The World of Wevly Wilson

Fashion designer takes risks, gives back

University Honors Program
50 Years Strong

NASA engineer saves spacesuit
Dear Fellow Alumni:

On behalf of our dear alma mater, Tennessee State University, I would like to extend warm greetings to you! During the past year, we have continued to work on engaging our alumni, providing avenues of success for our students and establishing stronger partnerships to help us better meet academic and service needs.

As I travel around the country to meet and greet fellow alumni, I am filled with pride to witness firsthand the outstanding accomplishments, important work and indelible footprints our graduates are making in communities across the nation. I invite you all to join me in sharing in this satisfaction. There is also satisfaction in knowing that TSU continues to groom the next generation of scholars, innovators and leaders who are learning to tackle and solve problems and are giving back to others in need. That’s the TSU way!

I encourage you to stay tuned to the great things that lie ahead. We continue to work diligently to increase enrollment and graduation numbers, to ensure campus safety is priority and to provide focused attention on improving scholarly inquiry and research, so as to make a profound impact on students as we prepare them for global opportunities.

I would like to thank all of our alumni for your continued interest and support of Tennessee State University. I am also pleased to report that alumni giving has more than doubled from $793,862 last year to $1,720,909 in Fiscal Year 2013.

We ask that you continue to give because your gifts are helping hundreds of talented students receive a quality TSU education.

I hope you enjoy reading the 2014 edition of the Alumni Life magazine, and learning about the tremendous accomplishments of your fellow alumni. Our place in history, and our continued impact on it, will be felt for many years to come.

Best wishes to each of you and may the spirit of TSU stay with you forever.

Sincerely,

Glenda Baskin Glover ('74)
President
Inside **ALUMNI Life...**

**4**
Class of 1969
*Mission Accomplished!*

**8**
It's an Honor
*Honors turns 50!*

**18**
Cover Story
**Fashion fuels philanthropy**
*The world of Wevly Wilson*

**23**
Sweet Sounds
*Fraternity gives through music*
The Class of 1969
Commits to $100,000 for Student Scholarships in 2019

On behalf of the Class of 1969, class agents Mary Carver-Patrick, Col. Kenneth Dollar (Ret.), Mary Seagraves Boyd, Dr. Edith Peterson-Mitchell, Dr. Judith Johnson Presley, Atty. George Thompson, III and Wanda Brown Morant presented $58,541.92 for student scholarships at Tennessee State University’s 43rd Vintagers Celebration luncheon. With only eight months to solicit their classmates, the agents could hardly contain their excitement at the luncheon May 9.

Class Status Report
The agents report that of the 260 class members in the university database, 22 percent or 58 members made a charitable gift for student scholarships from September 1, 2013 to May 9, 2014 for a total of $58,541.92. Although there were 62 donors in 2009 compared to 58 this year, the class doubled its 2009 amount of $28,645 and earned the first-place plaque in the class competition between the classes of 1954, 1959, 1964, 1969 and 1974.

“We sincerely thank our classmates for their sacrifices and are so proud of their efforts to meet the class goal of $50,000,” said Col. Kenneth Dollar (Ret.).

The individual donations ranged from $20.13 to $5,056.74. Twenty-five classmates contributed a minimum of $1,000 for a total of $5,0670.83 (avg. $2,026.83). Also, 30 members contributed a combined total of $7,871.09 (avg. $262.37).

In several written communications, each member was encouraged to donate $1,969 or at least $350 - $10 for each year since graduation.

Thank You for Meeting the 2014 Challenge
Thirty-five (35) donors will have engraved bricks in the designated Class of 1969 section at the Olympic Plaza during Homecoming 2014!

Ms. Rose Ballard*
Dr. T. B. Boyd, III**
Mr. Anthony Burke*
Mr. Dennis Craig*
Cheryl Flowers*
Mr. Joseph Hambrite**
Mrs. LaMona McCarter**
Mr. Harold Morrison, Jr.*
Dr. Judith Presley**
Ms. Angela Stephens**
Dr. William Terrell**
Ms. Thelma Vestal**

Ms. Eunice Bell*
Everett Boyer*
Ms. Mary Carver-Patrick**
Mr. Charles Curry*
Col. Art Freeman*
Dr. Carletta Harlan*
Ms. Wanda Morant*
Mr. Willie Nichols*
Mr. Jerome Scales**
Dr. Martha Stratton*
Atty. George Thompson, III**
Dr. Phillip Walton*

Ms. Mary S. Boyd**
Mr. Gerald LeMon Bryant*
Ms. Evelyn Cleveland*
Col. Kenneth Dollar (Ret.)**
Ms. Bernice Giles*
Ms. Martha Judge**
Dr. Edith Peterson-Mitchell**
Ms. Violet Parker**
Ms. Nadine Scales**
Mr. Earnest Terrell*
Dr. Carolyn Baldwin Tucker*

*Gifts $450 - $1,968  **Gifts $1,969 and ABOVE

For more information, e-mail TSUclassof1969@gmail.com.
Members of the Class of 1964 are recognized for 50 years as graduates of Tennessee State University donning golden robes in celebration of the occasion. Each participated in the 2014 Spring Commencement ceremony, walking across the stage to receive a certificate and handshake from President Glenda Glover.

At the Vintagers luncheon, the class of 1974 participates in the Induction Oath to officially join the Vintagers Club.

The Golden Vintagers await their opportunity to grace the Commencement stage for a second time.

Sandra D. H. Hunt and Sophia Beamon enjoying Vintagers Weekend at the Greeks and Grads mixer.

Tennessee State University’s Class of 1964 celebrates 50 years at the 2014 Spring Commencement ceremony held at Hale Stadium May 10.

Tennessee State University alumni pose in their paraphernalia at the Vintagers Greeks and Grads Mixer.

Opal Ransom, Dr. Joe Perry and Betty Springfield
It’s been almost 21 years since Yvonne Sanders found her way to Tennessee State University, and she said it’s been quite a journey.

Sanders, who has wrapped up her tenure in a top leadership role at the university, proudly represents and advocates on behalf of staff members across the campus as Staff Senate chairman. As chairman, she has worked to facilitate the exchange of information between the university and its staff employees.

“One of the objectives of the Staff Senate is ‘to promote and support opportunities for professional development and growth for all staff,’ so, for the past couple of years, we have sponsored numerous professional development workshops, and other activities that were well attended by staff as well as faculty and administrators,” Sanders said. “Also, we’ve worked to ensure more staff is involved in the various university-wide committees, including search committees.”

Sanders has served on the search committees for Vice President for University Relations and Development as well as the Presidential Search Committee in 2012. She has also served on the University Strategic Planning Council, numerous Staff Senate appointments, and has co-chaired the Annual Faculty and Staff Giving Campaign.

“One reason I ran for Staff Senate chair was so that I could do what I could to ensure that the staff continues to have a voice and share in the governance at TSU,” said Sanders, who has been a member of the Staff Senate since 2005 and chairman since February 2011.

In addition to her role as chair of the Staff Senate, Sanders gives her full attention to the Office of Procurement as Administrative Assistant IV where she provides assistance to the Offices of Auxiliary Services and Parking Services. She is a former member of the President’s Cabinet and a trustee of the Non-Faculty Sick Leave Bank.

“Yes, I am a proud Tennessee State University graduate,” said Sanders, who received a Bachelor of Science in Arts & Science degree in 2010. “I believe in lifelong learning and that it is never too late to accomplish your goals.”
Robert Smith combines legal acumen and service leadership to elevate TSU

When it comes to Tennessee State University, you won’t find Robert Smith just sitting on the sidelines. From his undergraduate years serving as Student Government Association president and as a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated to his involvement with the Tennessee State University National Alumni Association and his current role as assistant professor in the Department of Criminal Justice, Smith has devoted time and energy in doing his part to make TSU better.

Smith is a 1972 graduate of TSU. He served as the national president of the Tennessee State University National Alumni Association from 1998-2002, and prior to that served terms as vice president and legal counsel. He has also given time at the local level with service as president of the Nashville Chapter of the TSUNAA from 1990-1994. He received his Juris Doctorate degree from Howard University in Washington, D.C.

