ('60)

Shelby Taylor ('91), former staff

Aug. 28, 2020

Lieselotte Rogoish, staff Aug. 29, 2020

Carol Ball, retired staff James Parker ('85)

Sept. 1, 2020

Jerry Mealer Sept. 9, 2020

Riley Darnell ('62) Oct. 2, 2020

Wena Halliburton Oct. 12, 2020

David Aaron III ('76) Aug. 7, 2020

Gary Bennett ('81) Aug. 7, 2020

Marchese Gildersleeve ('92) Aug. 8, 2020

Edward Sneed, Jr. ('67)

Aug. 10, 2020



Each year, members of the APSU Alumni Relations Office, University Advancement and APSU administration meet with friends and alumni on campus and around the country. Many of these events include alumni chapter-sponsored activities. No fees are associated with membership in the

National Alumni Association or with specific alumni chapters. To find an alumni group near you or if you are interested in organizing one, call the APSU Alumni Office at 931-221-7979. For upcoming events and an updated list of alumni groups, visit www.apsu.edu/alumni or email alumni@apsu.edu.

- APSU alumni, player family members and supporters made last year's Tailgate Alley the best yet! We look forward to reuniting with our Governor faithful this spring!
- Candlelight Ball past committee chairs reunite to celebrate what would have been the 36th Annual Candlelight Ball. Past Candlelight Ball chairs, dating back to the 1980s, have started an initiative to raise additional funding for APSU student scholarships.
- The National Alumni Association Board and Executive Board meet in person or virtually, biannually, to discuss APSU news and upcoming initiatives. For more information on how you can be a part of the NAA, visit alumni.apsu.edu.
- Each year, we celebrate outgoing seniors with the traditional senior toast event, to honor and recognize those graduating students. APSU and the National Alumni Association to keep students connected to Austin Peay for life. Each of them will always be a part of the APSU Governor family.







- Alumni and former Governor athletes meet up in Florida for a Govs Gathering Alumni Reunion last winter.
- NAA Board President Joe Shakeenab and senior graduate representatives took part in our annual Alumni Induction Ceremony last semester.

- APSU alumnus Brandon Buhler and APSU Vice President for External Affairs Ron Bailey visit during last year's Outstanding Alumni Awards luncheon and celebration.
- APSU football alumni reunited at Fortera Stadium during the 2019 season to celebrate Govs football history.





LEADING THE WAY

ast year, these individuals and organizations established new scholarships and endowments at Austin Peay, creating lifechanging opportunities for future APSU generations. Because of their generosity, their names — or the name of someone they love will now be associated with Austin Peay in perpetuity.

An endowment is a permanent, self-sustaining source of funding. Endowments are invested, and each year, a portion of the value

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Bob & Carol Krueckeberg* Aaron A. Kyle

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Ernie & Rosamond Briggs* Marney Bruce Joe & Sheila Bryant* Brad & Sue Buky* Hunter & Kathy Burney Alfred & Pamela Byard* Willard Byrom* Mercy Cannon* Wavne & Laurie Chaffin* Justin & Amanda Clinard William & Mary Coley* Susan Conaty Ricky & Janet Cooksey* Brenda Corlew Latosha Crawford* Marlon & Linda Crow Ted & Ann Marie Crozier* Tammy L. Cunningham* Michael Dale Craig & Ginny Davis* James & Faye Dickson* James Dukes*

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Janet Harlow*

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Cheryl Holt* Thomasa Ross Price & Kay Hopson* Dickie & Missy Rye* Lvnda Hunt* Carolyn Schillinger Daniel Jeske Ronald Sebree Lloyd Settle* Jim & Lexi Jobe* Garland Johnson William & Sandra Shearron* Ginny Johnson* Ann Silverberg* Bill & Cyndi Sites* Frederic & Justine Jones* Margaret Jones* David & Nancy Smithfield* Richard Jones* Fd Sneed*

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Lori Morris

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Organizations, Corporations, Foundations and Estates by Giving Club

President's Society
Oscar C. Page Circle
(\$50,000 or more)
Band Foundation
Clarksville Montgomery County
Community Health Foundation
Google
Finley Gracey Estate

Heydel Family Fund Jenkins and Wynne Rugraff Family Trust Ret. Major William Sundy Estate The Tides Foundation

President's Society Robert O. Riggs Circle (\$25,000 to \$49,999) Echo Power Engineering

Fortera Credit Union Gerald Printing Good Neighbors Funding Futures Hand Family Companies Heritage Bank James Corlew Chevrolet Inc.

