Students First, Quality in All

Chancellor Peacock sets his priorities as Appalachian’s new leader

Plus, Off-campus learning facilities offer more than just cool cities to visit
Through Oct. 2
Collaborations: Paintings and Performances by Fern Shaffer and Othello Anderson, Turchin Center for the Visual Arts

Sept. 2
Convocation with speaker Cedric Jennings, 10 a.m. Holmes Center

Sept. 6
Dramatist and novelist Robert Inman on “Crossroads: The Making of a Musical” with musical director William Harbinson; Visiting Writers Series, 7:30 p.m. Plemons Student Union

Sept. 17-18
Family Weekend, Fall Open House

Sept. 20-22
Homecoming

Oct. 6
Garrison Keillor, author of “Lake Wobegon Days”; Performing Arts Series, 8 p.m. Farthing Auditorium

Oct. 12
Bale Folclorico de Bahia, Brazilian “carnival” dance and music; Performing Arts Series, 8 p.m. Farthing Auditorium

Oct. 15
Ricky Skaggs with special guest Rhonda Vincent, 7:30 p.m. Holmes Center

Oct. 22-23
American Brass Quintet; Performing Arts Series, 8 p.m. Farthing Auditorium

Nov. 11
Stanislavsky Opera Company “La Traviata”; Performing Arts Series, 8 p.m. Farthing Auditorium

Dec. 3
Hayes School of Music Christmas Scholarship Concert, 7:30 p.m. Farthing Auditorium

For a complete listing of cultural events on campus, visit Appalachian’s Arts Calendar at www.highsouth.com/arts/
A Great Start to a Promising Future

What an exciting and busy time it has been for Rosanne and me since my first day as chancellor on July 1. We have been overwhelmed by the outpouring of good wishes and are very thankful to all our friends – both old and new – who have pledged their support. It is truly an awesome responsibility and a great privilege to serve such a fine university.

My first day as chancellor was spent exactly where I needed to be – right here on campus. I started by having coffee with staff members and immediately began learning from them. Their insight was keen and their willingness to share their thoughts with me was gratifying. I had the opportunity to thank them for their hard work and to tell them how much they mean to the university.

I then gathered my leadership team to talk about my management style and how we would move forward to define our strategic plan and our focus. I shared with them a document I had prepared, “The First 100 Days,” which outlines my immediate priorities. We talked together about strengthening relationships at all levels with the campus, the community, our alumni, the UNC System Office of the President and our political leadership.

Later in the day, Rosanne and I hosted lunch at Appalachian House for all area elected officials. The turnout was tremendous and as we talked together we quickly found common ground in our choice to live, work and raise our families here. We agreed that we must work together to accomplish our goals and communicate openly about matters important to us all.

In the afternoon, we enjoyed a reception in Durham Park for faculty and staff. Once again Rosanne and I were taken aback by the number of people who came out to greet us and who told us the same thing, over and over: “This is our university. You have a new job and we are on your team.” That evening, the Alumni Association hosted a reception in the beautiful McKinney Alumni Center where we enjoyed seeing so many old friends and longtime supporters of Appalachian.

The entire day was energizing and full of outstanding dialogue. It was a day that we will not forget, and we want to say thank you again to all who have gone out of their way to be so welcoming.

Ever since UNC System President Molly Broad offered me this job, I have focused on two principles: students first, and, quality in all we do. Recently, we hosted a group of students on campus for the first Martha Guy Summer Institute for Future Business Leaders. This program is an example of how those two principles merge as we reach into our high schools to identify quality students for a special summer program on campus. We believe their unique experience will lead them to choose Appalachian for their education. Of course, Cannon Music Camp was the first, extremely successful example of those dynamics in action and the model for the Martha Guy Institute.

My goal is not necessarily to increase the number of students at Appalachian, but to increase the quality of those who attend. I will explore other areas for summer programs aimed at talented high school students. We can compete with any institution in the world if we can reach students in the high school halls and these summer programs will open that door.

That’s just one example of how putting students first and seeking quality in all we do will elevate our university and the Appalachian experience. I look forward to sharing these ideas and more with students, parents, faculty and staff as together we define the focus and the future for Appalachian State University.

Sincerely,

Kenneth E. Peacock
Chancellor
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A new plaque honors Mountaineers who died in service to their country. Know of others not listed? Help Appalachian include everyone.

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With a keen focus on students and quality, Kenneth E. Peacock shares his dreams and priorities as Appalachian’s new leader.

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On the cover…
Chancellor Kenneth E. Peacock chats with student leaders inside the soon-to-be-opened Plemmons Student Union solarium. From left are Kendrick Tillman, a Plemmons Leader Fellow and president of the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Morgan Greene, president of Appalachian Ambassadors, Miriam Makhyoun, president of the Student Government Association, and Nick Albu, SGA vice president. Designed to bring the outdoors inside, the solarium features eight small waterfalls and wall sculptures of Grandfather Mountain and Linville Falls. The addition, funded by student fees, encloses an existing courtyard near Sanford Mall.
Longtime administrator Harvey R. Durham and his wife, Susan, stroll through the campus park named in their honor. The six-acre, tree-lined green space at the campus entrance was named Durham Park in June to recognize Durham’s 39-year career at Appalachian. He served as math professor, department chair, provost and interim chancellor. The park is a favorite spot of the Appalachian Family and local community.
Students say ‘yes’ to raising fees for renewable energy

Students voted overwhelmingly in March to raise their fees to help the university pay for converting to solar, wind and other earth-friendly forms of energy.

The student-led Renewable Energy Initiative passed by 81 percent in a record 4,000-voter turnout. The initiative calls for a $10 a year fee per student to be implemented in 2005. It is expected to generate nearly $400,000 over three years.

If approved by Appalachian’s Board of Trustees and the UNC Board of Governors later this year, the extra fee will pay for outfitting new or existing buildings with alternative energy technology—such as solar panels, wind-powered generators and furnaces that run on bio-fuels—to reduce Appalachian’s dependence on fossil fuels and to save money.

“By having the capital costs covered, it will make it easier for people to see that this can work,” said REI proponent Jeff Lauckhart, an industrial technologies major.

The student vote was praised in newspaper editorials, including the Winston-Salem Journal, which wrote: “In a time when some critics say college students have become apathetic, these students took a decisive vote on a matter that obviously meant much to them, and one that should mean more to their elders….they’re giving us all a needed lesson in fiscal responsibility in these cash-strapped times.”

Cideries may boost economy

The Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation is funding a university project to investigate creating apple cideries in western North Carolina. The cideries could provide an economic boost to the region’s declining apple industry and complement tourism, says Paul Combs, director of the Appalachian Regional Development Institute.

The grant has brought representatives from a cidery in Normandy, France, to present workshops on production methods. More than 160 apple growers and other interested people attended the first workshop.

Students turn trash into cash

Each May as departing students empty their rooms and apartments, the trash bins fill up with shower caddies, kitchenware, fans, rugs, electronics, furniture, clothes, half-empty detergent bottles, and unused canned goods.

How wasteful, exclaimed some peers. So they took action. Since 2000, student volunteers have reclaimed much of the trash, stored it over the summer, and resold it at a big sale on move-in day in August.

In what has become known as the Don’t Throw It Away! project, new and returning students save money by furnishing their rooms with used materials. Sale proceeds benefit local non-profit organizations.

If this year’s sale goes well, it could garner $4,000, as it did in 2003, said senior Rachel Hutto. She helps organize the event through Appalachian’s ACT office.

“We save landfill space and connect with local non-profits, but we also teach sustainable living,” Hutto explains. “We want to show how people can reuse a lot of items that typically get thrown away.”