He counts among his greatest accomplishments while at TSU the initiation of the John Marshall School of Law Southeast Regionals. TSU was the first to host HBCUs (historically black colleges/universities) for the nationally-recognized mock-trial competition.

“TSU was awarded first place on many occasions,” said Smith, who also conducts the CAMA: CSI/Mock Trial for high school students at TSU during the summer.

A practicing attorney with more than 37 years of experience, Smith has handled a number of diverse cases including criminal, probate, real estate, bankruptcy and civil rights. In addition, he has maintained his partnership in a local law firm established in 1987. In 2001, he began teaching legal courses in the Department of Criminal Justice on a part-time basis and, in 2005, transitioned into full-time status. Among the courses he teaches include Constitutional Law and Introduction to the Philosophy of Law.

“During my generation, I grew up watching Perry Mason,” the Nashville native said, adding, “and seeing local heroes like Avon Williams who was a significant legal advocate during the Civil Rights Movement was an influence on me choosing a legal career.”

Smith’s notable record of leadership and service has garnered him numerous awards and honors throughout the years. In 1989, he was recognized by the Nashville Bar Association with the Assistance of Counsel Award. In 1990, the NAACP saluted him with the “Community Service Award” and, in 2002, his fellow alumni acknowledged him with the “Alumnus of the Year Award.” Recently, he added another distinguished honor to his list of accolades — the “Z. Alexander Looby Lifetime Achievement Award” from the Napier-Looby Bar Foundation, a non-profit organization of attorneys, judges, law professors, law students and others interested in issues affecting the black community in Nashville.

“There are thousands of students, African-Americans, who have made significant impacts on communities throughout this nation,” he said. “They may not be at superstar level but they are making an impact in their everyday walks of life. There are numerous TSU graduates who are making significant contributions to society, fighting for causes and contributing to the betterment and advancement of our society.”
This academic year the Honors Program at Tennessee State University celebrates 50 years of life-long learning, scholarly inquiry, and a commitment to service.

The yearlong celebration will commemorate the program’s journey throughout the years, and was capped by a visit to campus on March 26 by award-winning broadcast journalist Soledad O’Brien. The former CNN anchor was the featured speaker at the Honors Anniversary Luncheon honoring Dr. McDonald Williams, the first director of the Honors Program. O’Brien was also the featured keynote speaker during the Honors Day Convocation.

According to Dr. Coreen Jackson, director of the Honors Program, the primary goal of the program is to create and maintain a community of academically bright and talented students who serve as campus leaders and role models.

“The key objective is the academic enrichment of our students and working with them to achieve their goals,” she said. “We have the opportunity to teach students who are excited about learning and have the freedom to explore issues from multiple points of view. The program not only impacts the students but also the entire university.”

During fall 2014, the celebration will culminate with a special 50th Anniversary cake-cutting ceremony and an Honors Week observance.

Jackson added that the jubilee celebration kicks off with an “Honors 50 for 50” campaign to raise funds to help the program transition to an Honors College. Drs. McDonald and Jayme Williams were the first to answer the challenge donating $10,000. The new college, Jackson said, will encourage interdisciplinary programs, enhance undergraduate research in all disciplines, advisement for prestigious fellowships and scholarships, develop a mentoring program to make students more competitive, and encourage lifelong learning, including a global perspective through study abroad opportunities.

For more information on the anniversary activities, contact the Honors Program at (615) 963-5731.
TOP LEFT: Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Mark Hardy, Honors student Ashley S. Banks, and Director of the University Honors Program Dr. Coreen Jackson. TOP RIGHT: President Glenda Glover presents an award of recognition to Dr. Jamye Williams and Dr. McDonald. ABOVE LEFT: Soledad O’Brien with her Delta Sigma Theta Sorority sisters. ABOVE RIGHT: Dr. Sandra Holt, Dr. McDonald Williams, Dr. Jamye Williams, Herman Brady, Dr. Phyllis Adams and Chandra Norman Lipscomb. BELOW: TSU Honors students join Dr. Mark Hardy, vice president of academic affairs, and Dr. Coreen Jackson, director of the University Honors program.
University’s efficiency in customer service leads to millions

When a potential donor came knocking at Tennessee State University’s door a few months ago, university employees sprang into action to provide the information needed to seal one of the university’s single largest planned gifts in its history – a $5 million contribution to support need-based scholarships.

Audrey Stradford (’66), financial aid counselor, was the first to respond to an inquiry received from a couple looking to share their financial success in support of the educational dreams of students. After receiving the phone call, Stradford wasted no time connecting the donor to TSU’s Foundation Office, in which Betsy Jackson, executive director, continues providing the duo a sterling customer service experience.

After a visit to campus and meetings with President Glenda Glover and other university officials, the donors, who have requested anonymity, set up a trust to benefit TSU upon their death. The gift will support first-generation, in-state, African-American and in-state or out-of-state Native American students and is designed to close the financial gap to help improve the disparity in education among minorities.

The donor said, “My wife and I have no heirs and upon passing are interested in using our assets to further higher education. We believe this could be best done through education endowment scholarships. We feel the biggest bang for the buck is in educating people who have not had a full opportunity to obtain a good education. Once educated, we believe they would be more likely to secure a better education for their children, who would in turn pass it on.”

Improving customer service has been a priority at Tennessee State University for several years, and the efforts have paid off with better response time, friendlier engagement and faster delivery of services.

“This is truly a great story about two individuals who are passionate about first-generation students having the opportunity to benefit from the great equalizer of society, which is education,” said Robin Tanya Watson, assistant vice president of Institutional Advancement. “On TSU’s side, this gift was a result of good customer service and being responsive. President Glover wowed them with her vision, along with several other university members involved in this process. We all worked as a team to make it happen.”

---

PRESIDENT’S 50/50 CHAPTER CHALLENGE

On January 2, 2013, President Glover challenged the TSU Alumni Chapters to match her gift of $50K to Tennessee State University. How does your chapter rank?

$50,000 and Above
Beta Omicron Chapter
Chattanooga Chapter
Chicago Chapter
Memphis-Shelby Chapter
Nashville Chapter

$25,000-$49,000
Alpha Theta Network Chapter
Atlanta Chapter
Rho Psi Chapter

$10,000-$24,999
Birmingham Chapter
Detroit Chapter

$5,000-$9,999
Cincinnati Chapter
Dallas Fort-Worth Chapter
Engineering Chapter
Greater Indianapolis Chapter
Greater St. Louis Chapter
Huntsville Chapter
Jackson, TN Chapter
New York Chapter

$1,000-$4,999
Aristocrat of Bands Chapter
Clarksville Chapter
Colorado Chapter
East Tennessee Chapter
Fort Lauderdale Chapter
Founding Fathers Baseball Chapter

Gifts to the Challenge from January 2, 2013 – June 17, 2014
If you are a member of a local Tennessee State University alumni chapter and you have not made your gift, please support your chapter. You can make your gift online at www.tnstate.edu/givenow or make your check payable and mail to the:

TSU Foundation
3500 John A. Merritt Boulevard
Campus Box 9542
Nashville, TN 37209-1561

Please indicate on your check of which chapter you are a member.

Challenge ends September 2015!

Total Gifts and Pledges $675,156.00
JACKSON STATE vs. TENNESSEE STATE

SEPTEMBER 13, 2014 • 6 p.m.
LIBERTY BOWL MEMORIAL STADIUM
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

WWW.SOUTHERNHERITAGECLASSIC.COM
Alumnae work to improve educational opportunities for black children

By K. Dawn Rutledge

The challenges black children face in public school systems continue to widen, particularly for low-income students of color. But organizations like the Black Alliance for Educational Options (BAEO) are stepping up and advocating on behalf of black children and their families to ensure they have every opportunity to receive a quality education.

Among those helping lead this charge are two Tennessee State University alumnae who have joined BAEO in their mission to support transformational education reform initiatives and push for parental choice policies in hopes of shrinking the widening achievement gap.