Legends Bank
Evelyn H. McCampbell Estate
Montgomery County Government
Tennessee Orthopedic Alliance

President's Society John S. Ziegler Circle (\$10,000 to \$24,999)

Altra Federal Credit Union Aspire Clarksville Bojangles' Buffalo Wild Wings CDE Lightband Coca-Cola Bottling Works of Tullahoma Cumberland Surgical Arts & Associates PPLC

Ellis & Company Ernst and Young LLP F&M Bank

Domino's Pizza

Florim USA Gary Mathews Motors GNFUNDING LLC

LifePoint Church Lyle-Cook-Martin Architects Inc. Main Street Media

Mathis Bates and Klinghard Moore Construction Company Inc.

Nashville Road Animal Hospital Northcrest Medical Center Novacopy

Renew Dental
Screaming Eagle Ready Mix

Stella Boyle Smith Charitable Trust Stone, Rudolph and Henry CPAs Tennessee Highway Safety Office US Bank

US Bank Wendy's Zaxby's President's Society Philander P. Claxton Circle (\$5,000 to \$9,999)

Best Western Plus The Buntin Group Chi Omega Women's Fraternity

Chick-Fil-A Chris' Pizza Village Clarksville Elite Clarksville Fencing

Comfort Suites
Crocker's Fine Wines and Liquors

Culvers
Dairy Queen
EdSouth

First Advantage Bank Fuse Fireworks Johnny's Big Burgers

McReynolds, Nave & Larson Funeral Home

Michael's Pizza

One Source Accounting & Tax Six Talents Foundation Inc. State Farm Companies Foundation

Tennova Healthcare University Landing LLC

Wal-Mart Whizz Advertising

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Beachaven Vineyards and Winery
BearCom
CEMC
Centerpiece Me LLC
Cheer Derby LLC
Clarksville Civitan Club
Clarksville Pediatric Dentistry
Continental Expedited Services
Copies In A Flash
Courtyard

Dex Imaging
Dos Margaritas Taco Truck
Fairfield Inn & Suites
Fleishman-Hillard Inc.
Garden Club of Nashville
Mark Green for Congress
Hibachi4Hire

Hilton Garden Inn Jimmy Johns Kennedy Law Firm

Kimo's Hawaiian Grill Legends Smokehouse and Grill Montgomery County Farm Bureau

Morgan Contractors Inc. Nashville Communications Nave Funeral Homes Inc. Outback Steakhouse

Peak Sports Management LLC PJ's NY City Dogs Premier Crush

The Presser Foundation
Queener Law

Waterdogs SCUBA and Safety Wyatt-Johnson

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Allstate Foundation American Express Buffet Crampon USA Inc. Clarksville Dental Center Clarksville Montgomery County

Home Builders Association Cumberland Tree Cunningham Mitchell & Rocconi

D & D Companies Inc.
Dennis Concrete Service Inc.
Edgewood Gardens LLC

Fast Signs
First Federal Savings and Loan

Five Star Media Group Friends of White Bluff Glover's Lock Service Greater MidwestCheer Expo LLC

Hutson Inc.
J and N Enterprises Inc.
JB Investments

Jostens Legends Music LLC McKee Foods

McKee Foods Middle TN Outlaws Montgomery County Republican

Women Montgomery County Soil

Montgomery Farmers Co-Op Nyrstar

Rehabilitation Corporation of Tennessee

Rufus Johnson Associates of Clarksville Inc. Len Rye Construction Company

Len Rye Construction Company Special Forces Association - Chapter 38

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STC Partners LLC
Supreme Labor Source LLC
Takeda Pharmaceuticals
Tennessee Council of Cooperatives
Tennessee Society of CPAs
V and R Motels LLC
Valley District Foundation

Valley District Foundation
Vanderpoel Conservation
Foundation
Wal-Mart Neighborhood Market
Whitt's BBQ
Wicked Good Sandwiches

YourCause (YourCause.com)

Columns Club (\$500 to \$999)

MSC Insurance LLC

(\$500 to \$999)
A Murgas LLC
Clarksville Tennis Association
Clarksville Women's Club
Coastal Prairie Partnership
Cumberland Wealth Advisors LLC
Edward's Steakhouse
Eli Lilly and Company Foundation
HP Farm
KPMG Foundation

Pepsico Foundation Planters Bank Inc. Powers Oil Company Rainbow Inc.