Feeding a campus takes a lot of groceries. Each semester, students consume the following:

- **15,750 dozen** eggs
- **40 tons** chicken
- **22 tons** cooked pasta
- **6.9 tons** ground beef
- **3.75 tons** green beans
- **2.25 tons** broccoli

**What’s Popular**

- Sushi
- Cooked-as-you-watch dishes

**What’s Not**

- Meatloaf
- Ham

Source: Appalachian Food Services

**NUMBERS**

- **9 percent** increase in minority student enrollment from 2002-03 to 2003-04
- Hispanic, Asian and multiracial groups show the largest application increase
- **20** countries are represented by Appalachian freshmen this fall

Source: ASSOCIATE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR DIVERSITY AND OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS
Dancers compete nationally

The Black and Gold Elite Dancers, who perform at football and women’s basketball games, participated in the national Chick-fil-A Cheer and Dance Collegiate Championship’s Division I competition in Daytona Beach, Fla., in April. The student dance team competed against 25 other college and university dance teams to finish 17th. This was the second year they have competed nationally.

GEAR UP recognized for area outreach

Appalachian’s GEAR UP program, which sends college students to Ashe County schools as tutors and mentors, has been profiled as an example of an effective, research-based practice.

The Pathways to College Network has included GEAR UP in its report “A Shared Agenda: A Leadership Challenge to Improve College Access and Success.” PCN works to improve college access and success for low-income, minority and other underserved students.

Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, GEAR UP supports early college preparation and awareness activities for 7th-12th graders and offers faculty-led professional development for teachers.

Among GEAR UP’s success indicators, more than 90 percent of Ashe County Middle School students scored at or above grade level in reading and math in 2003, compared to 56 percent in 1997, PCN said.
Administrative changes announced for 2004-05

Stan Aeschleman has been appointed interim provost by Chancellor Kenneth E. Peacock for the 2004-05 academic year. Aeschleman is a former Department of Psychology chair and served as interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences in 2003-04.

In Peacock’s other administrative announcements, Jerry Hutchens, former associate vice chancellor for development, is interim vice chancellor for university advancement. This follows the resignation of Siegfried Herrmann who held the post for nine years.

Cindy Wallace has been named interim vice chancellor for student development. She had been associate vice chancellor for enrollment services. She replaces Greg Blimling who accepted a position at Rutgers University after 14 years at Appalachian. Harry Williams takes over as acting chancellor.

Lorin A. Baumhover is interim dean of the Cratis D. Williams Graduate School, following the retirement of Judith Domer. She served as dean for seven years. Baumhover had been chair of the Department of Sociology and Social Work since 1996. Professor Ed Folts has been named interim chair of that department.

Neal Lineback, chair of the Department of Geography and Planning from 1986-98, has been named interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for the 2004-05 academic year.

English professor Lynn Moss Sanders is serving as interim coordinator of the University Honors Program.

Beth Alexander, Walker College of Business’s director of development, has been appointed to a newly created position in the chancellor’s office. She is assistant to the chancellor for special projects.

At the department level, Sidney G. Conner has been named chair of the Department of Technology. He had been dean of the College of Applied Science and Technology and University Center at the University of Arkansas in Fort Smith.

Conrad Ostwalt Jr., religion faculty member since 1988 and director of University Honors for five years, has been appointed chair of the Department of Philosophy and Religion.

Steven W. Seagle of the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science’s Appalachian Laboratory has been named chair of the Department of Biology.

Johnny A. Waters, geology professor at State University of West Georgia, has been named chair of the Department of Geology.

Faculty Kudos

Alan Utter (exercise science) has been appointed associate editor of Medicine & Science in Sports & Exercise, the premier research journal of the American College of Sports Medicine.

Frank Mohler (theatre) received the Herbert T. Gregg’s Honor Award from the U.S. Institute for Theatre Technology for outstanding writing in theatre design and technology.

Patricia Beaver (director, Center for Appalachian Studies) received the Cratis Williams/James S. Brown Service Award from the Appalachian Studies Association for exemplary contributions to the Appalachia region and the ASA.

Neal Lineback (geography) received the 2003 Travelocity Award for Excellence in Geography Education for his newspaper column “Geography in the News,” which he has written since 1987.

Timothy Silver (history) received the Southern Environmental Law Center’s Philip D. Reed Memorial Award for Outstanding Writing on the Southern Environment in the book category for “Mount Mitchell & the Black Mountains: An Environmental History of the Highest Peaks in Eastern America.”

Jim Toub (art) and Jay Wentworth (ids) each received a Sasakawa Fellowship from the American Association of State Colleges and Universities to participate in the National Faculty Development Institute on “Incorporating Japanese Studies into the Undergraduate Curriculum.”

Barbara Yale-Read (art) won an Award for Excellence in Teaching from the UNC Board of Governors (see story page 20).

John Scarlata (technology) has had his alternative process photography accepted for exhibition in the Pingyao International Film and Photography Festival in Pingyao, China. His work will be on exhibit during September.

Pat Reighard (com) presided over The National Broadcasting Society and Alpha Epsilon Rho’s 61st National Convention in March as the society’s national president.

Recipients of Appalachian’s 2004 W. H. Plemmons Leadership Medallion, which recognizes outstanding contributions to student life, are Judy Haas, director of judicial affairs; Chancellor Emeritus John E. Thomas; music professor Brian Merritt ’04; Emeritus John E. Thomas; music professor Scott Meister; and Amy Dixon ’04 and Brian Merritt ’04.

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Architectural renderings of a new field house have been revealed as part of the university’s Athletics Facilities Plan, a multi-year project to upgrade facilities for student-athletes and fans.

The new field house will replace 1950s-era Owens Field House, which architects originally thought could be renovated and expanded for a third time. Demolition will begin after the 2004 football season. Plans include preserving Owens Field House’s Wall of Fame and installing it in the new facility, according to university officials. The new facility will house student locker rooms, greatly expanded weight-training facilities and a sports medicine center, Yosef Club Room and hospitality areas, and coaches’ offices.

In another development, the Athletics Facilities Plan’s initial concept to resurface Varsity Gym for a multi-purpose training facility has been changed to installation of an inflatable dome over half the football field in winter months. One of just a few in the South, the inflatable dome will allow student-athletes to practice football and Olympic sports year-round on the same turf. Varsity Gym’s other renovations will continue.

The Athletics Facilities Plan will cost $30-32 million. An athletics fee paid by students is funding the field house, Varsity Gym renovations and 2003’s turf replacement in Kidd Brewer Stadium. Private dollars, currently being raised through the Campaign for Athletics, will provide stadium enhancements, including additional seating, skyboxes, improved handicap accessibility and funding for scholarships.

“To have a quality comprehensive university, intercollegiate athletics must be part of the experience,” says Chancellor Kenneth E. Peacock. “Athletics has been left out of the picture in Appalachian’s recent campus construction. The stadium needs tremendous repairs, and it’s time for athletics to catch up with the rest of the institution.”


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**Revised athletics facilities plan calls for a new field house**

**Tops in their Game**

Four standout athletes and a highly successful coach will be inducted into Appalachian State University’s Athletics Hall of Fame on Sept. 11. Meet the Hall of Fame’s Class of 2004:

- Clayton Deskins, Appalachian’s first African-American football player and all-time leading kickoff returner;
- Linda Robinson, who coached women’s basketball to a school record 236 victories and led her squads to four Southern Conference regular-season titles and five SoCon Tournament crowns;
- Bobby Russell, who started all 40 games of his collegiate career at offensive guard for the Mountaineers;
- Mark Schwartz, a two-time SoCon men’s soccer Player of the Year and all-time assists leader at Appalachian;
- Matt Stevens, football’s single-season record-holder with 10 interceptions in 1994 and a member of the Super Bowl XXXVI Champion New England Patriots.

To attend the induction ceremony, call the Former Athletes Association at (828) 262-4010.

**Consumers Digest calls Appalachian a best buy**

Consumers Digest magazine considers Appalachian a best value, according to its Top 50 Best Values for Public Colleges and Universities rankings. Appalachian ranked 30th for offering what the magazine described as the most academic value per dollar.