Jennifer Littlejohn, a 2004 TSU graduate with dual degrees in Mass Communications and Political Science and state director for the Tennessee BAEO, said educational reform is what the BAEO strives for.

“In order to do that effectively there must be some education within the community on these issues,” Littlejohn said. “My main focus was to come in, establish a presence and influence legislation on key policies. She added that the organization has partnered with groups such as Students First, Stand for Children, and the American Federation for Children.

A native of Memphis, Littlejohn says while the organization’s state office is located there, the team does a great deal of travel to Nashville – where legislative activity takes place daily.

“We travel back and forth to Nashville to be part of the conversation and to actively monitor and work to make sure the conversation is inclusive,” she said.

Littlejohn works closely with fellow alumna LaShundra D. Richmond, who serves in the role of Tennessee Family and Community Organizer for BAEO. Richmond, a 2006 Political Science graduate, said being able to work in a capacity that connects the community and supports youth has been a rewarding opportunity.

The duo has been involved with the organization’s School Choice Tour featuring gospel music artist, Pastor Marvin Sapp, and has plans of continuing the event in 2015. The 11-city tour is expected to hit Memphis, Nashville and Chattanooga.

“The purpose of this is to engage parents and students, and to encourage more parental involvement,” Richmond said, adding that BAEO seeks to also target teachers and other education advocates focused on K-12 education. “Parent choice is very important to our work.”

In addition to their commitment to education and young people, Littlejohn and Richmond also make time to stay involved with their alma mater.

The challenges black children face in public school systems continue to widen, particularly for low-income students of color. But organizations like the Black Alliance for Educational Options (BAEO) are stepping up and advocating on behalf of black children and their families to ensure they have every opportunity to receive a quality education.

Among those helping lead this charge are two Tennessee State University alumnae who have joined BAEO in their mission to support transformational education reform initiatives and push for parental choice policies in hopes of shrinking the widening achievement gap.

Jennifer Littlejohn, a 2004 TSU graduate with dual degrees in Mass Communications and Political Science and state director for the Tennessee BAEO, said educational reform is what the BAEO strives for.

“In order to do that effectively there must be some education within the community on these issues,” Littlejohn said. “My main focus was to come in, establish a presence and influence legislation on key policies. She added that the organization has partnered with groups such as Students First, Stand for Children, and the American Federation for Children.

A native of Memphis, Littlejohn says while the organization’s state office is located there, the team does a great deal of travel to Nashville – where legislative activity takes place daily.

“We travel back and forth to Nashville to be part of the conversation and to actively monitor and work to make sure the conversation is inclusive,” she said.

Littlejohn works closely with fellow alumna LaShundra D. Richmond, who serves in the role of Tennessee Family and Community Organizer for BAEO. Richmond, a 2006 Political Science graduate, said being able to work in a capacity that connects the community and supports youth has been a rewarding opportunity.

The duo has been involved with the organization’s School Choice Tour featuring gospel music artist, Pastor Marvin Sapp, and has plans of continuing the event in 2015. The 11-city tour is expected to hit Memphis, Nashville and Chattanooga.

“The purpose of this is to engage parents and students, and to encourage more parental involvement,” Richmond said, adding that BAEO seeks to also target teachers and other education advocates focused on K-12 education. “Parent choice is very important to our work.”

In addition to their commitment to education and young people, Littlejohn and Richmond also make time to stay involved with their alma mater.
Richmond participates in campus visits introducing high school juniors and seniors to the campus; as well as contributing as a donor, and Littlejohn is active with the Tennessee State University National Alumni Association’s Memphis Chapter, where she has served on the Public Relations Committee.

During their undergraduate experiences, both stayed actively involved in leadership capacities with Littlejohn participating as an on-air personality for the student radio station, writing for *The Meter* and on TSU TVNews, and serving as vice president of the NAACP – TSU Chapter. As a non-traditional student, she said she was able to transition well into the culture of the university.

“The interaction between me and my professors was great and I felt they were genuinely concerned about my success,” she said. “There was a special energy at TSU that I had never experienced before. I stayed focused and tried not to think about age differences, and got involved when I could.”

Richmond said she has several family members who are TSU graduates, so making the decision to come to the university was easy for her.

“TSU was my only choice,” Richmond said. “My father was a graduate and I’m a true daddy’s girl. It was a way of keeping his legacy alive.”

While a student she was a founding member of Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Fraternity, a member of Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honor Society, a student representative for the Tennessee Education Association, and a Residence Hall Assistant.

“The camaraderie and healthy competition [at TSU] created a synergy and connection in a very positive way,” Richmond said. “That friendship and camaraderie still exists. We continue our relationships.”

Through their work with BAEQ, the pair hope to engage in future collaborations with TSU.

“I’d like to be more intentional in working with the university in the capacity we are in now,” Littlejohn said of possibly partnering on programs and other activities with the College of Education. “We look forward to elevating the community and education in Tennessee.”

LaShaundra Richmond

Jennifer Littlejohn
Traci OTEY BLUNT (1990)
Traci Otey Blunt has been recognized as one of the “25 Influential Black Women in Business.” Honorees are featured in The Network Journal, a quarterly magazine covering issues that affect the growth of business and the advancement of African-American professionals in the workplace. The award recognizes the success and professionalism that women of color bring to the corporate community.

Larry CHENAULT (1970)
Larry Chenault has opened the first charter school in Camden and Trenton, New Jersey in conjunction with the International Academy of Camden. IAC is a free and new public charter school that will offer elementary grades K-3. The school will add an additional grade annually until it is a full K-12 institution. IAC will open its doors this fall, and it will service the Camden City/Camden County communities.

Robert COVINGTON (2013)
Houston Rockets rookie Robert Covington has been named the NBA Development League All-Star Game Most Valuable Player and the D-League’s top rookie. Covington, who is on assignment from the Rockets with the Rio Grande Valley Vipers, was the league’s second leading scorer averaging 23.2 points, 9.2 rebounds and 2.4 steals per game, while shooting 44 percent from the field. While at Tennessee State University, Covington was a three-time BOXTOROW All-American. He joins Dick Barnett, Anthony Mason, Truck Robinson, and Carlos Rogers — all of whom played in the NBA — as one of the Tigers’ all-time great players. Covington finished his TSU career seventh all-time in points (1,749) and rebounds (876).

Alvin CRAWFORD (1960)
Alvin Crawford, M.D. has been inducted as one of the Great Living Cincinnatians, the highest honor given by the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber. Crawford has trained countless surgeons and improved the lives of thousands of people afflicted with scoliosis. He became a leading authority on video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery using rods to straighten the spine and authored a teaching module that is widely used across the U.S. and 33 other counties. Crawford is the only surgeon to be named a Top 10 Educator in the first 100 years at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital. He is a 2008 inductee into the HBCU Hall of Fame.

Inez CRUTCHFIELD (1947)
Inez Crutchfield has been inducted into the Tennessee Women’s Hall of Fame, a program of the Tennessee Economic Council on Women. The induction ceremony was held Oct. 28, 2013, as part of the 10th Annual Economic Summit for Women. The purpose of the Tennessee Women’s Hall of Fame is to recognize and honor women who are exceptionally accomplished and have made outstanding, unique and lasting contributions to the economic, political, and cultural well-being of Tennessee.

Sidney K. CUMMINGS, Sr. (1957)
Sidney K. Cummings, Sr. was featured in the Post-Tribune, Northwest Indiana’s major newspaper, as part of the series “Seniors in the Workforce.” Cummings, 77, is a part-time bailiff for the Gary City Court system. He’s been there 20 years and has worked for four judges during his stint. Cummings retired as a physical education teacher for the Gray School Corp. in 1997 after a 40-year career.

Eldridge DICKEY (1971)
Tennessee State great Eldridge Dickey was inducted into the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame May 17. In 1968, Dickey became the first African-American quarterback ever drafted by an AFL or NFL team. The Oakland Raiders used their first round pick on Dickey who had
been an All-American his last two seasons. While at TSU, Dickey set multiple records including the most passes attempted and the most passes completed with 805 and 430, respectively. He also set the career mark in career passing yards until Joe “747” Adams came along to break the record a decade later.