Strawberry Alley Ale Works Struble & Company Financial Life Planners Texas Roadhouse

Sentinel's Club (\$250 to \$499)

Alford Plumbing LLC
Alpha Kappa Psi Fraternity
AT&T Foundation
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Clarksville Area Chamber of
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Collinerce
Clarksville Montgomery County
Economic Development Council
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Convention and Visitors Bureau
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Grit Fitness & Wellness LLC

Groves Leasing Inc. Hitchcock Woods Foundation Hollis & Hollis Group Inc.

Industrial Development Board Loomis Armored US

Monday Evening Music Club NAI Clarksville

PTL Fabricators LLC Queen City Disposal Company

Queen City Disposal Company S & G Distributing Schwab Charitable

Steem Master
Van Meter Insurance Group

Van Meter Insurance Group Watson and Atkins P.C. West Fork Market Inc.

Century Club (\$100 to \$249)

Active Screen Graphics LLC
Alpha Tau Omega
Bateman and Bateman
Golden Eagle Jewelry
Hair II Salon
Merck Foundation
OptumHealth
Phi Gamma Delta
Erin S Poland DBA Erin S Poland
Attorney at Law

Attorney at Law
R & J Landscaping & Irrigation
Radhe Corporation
Retail Air Systems
Sigma Phi Epsilon
Sir's Fabrics LLC
Soddy United Methodist Church
Tim's Gas Depot
Williams Family Farms LLC

Senior Class Gift

The Austin Peay State University Senior Class Gift is an opportunity for each class to ensure that future students enjoy the same positive University experience that they had while at APSU. The goal for each senior class is to help endow a \$25,000 scholarship in their honor. Contributions of any amount are welcome. To make your senior gift, contact APSU Alumni Relations at 931-221-7979 or visit alumni.apsu.edu/seniorclassgift.

Timothy Albritton William Crawford Natalie Hollis Shamaria Jefferson Ashlynn Almon Asia Crittendon Christina Cuff Leandra Jenkins Sean Anderson Simone Anthony Amanda Curtis John Juanito Jessica Del Valle-Harrington Meagan Barlow Taylor Kazinski Brandi Beard Curtis Deshazer Brandy Lara Erika Bell Sarah Doty Josh Lee Jr. Amelia Fletcher Khiabet Bello Matinez Valerie Linares Robert and Jan Biter Nicole Flint Tipnie Mack Sarah Brekhus Juan Flores Gretchen Mager Jerad Buck Sandra Foster Lacv Marlin Swanya Burrow-Sanchez Rikki Garcia Briana Mays Kayla Carroll Antionette Garland Heather McClain Toloria Carroll Peyton Garman **Brittney McWaters** Madison Carver LaQuiva Garrett Tiffany Nichols Melove Casey Alistair Gibbs-Francis Ashland Norris Karissa Castleberry Alexandria Patt Heather Goodman **Trevor Cathey** Rebecca Harris **Dominique Peters** Matthew Chandler Jonah Hensen Cheyenne Pregel Briyonna Cooper Nicholas Herrud Kayla Preston

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The Legacy Society

Austin Peay State University Legacy Society signifies a new era in the University's effort to recognize, in a meaningful way, those who share a commitment to the institution through planned and estate giving. If you have already made provisions for APSU in your will or through another type of planned gift, or you would like more information about how to include Austin Peay in your estate plan, contact the University Advancement Office at 931-221-7127.

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The (Double) Tax Benefits of Donating Appreciated Stock

If you're looking for a reliable tax strategy, then consider making a charitable donation. As long as you itemize and your gift qualifies, you can claim a charitable deduction. And you can enjoy an additional tax benefit if you donate long-term appreciated stock instead of cash.

Two Benefits from One Gift

Any appreciated, publicly traded stock you've held for more than a year is considered long-term capital gains property. By donating it to Austin Peay State University, you may be able to enjoy two tax benefits:

- 1. By itemizing deductions, you can claim a charitable deduction equal to the stock's fair market value.
- 2. You can avoid the capital gains tax you would pay if you sold the stock.

To set up your stock gift, contact the APSU Advancement Office at 931-221-7127 or advancement@apsu.edu.



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