The list considered the quality of education offered, academic excellence of freshman enrollment, graduation rates, student-to-faculty ratio and percent of faculty holding a Ph.D. or highest degree. These factors were compared to out-of-state tuition.
They came to college just as students do today, full of dreams and youthful energy. But as their country called, many students left Appalachian to enlist in World War II. Over the years, other military conflicts pulled students away. Likewise, many alumni left careers and families to honor Mountaineers who died in military service. Appalachian State University dedicated a new plaque this past Memorial Day at the veterans memorial beside B.B. Dougherty Administration Building. Thirty-four names, as gathered by Cory J. Stewart '00 '03, have been placed on the plaque so far.

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Honoring Veteran

Jeb Seagle ’76, above, as depicted in an artist’s rendering of military bravery. Below, as a student in 1974.

The late Capt. Jeb Seagle’s heroism in Grenada has been honored with a painting that hangs in The Pentagon. It depicts Seagle, a Marine helicopter pilot and 1976 Appalachian graduate, pulling Capt. Tim Howard from the wreckage of their Cobra aircraft to safety after it was hit by enemy fire on Oct. 25, 1983.

The two men were part of Operation Urgent Fury, a U.S.-led invasion of Grenada to evacuate U.S. citizens held hostage by Cuba’s People’s Revolutionary Army. Howard survived the crash, but Seagle was later captured and killed while trying to get help for his injured co-pilot.

The illustration by Mike Leahy hangs as a historic symbol of the Grenada military operation, according to the U.S. Marine Corps.

Names as they appear on the plaque:

Joel Bacon - U.S. Navy WWII
Hal Bingham ’42 - U.S. Marine Corps WWII
Carl T. Bumgarner ’37 - U.S. Army/Air Corps WWII
Henry C. Cline - U.S. Army/Air Corps WWII
Ben H. Colvard ’35 - U.S. Army WWII
Rennie M. Cory Jr. ’80 - U.S. Army Vietnam (died in 2001 mission to recover soldiers’ remains)
John B. Crisp ’40 - U.S. Army/Air Corps WWII
James T. Cunningham - U.S. Army WWII
Robert B. Davis - U.S. Army WWII
Heath Lee Duncan - U.S. Army/Air Corps WWII
Morris Eggers - U.S. Army/Air Corps WWII
Billy Kennedy Evans Jr. - U.S. Army Vietnam
Paul D. Hagaman - U.S. Army/Air Corps WWII
Albert Reed Harmon - U.S. Army/Air Corps WWII
Roderick John - U.S. Army/Air Corps WWII
Eugene W. Knott - U.S. Marine Corps WWII
Edward H. Ledbetter - U.S. Navy WWII
George Rufus Lippard - U.S. Army/Air Corps WWII
Fred Jamison Lowrance - U.S. Army WWII
John Marshall McClure ’40 - U.S. Army WWII
George Martin Jr. ’41 - U.S. Army WWII
George Almond Parrish ’40 - U.S. Army/Air Corps WWII
Matt Anthony Pasky - U.S. Army/Air Corps WWII
Herbert L. Poole - U.S. Army/Air Corps WWII
Jeb Franklin Seagle ’76 - U.S. Marine Corps Grenada
Gatewood Shipman - U.S. Army/Air Corps WWII
Lindell Smith - U.S. Army/Air Corps WWII
Bill Sparks - U.S. Army/Air Corps WWII
Merl B. Steimer - U.S. Army/Air Corps WWII
Harold Jasper Stone - U.S. Army/Air Corps WWII
Richard D. Tyndall ’83 - U.S. Army Operation Just Cause in Panama
Harold Wineoff ’37 - U.S. Navy WWII
Joseph Paul Yatsko - U.S. Army Vietnam
Horace Yount - U.S. Army/Air Corps WWII
By Virginia Myers Kelly ’82

Hunter Thore walks to the subway past the deli with real bagels and “regular” coffee (sugar and cream); men from Ethiopia and Iran screech by in cabs, and a view of the gold dome on the Met Life building towers above. He’s on his way to an acting gig in one of the biggest arts centers in the world.

Tom McLaughlin hops the train to the El Greco exhibit, listens to Susan Sontag and Russell Banks lectures, checks out an all-Polish neighborhood and another that’s Greek. He meets an Armenian priest in a historically Catholic church, reveling in the diversity of a teeming international stew of cultures.

Harry Williams sits in a shady courtyard across a wide avenue from a historic farmer’s market that now has an art gallery appendage. He is in the nation’s capital, preparing to spend a week with other educators exploring diversity in higher education.

For these three Mountaineers and many like them, living in Boone is beautiful – Williams and McLaughlin chalk up 49 years of mountain living between them – but plunging into the energy of New York and Washington gives them a charge like no other.

Thore and McLaughlin are staying at the Loft, Appalachian’s home away from home in New York City. Williams is visiting the Appalachian House in Washington, D.C. Both houses provide an affordable and friendly place to sleep, congregate, and visit with fellow Mountaineers experiencing urban life for the first time, or on return visits meant to stimulate and revitalize students, faculty, administrators, even alumni and friends of the university.

For a rural school like Appalachian State University, such out-of-town properties provide a window to urban centers. “We’re in a geographically isolated region,” says McLaughlin, an English professor who was director of the Loft last spring. Faculty take turns running the 22-bed facility, greeting guests with a key and sharing information on the city. “This is an outreach for ASU students,” he said.

In D.C., Williams shows off two attached townhouses on Capitol Hill that will soon be renovated to accommodate 24 to 26 guests. “We have a responsibility to educate our students about what’s happening in the world,” says Williams, who is Appalachian’s associate vice chancellor for diversity. “What better place to do it than a place like Washington?”

Appalachian recently made a new commitment to both off-campus homes, upgrading the Loft with new furniture and maintenance and purchasing a new building in Washington.

Nation’s Capital

In 1977 the school began leasing a guesthouse owned by the Folger Shakespeare Theatre, located across from the Library of Congress and a few blocks from the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C. Used by students and faculty doing research, attending political and academic conferences, or exploring the nation’s capitol on extended field trips, it was also a gathering spot for area alumni. The house bunked about 20 people, had a separate apartment for the faculty director, and a shared continued on next page
living and dining area where people could plan their outings, rehash the latest show at the Kennedy Center or tour of the Supreme Court, hold receptions, or otherwise get to know one another.

A year ago, the lease at 22 3rd Street Southeast ran out and Appalachian had to leave. When administrators announced the decision to purchase, rather than lease, a new property, Williams, who is in charge of the off-campus facilities, says the faculty senate “erupted spontaneously... They were so proud that this kind of tradition will continue.”

“We found that it was a major benefit to our students and faculty to be able to have a place to stay with the group they were traveling with,” says Jane Helm, vice chancellor of business affairs, explaining the purchase. “We felt that since we had spent so much money in rent... it was more beneficial from an economic standpoint to own the property.” Having a lease run out, as it did in Washington, would no longer disrupt the program, either.

The new Appalachian House, at 6,000 square feet, will sleep more than two dozen and have luxuriously spacious common areas. Two private rooms will be available, with other beds arranged in bunk rooms. Renovations to be completed by spring 2005 will join the two townhouses, opening up walls to allow more light and more efficient use of the space. A shady front yard provides a quiet outdoor spot, and the back courtyard is sure to be used for receptions as well as more informal visits.

The property, built in 1890, has also thrilled administrators and others with its location, right across the street from Eastern Market and just six blocks from Appalachian’s original facility and Capitol Building, National Mall, and wealth of museums and historical sites. Williams says the neighborhood is safe – “you can walk your dog” – and the stereotypes associated with big cities, like high crime and dirty streets, don’t hold up. There’s even a public pool across the street where anyone can swim for a couple of bucks.