Adrienne L. FREGIA (1984)
Dr. Adrienne L. Fregia has been elected secretary/treasurer to the Illinois State Medical Society (ISMS) Board of Trustees. A board certified internist specializing in gastroenterology, Fregia is in solo practice in Matteson, and one staff at Ingalls Memorial Hospital, St. James Hospital and Advocate South Suburban Hospital. An ISMS member since 1993, Fregia currently serves on the Executive Committee and is past chair of the Finance and Medical Benevolence Committee. Locally, she has been a member of the Chicago Medical Society (CMS) since 1993 and became CMS Council chair in June.

Harrison FOY (1971)
Dr. Harrison Foy, a practicing veterinarian, recently started NMotion Home Veterinary Care mobile veterinary service in the Baltimore-Washington community. His office — whether for examination or surgery — is his wheels. Foy visits local elementary schools to excite and spark children’s interest in veterinary medicine.

Gussie FULLER
Gussie Fuller has been hired as the Regional Clinical Liaison for New Life Lodge, a drug and alcohol treatment facility. In this new role, Fuller is responsible for developing and implementing marketing strategies, referral relationships, and community relations activities.

Glenda BASKIN GLOVER (1974)
Pinnacle Financial Partners announced recently that Tennessee State University President Glenda Baskin Glover (1974), Ph.D., JD, CPA has been elected to its board. She joins 12 other prominent business and community leaders who serve as Pinnacle directors. Glover is a certified public accountant, an attorney, and is one of two African-American women to hold the Ph.D./CPA/JD combination in the nation. She has served as TSU’s president since January 2013.

Sheena HAMILTON (2005)
Sheena Hamilton, an attorney in St. Louis-based Armstrong Teasdale’s Employment and Labor Practice Group, has been appointed vice chairman of the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division’s Labor and Employment Law Committee. In that capacity, she will assist the chairman in developing an action plan for the committee which provides training, networking and mentorship opportunities for young lawyers.

Claude HUMPHREY (1987)
Tiger great and NFL standout Claude Humphrey has been selected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Humphrey was an All-American defensive tackle at TSU who went on to be one of the greatest passes rushers in the National Football League. Humphrey played for the Tigers from 1964 to 1967. Humphrey is in the Tennessee State University Hall of Fame, the Georgia Hall of Fame, the Atlanta Sports Hall of Fame, the Tennessee Hall of Fame, the Atlanta Falcons Hall of Fame, and his high schools Hall of Fame. Humphrey’s college and high schools both retired his jersey.

Chris OSBORNE (1995)
Chris Osborne put on an amazing performance at the ParaLong Drive Nationals, which features some of the top disabled golfers throughout the U.S. and Canada. Osborne received top honors nailing the title of National Championship Long Driver with a Leg-above the knee for 332 yards.
Dr. Kenneth George Poole, Jr., has joined the Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale, Arizona as a senior associate consultant in the division of Community Internal Medicine. Formerly, he was in solo medical practice in his hometown of St. Louis, Missouri, where he also served as president of the St. Louis Chapter of the National Medical Association. He holds a MD from Northwestern University and a MBA from Washington University in St. Louis.

Remziya SULEYMAN (2008)
Remziya Suleyman, policy and administration director for the American Center for Outreach and an advocate for Muslim rights, has been working with documentary filmmaker Morgan Spurlock’s newest venture – CNN's *Inside Man*, a series of close-up looks at diverse issues in America. The show premiered April 13 on CNN.

Catana STARKS (1989)
Dr. Catana Starks will be inducted into the National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame Sept. 26 in Atlanta, Georgia, in the category of Athletics. Starks, a former department chair and coach at TSU, recently had accounts of her life story shared in the film “From the Rough” which was released in theaters April 25. A fictionalized character of Starks was portrayed by Academy Award-nominated actress, Taraji P. Henson.

Coach Edward TEMPLE (1950)
Coach Edward Temple is the first recipient of the inaugural Legend Coach Award by the USA Track & Field. This prestigious award recognizes coaches who have had a long career of service to the sport at the Olympic Podium level and recognizes coaches whose athletes have won medals at the Olympics and/or World Championships. In addition to the award, Temple will have a permanent plaque in his honor on display at the USATF National Headquarters.

Andrea EWIN TURNER (1996)
Andrea Ewin Turner has been hired as senior account supervisor with Lovell Communications, Inc. in Nashville. Turner is a communications and media relations veteran with nearly 20 years of experience in the agency, government and corporate sectors. Most recently, she managed public relations at Brookdale (NYSE: BKD), the nation's largest senior living provider. Prior to this position, she served as director of communications and media relations for the Tennessee Department of Health and has held positions including corporate communications manager and media relations manager at Dollar General Corporation (NYSE:DG).

Melaney C. WHITING (2007)
Melaney C. Whiting received her Juris Doctorate degree in May 2014 from Texas Southern University.

Dr. Cornelia WILLS (1992)

Jewell WINN (1988)
Dr. Jewell Winn, special assistant to the vice president for international affairs and chief diversity officer at Tennessee State University, has been named president of Women in Higher Education in Tennessee. Winn, also assistant professor of Educational Administration with more than 30 years of experience in higher education, was elected to head the statewide, three-decade-old professional women’s organization, which provides professional development, mentoring, networking and career enrichment for women.
Dr. Damon Lee, Jr. (1935)

Dr. Damon Lee, Jr. celebrated his 100th birthday on January 7, 2014. A charter member of Beta Omicron Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. in 1934, Lee was instrumental in providing assistance to help the chapter erect its 75th anniversary monument on the university’s campus. In addition, he established the Damon and Rachel Lee Scholarship Fund to support TSU scholars. In 1946, he moved to Los Angeles, California, where he studied chiropractic medicine and became a Doctor of Chiropractic, and continued as an entrepreneur with real estate and securities investments. He served for several years as a member of the Tennessee State University Foundation Board of Trustees.

Evelyn Robinson Hardin (1936, 1961)

Evelyn Robinson Hardin celebrated her 100th birthday on April 29, 2014. A charter member of the Alpha Chi Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Hardin was recognized in 2011 as a Diamond Vintager, celebrating as a 75-year graduate of Tennessee State University and remains active in the Chattanooga Chapter of the Tennessee State University National Alumni Association. She retired in 1975 after 33 years of teaching in the Tennessee Public School System.
When Wevly Wilson decided to take a vacation to Italy a few years ago to relax and clear her mind, she ventured back home with a decision that was life-changing in more ways than one.

At the height of a successful career in corporate America, in which she led a national team of sales recruiters for a global health care firm, Wilson realized she was “unhappy” and wanted to focus on changing her condition.

“During a layover, I decided I was going to sell my house, go back to school and pursue fashion,” she said. “My dad thought I was crazy.”

The revelation has paid off for the Port Gibson, Mississippi native. Her Wevly Wilson Collection, a custom jewelry and accessories line, was recently featured in the April 2014 issue of Essence magazine highlighting one of her Klinken necklace designs.

“It [Essence] has given me a lot more traction,” Wilson said. “People are beginning to take the brand more seriously.”

Wilson’s work has also grabbed the attention of famed designer and entrepreneur Tory Burch, who is now mentoring the rising talent through a specialized women’s entrepreneur program through the Tory Burch Foundation.

“It’s been an amazing thing,” Wilson said. “She [Burch] brings in higher level executives to speak with us and they share tips on financial planning, pitching products and promotion.”

Wilson discovered Tennessee State University as a high school student, and said while she always loved fashion,
her parents encouraged her to pursue a more “sensible” career. She then set her sights on a Pre-Med degree while participating in a summer biomedical research program at TSU. After enrolling in the summer of 1991, she refocused her attention on a degree in health care administration.

“I began to lean on the business-side of health care,” she said.