The university bought the property, at 622 and 624 North Carolina Avenue Southeast, for $1.2 million, a great value in this expensive city. Renovations are expected to stay under $1 million, Williams estimates. “The chancellor (Kenneth E. Peacock) doesn’t want to hold back in terms of making it a first-class operation,” says Williams. “It’s going to be a positive, positive experience.”

What kinds of things can happen for students at a place like this? Some see the city for the first time, and marvel at the pastiche of languages one can hear just walking along Constitution Avenue. Others sit in on House and Senate meetings, become pages on the Hill, and begin to understand firsthand the country’s political process. Artists find fresh inspiration in museums and galleries so accessible – and free – that locals tend to take them for granted.

The Big Apple

Even before Appalachian leased in Washington, there was a rental in New York City. First opened in 1974, the New York Loft was in a rundown Tribeca warehouse district where, faculty members say, Mafia-connected neighbors kept an eye out for the greenhorns visiting from the country.

Since the university purchased a property near popular Gramercy Park, a trip to the Loft is not quite so gritty. Like the Appalachian House, the property was enthusiastically welcomed by faculty who were afraid that when the old facility shut down they would lose their university-sponsored access in the city. They petitioned to keep the Loft and when a professor from the Walker College of Business worked out a plan that showed how an investment in students’ education could also be a wise investment in New York real estate, it worked.

In 1996, the new Loft was purchased for $860,000 and renovated for another $800,000. Like the Appalachian House, it is in a safe but central neighborhood.

Two bunk rooms dominate the rear of the Loft, which is on the third floor of a mixed-use building on East 24th Street. The central
space is sleek with glass, brushed metal surfaces and hardwood floors. Ceilings are high and airy. At the front of the building is the director’s apartment.

Perhaps the best deal in the city is the one the intern gets for helping out around the Loft. Hunter Thore ’03 pays $17.50 a night to live there. He helps process linens and check in guests, but most of his time is spent at internships and theater jobs. A theatre alumnus, Thore found work at an off-Broadway play moving sets and acting a small role. He also interned at a sound studio in Brooklyn, where he learned to mix, sample and produce. He met Paul Newman, and worked closely with Robby Benson (see story on page 30). “The connections I’ve made here and the people I’ve met have convinced me to come back,” Thore says.

Other interns have worked at fashion magazines, the United Nations, and media stations NBC and CNN. “It’s an amazing place in terms of students making connections,” says McLaughlin. Photography students attended an annual photography show; design students set up appointments in professional studios to find out more about how to begin their careers; others met with the man who designed the “I Love New York” logo. Finance students attended meetings at investment businesses and banks. Students and faculty also visited to study art, theater, dance and sociology.

McLaughlin fondly remembers a young oboe player auditioning for the Manhattan School of Music who practiced his instrument at the house – something he could not have done at a hotel.

**Bright Lights, Big Cities**

McLaughlin likens the Loft experience and, by extension, the Appalachian House experience, to staying at a bed-and-breakfast, where people visit over meals and as they come and go. It’s like having a little bit of Boone in the big city. Guests mix around a huge table in the common room to share information about subway routes, exhibits, lectures, restaurants and theater reviews. And they share their triumphs. Students may start out feeling overwhelmed by the city, but when they conquer the subway system, they are “empowered,” says McLaughlin.

“I think it’s always important to travel,” says Helm. “But in a city the size of New York it’s intimidating if you go there the first time all by yourself. The Loft gives these students an opportunity to be with a group. They learn as a group how to ride the subway, how to get their tickets to a show, so it’s not so intimidating.”

The out-of-town facilities also empower the university. “It’s just smart,” says McLaughlin. New Yorkers and Washingtonians recognize Appalachian because they’ve seen its faculty and students in their neighborhoods – and they are impressed by the approach the school has adopted through these programs. Other universities want to know how to start similar facilities. The image of an unsophisticated, small state school withers when people understand the investment Appalachian has made to education beyond its home campus.

“All the greatest experience people get sometimes is traveling and venturing out,” says Williams. “That’s why we send students abroad. If you stay in your own little world, you’re not going to grow.”

**About the Author**

Virginia Myers Kelly ’82 spent a semester at the original App House, as it was known, as a graduate student intern, helping run the facility and researching career opportunities in anthropology. She toured the House and Senate buildings with Ted Kennedy’s legal counsel, who she met by chance at a local Chinese restaurant, and joined neighborhood kids to sled down the Capitol steps after a blizzard shut down the city. She later took an internship at the Smithsonian and started a writing career with an article for the neighborhood newspaper, the Hill Rag. Intending to stay a semester, she still lives in the Washington area, 21 years later.

**Make Your Reservation**

Appalachian’s off-campus facilities are open to alumni and friends, as space permits, for about $50 a night. Reservations for New York City are available beginning Oct. 4. The Appalachian House opens in June 2005. For detailed information or to book a bed, visit www.ny.appstate.edu or call (828) 262-2132.
In his first weeks as chancellor, Kenneth E. Peacock shares his dreams for Appalachian State University: a health care initiative, an off-campus facility overseas and improved technology. Yet, his primary focus remains students first and quality in all.
You began your leadership position by reaching out. You spent a full day saying “thank you” to elected officials, local alumni, faculty and staff for all they have done for Appalachian. How do you rate the success of your first day?

I thought July 1 was a huge success. I’ve heard nothing but very positive comments about it. To me, the first day was energizing in that people were taking time to say, “This is our university. You have a new job, but we’re on the team with you.”

This fall, you will travel across North Carolina and to other key areas to meet more alumni, parents, donors and friends. What is your goal with these opportunities?

One thing I heard after I was named to the position was, “We don’t really know you.” I have to admit that was a surprise because I felt that people did know me because I’ve been at the university for 20 years. They know me as the person who was dean of the Walker College of Business, but they don’t know me as a person. So, I want the alumni to get to know me and I want them to tell me how we can work together to move our university forward. I hope to share with them my plans, dreams and ideas and to get feedback from them.

What are your plans and dreams?

Oh, there are big. They’re really big. If I can only have one accomplishment, regardless of whether I’m here for one year, 10, 15 or however many, I want it to be that I started something that made a real difference in the area of health and health services. This is a real issue for our state. I don’t yet know what our institution’s role will be, but I know we will have one. We have very strong allied health programs spread across campus: the exercise science program, communication disorders, health care management, music therapy and more. I want our students to know about these programs.

For the last two years, incoming students have indicated on their SAT forms that their first profession of choice is in health and health services. Community colleges and other institutions that offer nursing programs have more interested students than they can accept. The demographics show a need in all areas of nursing, whether it’s the RN, bachelor’s degree or master’s degree levels. I want Appalachian to find our place in that and help solve the problems in our state and nation. We have tremendous support from our own Watauga Medical Center. The UNC Board of Governors has a task force on nursing needs in the state. The North Carolina Institute of Medicine did a long report in May on the tremendous nursing shortage. So, the state is recognizing this, the Board of Governors is encouraging this, and I’d like to see us be very involved in helping to solve or address what is a real issue for our state. And where it goes from there is all right with me. I don’t put a ceiling on projects like that. You start it, you put the energy behind it, you do all you can, and see where it goes.

You’ve been a teacher and administrator at Appalachian since 1983. What do you consider to be the hallmarks of an Appalachian education?

First, the experience students have on campus. The smaller classroom and the chance to get to know the professor are what have made us a school of choice. I’m hesitant to make this statement because it sounds like other schools don’t have faculty who care, because I know they do. However, it’s different here. There’s a different feeling and interest toward the student. There is a focus on helping them prepare for life, more than just for a job after graduation.
Another hallmark of success is our focus on international programs. We’ve received recognition for what we’ve done, but we have a whole lot more to do. I’m very pro-international. I want to see more of that. Obviously, something else we’re well recognized for is our freshman experience. We get to know them up front, in the beginning, with the attitude that we care about you, we’re trying to help you make a smooth transition from home into the university environment.