After going the more traditional route of earning bachelor and master degrees in health administration and health sciences, respectively, she began a career working in the pharmaceutical and medical device industries, working her way up in companies like Eli Lilly, Novartis Pharmaceuticals and Medtronic. Her trajectory led her from sales representative to recruitment and, finally, to a corporate leadership and management position before deciding to give up a life of comfort, move to New York and pursue her dreams.

“I have been in New York for about seven years now,” Wilson said. “When I first arrived, I balanced working as a college recruiter for Eli Lilly while interning at Donna Karan Collections and going to Parsons School of Design full-time.”

In November 2013, Wilson launched the Wevly Wilson Collection, and says entrepreneurship has presented both its challenges and rewards. Her future goal is to add a shoe line and handbags, building off her experience designing shoes, belts, bags and jewelry for the Ann Taylor Loft, Lands End and Etienne Aigner stores. She has also completed intern programs with top brands such as DKNY, Calvin Klein and Kenneth Cole.

Currently, Wilson is a designer for Joe Fresh, a top Canadian apparel brand with collections for men, women and children. She designs shoes, bags and belts for the company which offers its products online and in more than 340 retail locations, including 16 freestanding and studio stores. In addition, she teaches an Accessory Design course at Parsons The New School for Design, where she received her fashion and design degree.

With her newfound successes, Wilson has not forgotten where she received her foundation. Her evolution into the fashion industry has been met with her commitment to Tennessee State University, in which she is donating 10 percent of proceeds to assist academically-gifted students.

“We are so excited to report that we made our first donation to my alma mater, Tennessee State University’s Save our Students (SOS) scholarship fund,” she reports on her website — wevlywilson.com.” The fund was established to help students, mostly with a 3.0 grade average or better, who could not fully pay their tuition for the semester and are in jeopardy of all of their classes being dropped. We hope to do much more.”

“TSU has a rich history of people who are achieving things,” she said. “I hope to get to that level and bring people along with me and provide opportunities to help others move up in their careers.”
Since 1961, Harry Taylor ('65) has lived the ideals of his beloved Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated. Initiated into the Beta Omicron Chapter on the campus of Tennessee State University, he has continued to merge the love of his fraternity with his alma mater.

As one of several affinity chapters of the Tennessee State University National Alumni Association, the Beta Omicron Alumni Association (BOAA) stepped up in a big way presenting one of the largest gifts from an alumni chapter in the amount of $157,241.06 during the 2013 Homecoming celebration. The fraternity followed up that gift with an additional $20,000 in April 2014.

The BOAA is comprised of alumni members of the fraternity’s Beta Omicron Chapter at TSU and provides scholarships through two endowed funds administered by the TSU Foundation: The Alvin Marley/Damon Lee, Jr. Scholarship Fund and The Hershel King/Kirby Pugh Scholarship Fund. Both memorial scholarships are named in honor of deceased members of the Beta Omicron Chapter, and provide critical financial support to TSU students.

“We all remember when we were in school and the desperate need for funds. Our goal is basically to raise enough money to make a significant impact in education,” Taylor said. “We felt this was a way to give back to young males and ease some of the undergraduate financial burden.”

Taylor said BOAA’s fundraising initiative started when the chapter began focusing on a marker project several years ago. The fraternity raised more than $100,000 to erect and dedicate its monument in 2006 and was a way to honor the fraternity’s legacy on TSU’s campus. During the chapter’s 75th anniversary, fraternity members took fundraising efforts even further focusing on building its endowment.

Isaac Yao Addae ('04, '06), a 2004 Beta Omicron initiate and current doctoral student at Morgan State University, served as co-chair of the BOAA Joint Scholarship Committee. Addae said the chapter remains committed to ensuring that all students are afforded the opportunity to live out the university’s motto to “think, work and serve.”

“Through our collective fundraising efforts, the BOAA has contributed more than $150,000 to the TSU Foundation,” Addae said. “Most recently in April 2014, during the annual Big Blue Coming Home Weekend, we presented a $20,000 contribution to the foundation. As concerned alumni of TSU, we recognize our responsibility to secure the future of our beloved alma mater and educate the next generation of American leaders.”

Taylor added, “We always try to lead by example and we strive to set an example and recognize scholarship awardees to let undergraduates know this is what can be expected of them. It’s important that everyone gives back so young people can succeed. In this economy, every little bit helps.”

By K. Dawn Rutledge

LEFT: Alpha brothers present endowment check to President Glenda Glover.
What a difference 50 years can make. And, for John and Darlene Mullins, it has meant returning to Tennessee State University to celebrate the joy of a college education — John as a 1964 graduate and Darlene as an aspiring 2016 graduate.

It’s been many years since Darlene called herself a college student. The New Jersey native cut her academic career short when she met East St. Louis native John Mullins in 1962 on the campus of TSU. The member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. and former Mr. Esquire swept the former Miss New Jersey and Miss Glamour runner-up off her feet. The two became college sweethearts, which resulted in a marriage proposal, a yes, and a lifetime of memories 50 years later.

“I thought he was the finest thing walking on campus,” Darlene laughs as she recalls her crush on John during her first stint as a TSU student.

Darlene admits much has changed since she first came to Tennessee State University in 1962. From the Motown sound to now hip-hop and from classic elegance to casual trends, Darlene said the landscape of the university she soon plans to call her ‘alma mater,’ is quite different than what the former track star, campus queen and trend setter remembers.

After a long and accomplished career in the retail and cosmetology industries, most would consider the soon-to-be 70-year-old successful by most standards, but Darlene said something continued to nag at her. So, in July 2013, the couple decided to come full circle, move back to Nashville and allow Darlene the chance to finish what she started and re-enroll at the university.

Her husband, who obtained his degree in business, has supported Darlene all the way — and she him. The two joined this year’s Vintagers celebration in recognition of John’s golden anniversary as a graduate.

“This was the first time I have ever participated in Vintagers,” John said, who conducted the memorial service at the luncheon.

Life has been good for the couple, who celebrated a half century of marriage in August 2013. John managed a successful career opening a marketing and advertising agency — Lions Group, Inc. — in Dallas, Texas. He operated the company for 15 years before officially retiring in 2004. Darlene was right by his side serving as vice president of operations and special projects.

“I always knew I wanted to own my own business,” John said, who also worked for a number of corporate and governmental agencies before venturing into entrepreneurship. “TSU truly gave me a good foundation for life experiences, and taught me how to think, work and serve.”

John and Darlene have lived in six states over the course of their marriage, raised two children, and are now the proud grandparents of two boys and two girls. Darlene believes by reaching for her goal of a TSU education, it will be an inspiration to others.

“Sure, there were other universities I could have attended, but my desire was to be a TSU graduate. Thankfully, I was able to pick up right where I left off,” she said. “It’s never too late to finish what you started.”
Evan Roosevelt Brown has HOPE, and it has taken him to places he never dreamed. So, he is lending his face and voice to help more than 100,000 Tennessee students each year get that same taste of HOPE.

Brown, a native of Nashville, is a spokesperson for the Tennessee Education Lottery Corporation, which funds the Tennessee HOPE Scholarship and is celebrating its 10th year. During this time the lottery has raised nearly $3 billion.

And Brown, who is a contract compliance coordinator at the lottery, has all the right tools to get the corporation’s message across, but more than that, he understands that it pays to get an excellent education, and the HOPE Scholarship is the way.

“Growing up in my home I had no choice but to work hard and move up,” said Brown, whose parents are all college graduates. “My brother and sister, who are graduates of Tennessee State University, got a full ride in college. But with me not getting that, the HOPE Scholarship made it easy on my parents not to bear that cost.”

So when the opportunity came to be the spokesperson for the program that helped him through college, Brown jumped on it.

“This is a chance to help other people get what I got,” said Brown, who graduated from TSU in 2009 with a business administration degree. “Being the face of the state’s education lottery program, and people seeing me, is an encouragement to give back and inspire others.”

Brown knows that his new “gig,” as he calls it, comes with a certain level of notoriety, but he says the part of the “job” that encourages him the most is being able to motivate “young people” to seek excellence.