Another hallmark is our strong academic programs. The list is long: the Reich College of Education, who else has as many well-respected education graduates throughout North Carolina? You have to hold up with the pride our communication program, the sciences, criminal justice and our political science program.

What aspects of Appalachian need improvement?

Technology. This is going to require something of a cultural shift. We’re going to have to do what other institutions have done and meet some of the needs of our state through teaching that embraces technology. Now, when we do off-campus instruction, we drive there. That’s our culture. But, we must learn to use technology to broaden our educational reach and that’s a tough transition. I’ve seen it work well at Monterey Tech, one of the most technologically advanced institutions around. Our educational technology fee is one of the lowest in the system and that bothers me. As a campus, we have to address these issues.

I’d also like to see more international programs. What we have is great, but if you look at Harvard, their message is, “If you come to campus, bring a passport.” That’s a strong message, and I’d like for us to be able to have that. A dream for me is to have an international house. We’ve got Washington and New York. Why not Mexico, why not England, why not China?

You have emphasized a philosophy of students first and quality in all. What does that mean to you?

That’s my driving philosophy. In making decisions or recommendations, I want to put students first. I want to make sure we give them the absolute best in terms of their campus experience: academics, the arts, athletics, it all comes together. Quality must come in all of this, quality in everything we do. To some extent that means we can’t do everything. Maybe we should pick a few things and do those with quality. It means more than quality in academics, athletics and the arts. It means quality in housing, intramural programs, life on campus. I’d rather we be a little bit smaller and have an experience that the student wouldn’t get anywhere else.

How do we manage the size of our institution?

I think we need to review what we’re doing. We need to ask, “What is the way of the future for higher education, and what is the way of the future for Appalachian?” That’s the question that comes to me. Our mission statement says, “Appalachian State University is a public institution that offers a wide array of programs…” But, what do we excel in? I don’t know if we’ve yet made that decision as a campus.

Ten years from now I want us to be able to look back and say that we anticipated opportunities and made appropriate changes. For example, the health care initiative is a need for the future. The demographics tell us that, so I want to be a player. I don’t want to be sitting on the sidelines saying, “Well, we don’t have that and don’t really need it. We like what we’re doing.”

And, we really need to find focus. A Chinese proverb says, “If you chase two rabbits, both will escape.” Let’s decide on our focus at Appalachian and do that.

Your vision builds on the programs and activities made possible by many alumni and friends who give generously of their time and financial resources. To those who helped make Appalachian what it is today, what would you say?

I say a very sincere, heartfelt thank you. You should be very proud of the institution that you have developed here. I ask that you stay involved, not just by giving money but by providing leadership and opening doors for us, so we can make Appalachian even greater than it is. I invite them to come to the mountaintop. See what we’ve got. They’ll be proud.
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Piece of History
Senior Leslie Morefield examines part of a nearly 1,000-year-old eastern red cedar found in Tennessee’s Obed Wild and Scenic River Gorge. The piece of dead tree, called a snag, is believed to be the oldest found in a national park east of the Rocky Mountains. Morefield counted the snag’s rings as part of the Department of Biology’s research into cliff-face vegetation. Faculty and students assess ancient trees and rare plant species that grow in the region’s vertical ecosystems. The National Park Service uses the data to develop management plans for rock climbers. Biology professor Gary Walker says details hidden in the snag’s rings are also beneficial in determining the region’s climate history. Morefield is an ecology and environmental biology major from Raleigh.

Getting kids to eat their veggies

Know a child who is a picky eater? The mother may be to blame.

Unintentionally, mothers play a role in a child’s pickiness, according to a study by Amy Galloway, assistant professor in Appalachian’s Department of Psychology. What foods a mother brings into the home and how long she breast-fed the child are major contributors, the study revealed.

Galloway has studied the relationship between the fear of new foods, called neophobia, and pickiness and vegetable consumption in 7-year-old girls. Her research was recently published in the Journal of The American Dietetic Association.

Because the mother is usually the parent introducing the child to foods, a picky-eating mother typically doesn’t expose the child to foods she doesn’t like, Galloway found.

Also, Galloway’s study confirmed other published research that children who are breast-fed for more than six months are more likely to eat foods when first offered to them. Exposure to breast milk gives children experience with a variety of flavors compared to the relatively bland formula diet that many children are fed, she said.

A young girl’s pickiness can be overcome, however. According to the study, repeated exposure to vegetables and fruits, as many as 10-15 times, reduced the young girls’ tendency toward pickiness. “We found that...generally...they eventually would learn to like a food,” Galloway said.

Scholar program increases state’s child welfare advocates

With help from a special scholar program, Appalachian State University is preparing much-needed child welfare advocates for North Carolina.

The annual employee turnover rate in the state’s child protective services is 44 percent due to increasingly heavy caseloads, long hours and low pay. Only a third of employees have a social work degree.

Appalachian participates in the N.C. Child Welfare Education Collaborative, offering financial and educational support to young people interested in child welfare careers. For every year of financial support they receive, students must work a year in child welfare in a N.C. County Department of Social Services or in the State Division of Social Services.

Since joining NC-CWEC in 2000, Appalachian’s Department of Sociology and Social Work has graduated 24 child welfare scholars at the bachelor’s degree level. Nineteen remain employed by the state, with 12 continuing with the same agency after completing their employment paybacks.

NC-CWEC is a federally funded effort between seven universities, the N.C. Division of Social Services, the N.C. Association of County Directors of Social Services, and the N.C. Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers.

Scholar Heather Binder ’04, right, interns with Sarah Lyerly ’03 in Watauga County during spring semester.

www.cas.appstate.edu
Lessons from a CEO
Robert Ingram, vice chairman, pharmaceuticals for GlaxoSmithKline, speaks to students while on campus March 18 as the Boyles CEO lecturer. Before his retirement, Ingram was CEO and chairman of GlaxoWellcome and a co-leader for the merger and integration that formed GlaxoSmithKline, the world’s second-largest pharmaceutical company. The company is headquartered in the United Kingdom, with operations based in the United States, including Research Triangle Park.

Upcoming lecturers:
■ Robert Greczyn Jr., Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina, Sept. 21
■ Duane Ackerman, BellSouth, April 7, 2005

Arts benefit the economy, study says
The economic impact of the non-profit creative sector in North Carolina is $723 million, according to a Walker College of Business study. Two professors gathered data from a sample of cultural organizations including theaters, museums, galleries, historic sites, local arts councils, festivals, dance companies, literary groups, public art projects and folklife organizations.

Dinesh Davé from the Department of Information Technology and Operations Management and Michael Evans from the Department of Management conducted the 2003 study. Funding was provided by the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources.

The “Economic Impact of Non-Profit Arts Organizations in the State of North Carolina” estimates there are 6,669 direct full-time jobs in the non-profit arena. While major arts organizations in the state can have an average annual income around $1 million, the study reports that the majority of non-profit arts groups are small businesses with modest budgets and relatively small impacts individually. Yet, the numbers of organizations providing various arts events, festivals, concerts and educational services combine for a powerful economic effect.

The study places the direct economic impact of non-profit arts organizations at $394 million with an estimated value of volunteers’ time at $131 million. These figures combined with assumed indirect impact, such as supplies and services in the community, total $723 million.

A follow-up study by Davé and Evans is measuring the impact of tourism on 20 North Carolina arts events and museums. Early results suggest the dollar impact is much larger on the businesses that support cultural travel than the direct dollar amount spent by arts organizations.

For more information, visit the North Carolina Arts Council Web site, www.ncarts.org, or e-mail davesds@appstate.edu or evansmr@appstate.edu.

Outstanding Faculty
Faculty members receiving the Walker College’s 2004 Excellence Awards were, from left, John Dawson, economics, for teaching; Todd Cherry, economics, for research contributions; Dawn Medlin, information technology and operations management, for service; and Robert McMahon, marketing, as outstanding non-tenured faculty member. A contribution from Business Advisory Council member G.A. Sywassink, CEO of Standard Holding Corporation in Charlotte, provides a monetary gift to the recipients.

New lobby dedicated inside Raley Hall
Raley Hall’s nondescript second-floor lobby has been turned into an inviting entranceway in memory of North Carolina’s former state treasurer.

The Harlan E. Boyles Lobby has comfortable chairs for seating and tables for study. Custom-made display cases highlight memorabilia from Boyles’ career and personal life, and a built-in media center is used for various college functions.

Boyles, who died in 2003, was the namesake for the Walker College’s on-going lecture series. He had visited Raley Hall on many occasions.

The lobby was dedicated the evening before the March 18 Harlan E. Boyles Distinguished CEO Lecture.

The renovation was made possible with support from Appalachian’s Office of Business Affairs. In addition, Wilson Jones ’84 and Mackeys Ferry Sawmill donated wood for the display cases and trim. Business Advisory Council member Bob Stec ’76 ’77 and Lexington Home Brands donated some furnishings and accessories.

Inside the lobby are Boyles’ children Phyllis Godwin, Lynn Butler and Edward Boyles; and his wife, Frankie.
Arts Integration Showcase

RCOE hosted an Arts Integration Showcase in April to highlight area public schools that adopted an arts-based model for teaching and learning. The model is supported by the Appalachian Arts in Education Partnership, a federally funded collaborative among local schools, arts councils and Appalachian. During the showcase, Mabel Elementary second-graders Tenisha South, seated, and Courtney Edwards and their teacher Tamara Stamey, second from right, explained how they broadened a literature/science lesson about frogs to include visual art, music, drama and technology projects.

Appalachian-Alleghany partnership bolsters teaching skills

Appalachian State University is partnering with Alleghany County Schools to assist teachers in promoting student reading achievement in science, mathematics, social studies and English. Their work is supported by a $291,581 NC QUEST grant under the national No Child Left Behind Act that pairs universities with school systems identified as “high needs.”

The Appalachian-Alleghany partnership focuses on broadening teachers’ resources, such as additional reference books, computer software and other curricula for classroom instruction.

Faculty from Appalachian’s Reich College of Education and College of Arts and Sciences will collaborate with up to 20 teachers in Alleghany County Schools to develop content area reading strategies. Most of the Alleghany teachers teach at the high school level.

“The goal is to improve teaching, with emphasis on improving students’ reading and writing,” said project director Woody Trathen, an associate professor of reading.

Rhododendron Society welcomes three new members

The Reich College of Education inducted Linda Morrison Combs ’68 ’78, Julian C. Yoder ’33, and Ruth Smith Greene ’35 ’62 into its Rhododendron Society in July. The award recognizes alumni with exemplary service as teachers, librarians, administrators or human service professionals.

A resident of Winston-Salem and Washington, D.C., Combs has been the president of Combs Music International and a public servant for many years. A former teacher, board of education member in Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools and educational advisor to Gov. Jim Martin, Combs has held management positions in the U.S. Departments of Treasury, Veterans Affairs and Education, and the Environmental Protection Agency. She currently is assistant secretary for budget and programs and chief financial officer in the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Yoder, a resident of Colfax, is a professor emeritus of geography at Appalachian. Between 1933 and 1974, he taught physical, economic, historical and political geography, as well as U.S. history. He chaired the social sciences department and the geography and geology department. Appalachian recognized his accomplishments in 1975 by naming him a distinguished alumnus.

As a teenager, Greene graduated from Appalachian State Teachers College’s two-year teacher certification program during the Great Depression. She later completed a bachelor’s degree, graduating cum laude at age 48. A resident of Granite Falls, Greene received numerous awards for her leadership including Teacher of the Year and Citizen of the Year in her community.

Grant to improve math and science instruction

Appalachian has joined Western Carolina University, the Northwest Regional Educational Service Alliance and 16 school districts to improve math and science instruction at the middle school level. The project is made possible by a $1.9 million grant from the federal government. The grant is administered through NRESA.

Known as the Appalachian Region Mathematics and Science Partnership, the three-year project will provide scholarships and activities to 200 middle school teachers toward earning a master’s degree, full licensure or both. After participating, the teachers will be highly qualified to teach middle grades mathematics and/or science and fully trained in the latest technology and pedagogy.

Arts Integration Showcase

RCOE hosted an Arts Integration Showcase in April to highlight area public schools that adopted an arts-based model for teaching and learning. The model is supported by the Appalachian Arts in Education Partnership, a federally funded collaborative among local schools, arts councils and Appalachian. During the showcase, Mabel Elementary second-graders Tenisha South, seated, and Courtney Edwards and their teacher Tamara Stamey, second from right, explained how they broadened a literature/science lesson about frogs to include visual art, music, drama and technology projects.

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Top Honors
Barbara Yale-Read, professor of art, received an Award for Excellence in Teaching from the UNC Board of Governors. She received a commemorative bronze medallion and a $7,500 cash prize. Yale-Read is an expert in calligraphy and has been instrumental in helping Appalachian’s graphic design program stay current with computer-based design techniques.
Yale-Read said she believes it is as important to teach students to communicate, develop critical thinking, and acquire life-long learning skills as it is to learn about art and design.
At Appalachian since 1986, she is an accomplished professional designer with works included in national and international juried exhibitions and in publications.
The UNC Board of Governors established the awards in 1994 to underscore the importance of teaching and to reward good teaching across the system. They are given annually to a tenured faculty member from each UNC campus.

Intern receives national TV exposure
Charlotte Langley ’04 hit prime time during her final semester when NBC’s “Today” show launched its version of Donald Trump’s hit reality program “The Apprentice.” Auditions began for “The Intern” while the communication major was in New York interning with NBC’s “Last Call with Carson Daly” and MTV.

The eight participants were divided into two teams and assigned tasks to complete within a given time. After a week of challenges and “firings,” Team Rockefeller was reduced to Langley and one other member. In their final assignment (produce and edit a news story), Langley and her teammate beat Team Peacock. As a winner, Langley spent time shadowing “Today” co-host Katie Couric.

Langley told The Appalachian student newspaper that since childhood she has aspired to be involved in film and television. Her dream is to write and act for NBC’s “Saturday Night Live.”

Students learn politics of nutrition
Students pursuing careers in foods and nutrition must understand biology, chemistry and food science. Increasingly, they must also know how to lobby Congress and state legislatures to ensure funding is allocated for prevention programs that can save money—and people’s health—down the road.

“I tell students, we can pay now or we can pay later,” explains Susan Bogardus, a foods and nutrition professor in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

For example, each $1 invested in WIC—the supplemental nutrition program for low-income women, infants and children—saves American society $7 in medical care later, Bogardus says.

To better understand public policy and effective communication with lawmakers, 10 seniors and graduate students attended the American Dietetic Association’s Public Policy Workshop in Washington, D.C., in March. While there, they visited Sen. John Edwards, now running as the Democratic vice presidential candidate, and others to practice their lobbying skills.

The ADA’s main concerns include financing child nutrition programs, improving preventive care for the elderly, and adding nutrition follow-up care to Medicare, which covers nutrition assessments but not treatment.

Child obesity is another major concern, particularly for North Carolina where one in four teenagers is overweight. “We have to have a prevention strategy for children now,” said Tracy Bates ’04, who attended the ADA workshop before graduating in May.

Bates and classmate Bonnie Carlton ’04 said they are both passionate about the field of nutrition. The public policy workshop gave them greater understanding of how dietetic professionals work to apply nutrition knowledge and information, they said.

Graduates of Appalachian’s foods and nutrition program find jobs in preventative care and public health, and after a 900-hour internship can take an exam to become a registered dietitian.
Institute teaches Native American approach to counseling

North Carolina has the seventh highest Native American population in the United States. To better educate those who treat Native Americans for addictions—and to highlight a new counseling perspective for all people—the Department of Human Development and Psychological Counseling hosted “The Medicine Wheel and the Twelve Steps” workshop this summer.