He has been with the lottery for seven years – two as an intern – starting when he was a student at TSU.

“I have moved from being an intern to being the contract compliance coordinator, which includes project management, procurement services, business development, and records retention,” said Brown who has been in a full-time capacity with the corporation for five years. “I started as an intern in the finance department then moved to the contract department handling inside sales, then to credit analysis before my current position.”

Brown said he was selected to be the face of the lottery’s television and social media campaigns after a conversation between him, the president, the vice president and legal counsel.

“I think because I had been there a long time, the level of relationship I had with them and my advancement in the corporation prompted them to consider me,” Brown said, who earned an MBA in 2012 from Trevecca Nazarene University, and touts his undergraduate preparation at TSU as the foundation to his success.

“Go Big Blue! I am a Tennessee HOPE scholar and a proud graduate of Tennessee State University,” Brown says in his commercial as he pitches the lottery. For him, it is all about HOPE.
One of the world’s oldest and largest national fraternal music societies with ties to Tennessee State University is giving back through the gift of song. Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity alumni are creating melodies to help improve scholarship opportunities for current TSU students.

Darrell Moore, a 1982 alumnus and member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity, has been involved with the fraternity since an undergraduate. He was a member of the famed Aristocrat of Bands, in which he played the trumpet. He said other alumni members of the group were brought together with the idea of hosting a benefit concert off-campus during Homecoming by fellow member Mark Croft in 2008.

“It was an opportunity for us to recapture some of the memories and things we did in college,” Moore said. “Since Mark is an educator, I think he was always thinking about how we could help students, so this grew into an opportunity for us to raise scholarship money for students at TSU.”

Moore added that funds raised benefit the Charles Dungey Scholarship Fund through the TSU Foundation. Dungey, who died in 2003, was regarded as one of Nashville’s most prolific bassists. Dungey was also an accomplished vocalist, mentor and educator. Through the efforts of Phi Mu Alpha, more than $1,700 has been raised to support the scholarship’s growth since tying fundraising to their annual music event.

The musical graduates have presented the annual concerts for the last five years on Friday evenings during Homecoming. Moore said they are considering moving the event to the Friday evening of John Merritt Classic Weekend to avoid competing against the myriad of Homecoming events. Attendees pay a small entrance fee and are treated to light hors d’oeuvres and a mix of classic and contemporary R&B music performed live.

“The talent of these guys is still very apparent,” Moore said. “If people are looking for an affordable evening of live music in the context of raising money for a good cause, then our event is the perfect laid-back atmosphere to come and enjoy great entertainment and give back.”
Pictorial Highlights

TSU 5K Run

President Glenda Glover takes a moment with the ladies providing on-site medical assistance.

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority sisters take it all in stride during the 5K.

TSU alumni are all smiles on the trail.

This Alpha man is ready for the Big Blue Tiger 5K! A-Phi!

TSU alumnus Ludye Wallace (‘70) and Olympian Ralph Boston (‘62)
The ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated sport winning smiles as they prepare to dash toward the finish line.

Coach Temple prepares to shoot the start gun to begin the race.

Coach Ed Temple congratulates 5K first place winner, David Padgett.
Ron Cobbs, International Space Station Avionics Chief Engineer and TSU graduate, helped NASA engineers identify the cause of a serial interface issue with a spacesuit that malfunctioned during a spacewalk on July 16. (Courtesy photo)

Teamwork does pay even if you are not part of the team. But you have to be good at what you do. Just ask Ron Cobbs, a NASA avionics chief engineer assigned to the International Space Station operations. His input helped investigators trying to unravel the cause of a spacesuit malfunction during a recent spacewalk.

“I personally am not part of the official Extravehicular Mobility Unit (space suit) investigation team that is looking into the suit anomaly,” said Cobb, a 1989 Tennessee State University honors graduate with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering. However, Cobbs said, since the problem appeared to be electrical, he was asked to “look into” the situation and discovered a systems error with the operational use of the suit. As a result, the procedures for the astronauts were rewritten and retested, and subsequently led to identifying the problem. “It worked,” Cobbs said.

It all started on July 16 when astronaut Luca Parmitano was doing a spacewalk outside the ISS when his suit malfunctioned, cutting short the spacewalk or extravehicular activity. Water used to cool the suit started to leak into his air ventilation system, causing the astronaut’s helmet to start filling with water. Crewmembers sent a short video describing the incident to ground control engineers. Immediately, a team of investigators was assembled to determine the problem with the spacesuit. However, as astronauts and team engineers were having problems downloading the data from the suit for analysis, Cobbs was called in to troubleshoot the problem.

“I am not a mechanical engineer, nor would I have been able to troubleshoot the air recycling/thermal system, but they did call me because of a serial interface issue and I was able to help,” Cobbs said, adding, “The operations group wrote the procedures and the engineers told them how the hardware works, but forgot to tell them that everything works as a system.”

Cobbs, who also holds a master’s degree in Space Systems Engineering from Stevens Institute of Technology, said to solve the problem, he repeated the steps of the “documented procedure” to see if he could come out with the same “error.”

“I found out that there were some ambiguities that created the problem. The hardest part in the procedures was making sure they were clear so that anyone could understand them. Never assume that they already know,” he added.

“Ronald Cobbs is a true example of an electrical engineering graduate with passion for life-long learning and professional growth,” Dr. Satinderpaul Singh Devgan, professor and head of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, said of his former student.

Cobbs joined NASA at the Johnson Space Center immediately after graduating TSU. He has moved through the ranks from design engineer, systems engineer to now ISS avionics chief engineer.
We salute the donors who have so generously provided financial contributions to Tennessee State University through the TSU Foundation during the period from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013. Each gift is greatly appreciated and put to good use providing scholarships, enhancing academic programs and supporting university operations. If you have any questions, please contact the TSU Foundation at 615.963.5481. NOTE: Names printed in bold are President’s Society Members. Names with an (*) have been President’s Society Members for six or more consecutive years.
We salute the donors who have so generously provided financial contributions to Tennessee State University through the TSU Foundation during the period from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013. Each gift is greatly appreciated and put to good use providing scholarships, enhancing academic programs and supporting university operations. If you have any questions, please contact the TSU Foundation at 615.963.5481.

NOTE: Names printed in bold are President’s Society Members. Names with an (*) have been President’s Society Members for six or more consecutive years.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1957*</td>
<td>Alfred E. Coleman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>Shirley C. Clowney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1962</td>
<td>Ronald S. Cunningham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1963</td>
<td>James E. Crawford, Sr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1964</td>
<td>Harold L. Collins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965*</td>
<td>Bernard E. Cofer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1966*</td>
<td>Donald E. Cofer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968*</td>
<td>Sherri L. Combs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>David C. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969</td>
<td>Mary Carver-Patrick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969*</td>
<td>Pamela Curry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>Jerome W. Currin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>Myrna L. Garner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>Doris L. Foster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>Charles A. Curry, Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>Pearl E. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975*</td>
<td>June B. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Joseph A. Coleman, Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>Ronald L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>James E. Crawford, Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>Earl E. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>James E. Crawford, Sr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>M. A. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Donald E. Cofer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Joseph A. Coleman, Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985*</td>
<td>Donald L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986*</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987*</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988*</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996*</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997*</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998*</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999*</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000*</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013*</td>
<td>Robert L. Davis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Continued—Donor Categories (July 1, 2012–June 30, 2013)
Continued—Donor Categories (July 1, 2012–June 30, 2013)

William A. Peete, 1971
Linda Pegues-Brinkley, 1965
Joe N. Pendleton, 1998
Sharon D. Pendleton
Dorothy Peoples, 1956
Maurice C. Pepper, 1973
Charles L. Perinchief, Jr.
Andrea C. Perkins, 2004
Charles Perkins, 1972
Dedrick A. Perry, 2003
Hazel F. Perry, 1960
Henry L. Perry
Jeremy T. Perry, 2011
Joseph L. Perry, 1974*
Nathanial Perry, Jr., 2002
Ruby C. Price
Valencia B. Price, 2001
Gwendolyn Prater, 1976
Darrel Powell, 1995
Aaron A. Powell, Sr., 1958
Verdell Porter, 1971
Shirley A. L. Porter, 1958
Mildred S. Porter, 1941
Lawrence E. Porter, 1958
Cheryll M. Porter, 2004
Reginald A. Pope, 1978
Kenneth G. Poole, 2003
Patricia Pointer, 1970
Laura O. Pointer, 1973
Booker T. Poe, 1957
Sandra D. Pleas, 1975
Sharon D. Platt
Jill E. Pitts, 1981
Darlene D. Robinson, 1992
Crystal P. Robinson, 1991
Allen S. Robinson, 1975
Yvette O. Robinson, 1993
Alden S. Robinson, 1991
Crystal P. Robinson, 1991
Damon A. Robinson
Darlene D. Robinson, 1992
Lashundrea L. Pruitt, 1996
Mary J. Pruitt, 1956
Jennifer J. Puhl Winkler, 2010
Pamela E. Pullen, 1990
Fannie O. Pulley, 1948
Constance B. Purnell, 1954
Jerome Puryear, Sr., 1959
Evelyn C. Robertson, Jr., 1962
Joseph Bruce Roberts, 1956
Charles S. Roberts
Barbara L. Roberts, 1963
Iva J. Roberson, 1954
Xavier D. Riley, 1982
Gloria H. Riley, 1953
May Alice Ridley, 1959
Lesia G. Riddick, 1997
Roscoe N. Richmond, 1971
Phyllis W. Richmond, 1980
Samuel E. Richardson, 1965
Candace R. Richardson, 2011
Algeleon P. Rhodes, 1965
Adolph E. Rhodes, 1994
Angela P. Renfroe, 1988
Roosevelt Reese, Jr., 1975
Joy Reed, 1983
Lawrence N. Redd, 1964
Muriel D. Ray-Taylor, 1984
Willie J. Randolph
Booker T. Randall, Jr., 1970
Leon Ramsey, 1972
Jonathan Railey, 1984
Yusuf A. Rahman, 2000
James E. Phillips, 1968
Anthony R. Phillips, 1983
List of names continues...
Continued—Donor Categories (July 1, 2012–June 30, 2013)

Estate of Pearl Banks Elliott
$25,000 - $50,000
Estate of Barbara J. Bozman

ALUMNI ORGANIZATIONS
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. - Alpha Psi
Memphis Shelby County Big Blue Athletics Support
Phi Mu Alpha Eta Xi Alumni Fund
TSU National Alumni Association
TSUAA - Absolutely AX Affinity Chapter
TSUAA - Alpha Theta Network Chapter
TSUAA - Aristocrat Of Bands Alumni Chapter
TSUAA - Atlanta Chapter
TSUAA - Beta Omicron Chapter
TSUAA - Birmingham Alumni Chapter
TSUAA - Chattanooga Chapter
TSUAA - Chicago Chapter
TSUAA - Clarksville Chapter
TSUAA - Dallas Ft Worth Metropolitan Chapter
TSUAA - Detroit Foundation
TSUAA - Engineering Chapter
TSUAA - Football Chapter
TSUAA - Ft Lauderdale Chapter
TSUAA - Greater Gallatin Area Chapter
TSUAA - Greater Indianapolis Chapter
TSUAA - Greater Montgomery Alabama Area Chapter
TSUAA - Hardeman County Chapter
TSUAA - Indianapolis
TSUAA - Jackson TN Chapter
TSUAA - Louisville Chapter
TSUAA - Memphis Shelby County
TSUAA - MidSouth Regional Conference
TSUAA - Nashville Chapter
TSUAA - Rho Psi Chapter
TSUAA - South Central TN Alumni
TSUAA - Wilson County Chapter

ALUMNI ESTATES
$500,000+
Estate of Elbert (and Vernice Taylor) Gray Jr.
$100,000 - $499,999
Estate of Pearl Banks Elliott

ALUMNI FUND
$25,000 - $50,000
Estate of Barbara J. Bozman
BARNHILL, John 75
Sturgis, Kentucky
Class of 1959
Died November 10, 2013

Barnhill was one of the greatest basketball players to compete at the University. He was the point guard on TSU’s NAIA 1957-59 National Championship Teams while tallying 1,253 points during his career as a Tiger. In 1959, Barnhill was drafted by the NBA’s St. Louis Hawks averaging 8.5 points per game. He later on went to play for the Baltimore Bullets and was then drafted by the NBA’s San Diego Rockets. Following his playing career, he was an NBA assistant coach for the Los Angeles Lakers and interim coach for the Lakers during 1974-75. Barnhill ended his career with the Indiana Pacers of the ABA in 1972, and was inducted into the Tennessee State Sports Hall of Fame in 1983.

BROWN, Mitchell M., II, 69
Memphis, Tennessee
Class of 1969
Mechanical Engineering
Died November 20, 2013

Brown served in the U.S. Air Force where he served as an aircraft maintenance technician. After his tour he graduated from TSU where he obtained a degree in mechanical engineering. Throughout this career, he served in many professional capacities as a project engineer with General Electric, chief mechanical engineer with Williams-Russell and Johnson, Inc., senior systems engineer in the Systems Engineering Division for General Electric Company and senior project manager and deputy director for the Department of Public Works in Fairfax, Virginia. He was actively involved with the TSU National Alumni Association as webmaster.

CARTER, Hazo. 67
Charleston, West Virginia
Class of 1968
Died February 18, 2014

Carter served as president of West Virginia State University from 1987-2012. Because Carter was a strong advocate of quality education, the university awarded more than 14,000 degrees under Carter’s administration. He was vice president for student affairs at Norfolk State University in Virginia during 1977-1983 when he left to become president at Philander Smith College in Little Rock, Arkansas. Carter then left Philander Smith College in 1987 for West Virginia State. He had been the longest-serving college president in the state when he retired.

DANIELS, Dr. Elizabeth 75
Portsmouth, Virginia
Class of 1958
Died April 24, 2014

Daniels was one of the first members to serve on an elected Portsmouth (VA) School Board. She was elected in 1996 and served as vice chairwoman. A retired dentist and former teacher, she was active in the community, including being a member of the NAAC, the National Action Network, the steering committee of the Council of Urban Boards of Education and serving on the Board of Directors for the Virginia School Board Association. She was listed among the American Men and Women of Science in 1969, and Outstanding Young Women of America in 1970.

DURRELL, Dr. Henry, 92
Southfield, Michigan
Class of 1951
Died December 25, 2013

Durrell was an active member of the Tennessee State University National Alumni Association’s Detroit Alumni Chapter.
GRAY, Dr. E. Delbert, 68
Southfield, Michigan
Class of 1969
Died February 13, 2014
Gray was the president and CEO of the Michigan Minority Supplier Diversity Council for seven years serving in the position until 2005. He served as the director of several divisions within the Michigan Department of Commerce dedicating himself to business and economic development. He began and ended his professional life as an educator. His honors include National Association of Historical Black Colleges and Universities Alumni Hall of Fame inductee from Tennessee State University; Northwest Church of God, Role Model for Youth; Michigan State University Alumni Recognition; Michigan Minority Development Council Advocate Award, among many others.

Jenkins, John Logan, Sr.
nashville, Tennessee
Class of 1951
Died March 16, 2014
Jenkins was a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated.

JOHNSON, Rossie III, 76
Whittier, California
Class of 1960
Died January 4, 2014
Johnson was part of the history-making TSU Tigers basketball team, winning NAIA national championships in 1957, 1958 and 1959. He was a two-time NAIA All-American, a third team UPI All-American and an alternate to the 1960 USA Olympic Basketball team. In 1960, he won the Emil S. Liston Award, given to the junior athlete with the highest GPA participating in the NAIA National Tournament. He was the first African-American to do so. In 1961, Johnson was drafted by both the NBA’s Cincinnati Royals and the new American Basketball League’s Cleveland Pipers. He was inducted into the Tennessee State University Hall of Fame in 1984 and was a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. At the close of his professional basketball career, he began teaching and retired after 36 years of service. He also served as president of the TSUNAA Basketball Chapter president.