The topic of this year’s Al Greene Institute was led by White Bison Inc., a nonprofit organization offering sobriety, recovery, addictions prevention and wellness learning resources.

White Bison promotes “wellbriety,” a healing movement developed in 1988 that begins with the individual and spreads to the family, community and nation. The model is based on several Native American prophecies about the coming together of different peoples.

Facilitator Blaine “Woody” Wood, a recovering addict within the Mohican Nation, said that many Native Americans can’t connect with the cultural approach of Alcoholics Anonymous’ Twelve Steps program. His elders took the Twelve Steps, wove them with Native American traditions and began promoting their method across the United States.

“Our goal is to have 100 Native American communities in healing by 2010,” Wood said.

The institute was co-sponsored by HPC, the Mid-Atlantic Addiction Technology Transfer Center, ARP/Phoenix Julian Keith Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Center, and the Watauga County Alcohol and Drug Council.

The institute is named for Al Greene, professor emeritus in human development and psychological counseling.

About 80 graduate students, counselors, health care and mental health professionals listen to Blaine “Woody” Wood of the Mohican Nation.

Research solves red-leaf galax mystery

Galax is a puzzling herb. Although considered an evergreen, the mountain plant turns red each winter. Biology professor Howard Neufeld had long wondered why this happens, so he encouraged a graduate student to find out.

Niky Hughes ’04 MS studied galax leaves in a series of tests measuring photooxidative stress under bright lights and in varying temperatures. She concluded that the galax’s red tint works as a form of sunscreen.

In warm weather, the galax absorbs all the energy it collects in photosynthesis. But in cold temperatures, when the plant’s chemical reactions slow down, it can’t use all the energy it absorbs. The excess energy is harmful to the plant, so the plant protects itself by producing a sunscreen-type pigment called anthocyanin, Hughes explains.

“In cold temperatures, the more light the plant was exposed to, the redder it got. The red leaves also were less stressed than the green leaves,” Hughes said of her experiments.

Furthermore, Hughes’ research revealed that, in galax, anthocyanin does not increase leaf temperature, antioxidant activity, or function as a carbon overflow in winter’s light, but rather curtails stress by blocking light.

Galax’s high levels of soluable sugar during winter aid in the production of anthocyanin.

Hughes’ research skills won her professor’s admiration, plus two special honors: the E.P. Odum Award from the Southeastern Chapter of the Ecological Society of America for best oral presentation, and the local Sigma Xi chapter’s Graduate Studies Research Award.

About 80 graduate students, counselors, health care and mental health professionals listen to Blaine “Woody” Wood of the Mohican Nation.

Caring for the Elderly

Two international physicians completed Appalachian’s graduate gerontology program this spring, and a third is currently in the program. Ashish Behl ’04 MA, center, and Nancy Sharma’04 MA, right, earned medical degrees in India and worked together as resident doctors in a home for the elderly in Chandigarh, India, before coming to Appalachian’s Cratis D. Williams Graduate School. Irene Letrero from the Philippines enrolled last spring. She worked as a research fellow in geriatrics in the Philippines, a visiting physician scholar at UCLA, and in private practice.

Gerontology, the study of the conditions and phenomena associated with the elderly and aging, has become a growing field for many professions. Behl’s and Sharma’s student research focused on complementary and alternative medicines for institutionalized elderly.

Although considered an evergreen herb, galax turns red each November then returns to green in April.

www.faa.appstate.edu
Juilliard String Quartet's second violinist, Ronald Copes (standing), coaches Appalachian State University's Hayes String Quartet in a master class at Queens University.

Hayes String Quartet wins competition

The Hayes String Quartet participated in a master class led by members of the Juilliard String Quartet in April as part of winning a string chamber music competition organized by the Friends of Music at Queens University of Charlotte.

The Hayes String Quartet and ensembles from Furman University, Converse College and UNC Greensboro performed in the master class.

The Hayes String Quartet performed the first movement from Bela Bartok’s Sixth String Quartet, then received 45 minutes of coaching.

“It was such a great thing to be coached by such an incredible quartet,” said first violinist Page de Camara, a senior majoring in violin performance. “The musicians from Juilliard were extremely helpful, and everything they suggested made a difference in our playing right away.”

Other Hayes String Quartet members were second violinist Valerie Brantley, violist John Bursey and cellist Franya Hutchins.

To enter the competition, ensembles submitted an application and a 15-minute recording. The Appalachian students recorded movements from Beethoven’s Quartet, opus 18, no. 4, and Borodin’s Second String Quartet.

Society to honor Richard Miles’ career

Classmates of Richard “Dick” Miles ’75 knew the trumpeter was destined for success. One of Appalachian’s best musicians, Miles was known for his positive work ethic.

Recognizing Miles’ distinguished 30-year music career, the Hayes School of Music’s Society of Alumni and Friends will present him with its Distinguished Alumni Award.

The presentation will occur during a reception for Appalachian graduates attending the N.C. Music Educators Association Conference at 5:30 p.m., Nov. 15, in the Adam’s Mark Hotel in Winston-Salem. The reception and award presentation are open to all alumni.

Miles is director of bands at Morehead State University. After graduating from Appalachian, he earned a master’s degree from the University of Illinois and a PhD from Florida State University and taught several years in public schools.

In demand as a guest conductor, clinician, and adjudicator, Miles has helped set the standard for music educators. He co-authored the four-volume resource text “Teaching Music Through Performance,” and “Block Scheduling: Implications for Music Educators and High School Restructuring.” His texts are considered among the most respected for teaching music through performance.

For more information on the alumni reception, call (828) 262-3020.

Concert Tour

Like a musical caravan, Hayes School of Music ensembles are rolling across the Southeast to perform at regional and national music conventions. These opportunities let students showcase their quality education and musical training.

The Appalachian Symphony Orchestra makes its debut performance at the N.C. Music Educators Association Conference in Winston-Salem in November. The Wind Ensemble will travel to the University of Florida next spring to perform at the American Bandmasters Association Convention, with stops along the way at two Atlanta-area high schools.

Last spring, the University Singers were invited to perform at the American Choral Directors Association regional convention in Nashville. They sang so well they were urged to submit an audition tape for ACDA’s 2005 national convention in Los Angeles.

Such opportunities benefit the music school and the student performers, says William Harbinson, dean of the Hayes School of Music.

“It really enhances the reputation of the programs, which allows us to recruit the most talented students,” he said. “It also provides a measuring stick. The schools that are invited to perform are generally the better programs in the state, region or nation. Participating in these conventions allows us to hear what the other programs are doing and at what level they are performing, so we can benchmark ourselves against that standard.”

Members of the University Singers perform on campus.
Welcome Appalachian Alumni

Appalachian news is just a click away

Stay informed about Appalachian through APPdate, an electronic newsletter featuring news, events, alumni activities and athletics information. APPdate is your link to Appalachian...subscribe today at www.appdate.appstate.edu or call 1-866-756-ALUM.

WELCOME APPALACHIAN ALUMNI

Win free

* Caribbean trip
* Weekend in Boone
* Appalachian Merchandise

The Appalachian Alumni Association is hosting a raffle beginning July 30 and ending Homecoming weekend on October 23 to benefit the Alumni Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded annually to the children of alumni.

To purchase your tickets contact the McKinney Alumni Center by calling 1-866-756-ALUM (2586), or visit www.alumni.appstate.edu. Cost is $25.00 for one ticket or $100.00 for 5 tickets.

Support the next generation of Appalachian students.

class notes

This issue includes class notes received by the Donor Advancement Services Office November 19, 2003, through May 18, 2004.

'Re 3

WEDDINGS: ■ Margaret Perry and Blair Abernathy, Maiden, Dec. 27.

'44

AWARDS/HONORS: ■ Bob Warren received an Ebery Medal from the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education's Fund for Advancement for his philanthropic and volunteer roles at Bloomsburg University. He is a faculty emeritus in the history department of Bloomsburg University, Bloomsburg, PA.