MAXWELL, Dr. Otis
Nashville, Tennessee
Class of 1954
Died October 2, 2013
He was active in the Tennessee State University National Alumni Association’s Nashville Alumni Chapter.

MCCELLAN, Dr. James Finnemore Jr.
South Chesterfield County, Virginia
Class of 1944
Died January 16, 2014
McClellan was a professional educator. Throughout his career, he served as director of Cook Hall at Howard University, professor of education and director of Student Personnel Services at Arkansas AM&N College (now University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff), professor of education and dean of students at Kentucky State University and professor of guidance and director of testing at Virginia State University. He retired from VSU in 1997 as Distinguished Professor Emeritus. He held memberships in several professional organizations, including the National Association of Student Personnel Professionals, the American Personnel and
Guidance Association, and the American Association of Higher Education, to name a few. He was a member of the NAACP, a life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and chair of the Chesterfield County Airport Advisory Board.

**MONTGOMERY, Eleanor, 67**
Cleveland, Ohio
Class of 1969
Died: December 23, 2013
Montgomery was a member of the legendary Tigerbelles track team. She took home her first national title at the age of 14, in long jump. She later qualified for the 1964 Tokyo Olympics high jump, where she finished eighth, with a jump of 1.71 meters. Overall, Montgomery won 13 AAU indoor and outdoor titles during her career, as well as taking home the high jump crown at the 1963 and 1967 Pan American Games. In the 1963 event, she set the meet record for the event. Montgomery was inducted into the Greater Cleveland Sports Hall of Fame in 1976. Also, in November 2013, she was elected to the USA Track and Field Hall of Fame becoming the tenth member of the Tigerbelles to receive this honor.

**WALKER IZREAL, Teshima, 44**
Chicago, Illinois
Class of 1990
Died August 16, 2013
Walker was an award-winning journalist and producer of NPR. She was best known as the producer of Michel Martin's popular news roundup show, *Tell Me More*. In 2000, she joined the outlet as a journalism fellow for the program *All Things Considered*, and later became a producer for *The Tavis Smiley Show* and *News and Notes*. She joined *Tell Me More* in 2007 as a senior supervising producer and became the show's executive producer in 2011. Walker was a life member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

**WHITMAN, Samuel Raymond, 86**
Shelbyville, Tennessee
Class of 1948
Died on October 19, 2013
Whitman served as the head baseball coach for TSU as well as an assistant football coach in 1953. While serving as the baseball coach for 16 years, he compiled 300 victories and established himself as one of the most successful baseball coaches in TSU history. As football's backfield coach, Whitman experienced many winning seasons with the Tigers. In 1968, he was named Head Football Coach at Fisk University and led the team to its first ever championship and first nationally televised appearance. He returned to TSU in 1978 where he served as Athletic Director and taught biology. He was inducted into the Tennessee State University Sports Hall of Fame in 1983 and was a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. He spent his summers working in Metro Parks and Recreation coaching baseball. He served on the Bordeaux YMCA Board of Trustees. He was appointed in 1979 to serve on the Metropolitan Beer Board and held this position for 28 years.

**WINROW, Shirley M. Saunders, 76**
Nashville, Tennessee
Class of 1971
Died December 24, 2013
Shirley Winrow was a devoted mother, wife and grandmother. She dedicated 30 years of her career as an educator retiring from the Metropolitan Nashville Public School System. She was a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Nashville Alumnae Chapter, a member of the Tennessee State University National Alumni Association and a long-time member of Dixon Memorial United Methodist Church.
James Bowen is proof that college isn’t just for students aged 18 to 22. Bowen’s return to college made him the oldest student at Tennessee State University to receive his degree at the 2014 Spring Commencement at age 67.

“This is all part of me reinventing myself,” said Bowen, who will graduate with a master’s degree in Educational Technology. “I would like, in the long run, to encourage people to keep on learning. Our education is never complete.”

Bowen first stepped onto the TSU campus in the mid-1960s and played defensive back on the football team under Coach “Big John” Merritt while pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Sociology. He went on to graduate in 1968.

“Things were a lot different back then,” Bowen said. “We were a wild bunch back then and not as dedicated to our studies as students today. Heck, we even had a curfew.”

Bowen left TSU after graduation and pursued different career opportunities, including teaching. He ultimately ended up in sales where he became one of the top 50 car salesmen in the country.

“I was enjoying life and making lots of money while raising a family, but there was something missing,” he said. “At age 65, I decided I needed to go back to school to start on my next business venture.”

Bowen is part of a growing trend of older students returning to college and wants to help others returning “navigate the waters” of the admission process and how to approach “younger America.”

The National Center for Education Statistics reports that 38 percent of those enrolled in higher education are over the age of 25 and one-fourth are over the age of 40. The share of all students who are over age 40 is projected to increase another 23 percent by 2019. It is that growing population Bowen wants to target.

Life on campus, Bowen said, as well as students have changed in the 46 years since he left the university. He said the biggest challenge he, and perhaps those returning, must deal with is the advancement of technology. He said he had to learn everything from computers to mobile devices to social media.

“I want to serve as an inspiration to students age 65 or older who want to return but don’t know where to start,” he said. “It was tough at first but I started the process early so I could prepare myself for what would be thrown my way. I started with an e-mail address, which I never had, bought a computer and started teaching myself the basics. I then slowly learned about the different social media platforms and how they all connected.”

Bowen is ready to share what he learned with others, and wants to remain on campus with other students and continue learning. A life-long learner, he eventually wants to teach.

“Since being here at Tennessee State University, I’ve acquired this hunger and thirst for education,” Bowen said. “I would love to continue my studies and go into agricultural education and go into teaching. It’s a passion.

“I want to show my family members and anyone else that if you dream it, you can do it,” he added. “I am proud to be an inspiration to others, whether they’re in their 30s, 40s, or even their 90s, to let them know that it’s never too late to chase your dreams.”

Bowen goes SECOND-TIME AROUND AT TSU after 46 years

Oldest spring graduate receives degree at age 67
Tigers on the prowl!

New job? Award? Promotion? New move?

Please keep us informed of your whereabouts so we can continue to communicate with you about the great things taking place at Tennessee State University!

Title:  
- Dr.  
- Mr.  
- Mrs.  
- Miss  
- Ms.  
- Rev.

Full Name (include maiden name, if applicable):

Class Year(s):

Degree(s):

Major(s):

Home Address:

City/State/Zip:

Home Phone: (____) __________ Business Phone: (____) __________ Cell Phone: (____) __________

Preferred Contact (check all that apply):  
- Home  
- Work  
- Cell  
- E-mail

Occupation:

Business/Employer:

Your E-mail Address:

Did your spouse attend TSU?  
- Yes  
- No

Spouse’s name and class year(s):

Degree(s):

Major(s):

Occupation:

Business/Employer:

Spouse’s E-mail Address:

Please include the following news in Alumni Life magazine (honors, promotions, etc.):

_______________________________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________

Would you consider taking an active leadership role in TSU alumni activities?  
- Yes  
- No

Please fill out this form, clip it and return to:

Office of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving
Tennessee State University
3500 John A. Merritt Boulevard
Nashville, TN 37209

*Please note that all Alumni News Briefs may appear online as well as in the printed edition of Alumni Life magazine. Submissions do not necessarily guarantee publication. Alumni Life magazine does not publish engagement, wedding, anniversary or birth announcements. Thank you for sharing your news.

If you would like to complete this form online, please visit www.tnstate.edu/alumni. Click on the ‘Update Form’ button.
Save the Date!

Celebrating

Mr. Claude Humphrey
Dr. Jamye E. Williams
Dr. McDonald Williams

2014 Scholarship Gala
"An Evening of Honors"

Friday, September 26, 2014
Music City Center
201 Fifth Ave South
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

Tickets $150.00 per person
Call 615-963-5481 or visit www.tnstate.edu/scholarshipgala