'45

REUNION: 60th Reunion, July 29-30, 2005

'47

AWARDS/HONORS: ■ Presnell Mull, Lexington, inducted into the Davidson County Sports Hall of Fame.

'55

REUNION: 50th Reunion, July 29-30, 2005

'59

AWARDS/HONORS: ■ Richard Culver III, his staff development program was one of 14 in the nation recognized as very effective in reading in “What Works,” a book published by the National Staff Development Council and the National Education Association. He is a freelance reading consultant specializing in establishing schoolwide reading programs, Hartsville, SC.

'60

RETIREEMENTs: ■ Marilyn Fillers, from Cleveland State Community College, Cleveland, TN.

'63

AWARDS/HONORS: ■ Nancy Cox Mize listed as a member in the National Register’s Who’s Who in Executives and Professionals. She is a retired teacher from Lynchburg City Schools, Lynchburg, VA.

'64


'65

REUNION: 40th Reunion, July 29-30, 2005

WEDDINGS: ■ Robert McLaughlin Jr. and Theresa Ballagh, Moncks Corner, SC, Nov. 27.

RETIREEMENTs: ■ Robert McLaughlin Jr. as senior trainmaster and conductor at CSX Transportation Railroad, Moncks Corner, SC, after 31 years of service.

'66

AWARDS/HONORS: ■ Marcia Miller Ray, Gloucester, VA, Teacher of the Year for Department of Correctional Education.

NEW POSITIONS: ■ Marcia Miller Ray, teacher, Sylvan Learning Center, Gloucester, VA. ■ Paulettta Reid Parker, director, Montessori Learning Center of Wilkes, North Wilkesboro.

RETIREEMENTs: ■ Chuck Parker, as chief technology officer in Wilkes County Schools, Wilkesboro, after 37 years of service. ■ Gloria Hutchison Baker, Monroe, as a family and consumer sciences teacher and extension agent, after 30 years of service.

'67

NEW POSITIONS: ■ Fran Giavan, district sales manager, Verizon Information Services, Greenbelt, MD.

RETIREEMENTs: ■ David Keck from Duke Power Company, Denver, after 40 years in public, private and industrial education. ■ Ira McGee, from Randolph and Chatham County Schools, Ramsey, after 33 years teaching and coaching in middle school.

'68

AWARDS/HONORS: ■ Rebecca Russell Roark, recognized at staff appreciation breakfast for 35 years of service to the State of North Carolina. She is the undergraduate program coordinator in extension and distance education at Appalachian State University, Boone.

NEW POSITIONS: ■ James Caussy, executive director, N.C. Association of School Administrators, Raleigh. ■ Kaye Reynolds Edmisten, economic development director, City of Lenoir. ■ Ruth Sawyer Woo, service coordinator of senior center, City of Jacksonville, Jacksonville, FL.

RETIREEMENTs: ■ Reyna Edmisten from Duke Power Company, Denver, after 40 years in public, private and industrial education. ■ Ira McGee, from Randolph and Chatham County Schools, Ramsey, after 33 years teaching and coaching in middle school.

'69

AWARDS/HONORS: ■ Barbara Mc Lester Carpenter, national certification.

Be a part of the Appalachian Family Network!

The Appalachian Alumni Association wants to help YOU! The Appalachian Family Network is a way to stay connected with your alma mater, keep in touch with old friends, meet new ones and sponsor Appalachian events in your area. No matter where you live, there will always be a special way to remain close to Appalachian. To get involved or be a contact person in your area, call Kindsay Greene at the McKinney Alumni Center at 1-866-756-ALUM.
She is a 4th grade math/science teacher in Stanly County Schools, Stanfield School, Stanfield.


17 | AWARDS/HONORS: ■ Arvil Sale, Boone, received the District Award of Merit from the Blue Ridge District, Old Hickory Council of the Boy Scouts of America. He also received the Raven Award presented by the Raven Knob Historical Association, Old Hickory council. ■ Charles Ray published a novel, “The Tarheel Connection,” and will publish another book, “Lance and Arrowhead Pieces,” a volume of poetry. He is a novelist and poet, Belleville, AR. ■ Edgar Whitener’s 8th grade band at William Lenior-Middle School earned their 20th consecutive superior rating at the Northwest District Band Festival. He is a teacher at William Lenior Middle School, Lenior.

NEW POSITIONS: ■ Kenneth Wilson, master teacher; special education, Presbyterian Homes and Family Services, Danville, VA.

RETIEMENTS: ■ Arvil Sale, Boone, from Watauga County School System after 32 years of teaching in grades 6 through 8. ■ J. Edwin Cockman, as a mathematics teacher in Moore County Schools, Robbins, after 32 years as an educator. He has a new business in residential construction.

72 | AWARDS/HONORS: ■ Dane Sebastian, Charlotte, one of two commodity managers at Siemens Westinghouse Power Corporation featured on the cover of the March issue of Purchasing Magazine which recognized the outstanding procurement practices surrounding SWPC’s factory integrated supply strategy.

NEW POSITIONS: ■ Allison Lucas Noe, manager; new student orientation, Valencia Community College, East Campus, Orlando, FL.

RETIEMENTS: ■ Alan Brantley, Burke, VA, from the Federal Bureau of Investigations. He is owner and executive partner of MAG International, Inc. ■ Kathy Peoples Wisdom, as a primary teacher at Yadkin School, Yadkinville, after 30 years as an educator.

73 | NEW POSITIONS: ■ John Saylors, security officer; Ocean Lakes Family Campground, Myrtle Beach, SC.


RETIEMENTS: ■ Ava Layne Bowman, as a teacher in Surry County Schools, Copeland Elementary School, Dobson, after 30 years as an educator. ■ Frank Owenby, as a teacher in Transylvania and Henderson County Schools, Hendersonsville, after 31 years as an educator. ■ Margaret Blinson Parrish, from Wake County Schools, East Garner Middle School, Garner, after 30 plus years of service at the same school.

74 | REUNION: 30th Reunion, October 23, 2004

AWARDS/HONORS: ■ Tamara Carter, Excellence in Teaching Award-Surry Community College and nomination for Who’s Who in America’s Teachers Award. She is an instructor of anatomy and physiology at Surry Community College, Dobson.

DEGREES: ■ Sherry Salyer, Apex, doctor of education, exercise and sport science, UNC-G.

NEW POSITIONS: ■ Deborah Craven Dawson, principal, Pilot Elementary School, Thomasville. ■ Jim Daughtry, senior systems technology support specialist, Massachusetts Department of Youth Services, Boston, MA.

RETIEMENTS: ■ JoAnn Wood Caudill, as a teacher at North Wilkes High School, Wilkes County Board of Education, Wilkesboro, after 30 years as an educator.

75 | AWARDS/HONORS: ■ David Smith, Asheboro, named Randolph County Citizen of the Year for community service by the Asheboro Randolph Chamber of Commerce. ■ Ed Strabel, selected as Region 3 High School Ski Coach of the Year; He is an Army JROTC instructor and ski coach at Colony High School, Palmer, AK. ■ Jane Rankin Slaughter, High Point, had her book, “The Woman Equestrian,” published by Wish Publishing.

Janis Wilson Woods received national board teacher certification. She is a teacher at Ridgeland Elementary School, Ridgeeland, SC. ■ Pat Mazza received the Outstanding Administrator in Gifted Education of the Year Award by the N.C. Association for the Gifted and Talented. She is the academically gifted program director for Wilkes County Schools, Wilkesboro.

NEW POSITIONS: ■ David Sorrell, town administrator, Coats.

Baseball Tour 2004

The Office of Alumni Affairs in conjunction with the Appalachian Sports Network hit the road this summer for “Appalachian Night at the Ballpark.” The tour included stops at the Greensboro Bats, Durham Bulls, Winston-Salem Warthogs, Gastonia Grizzlies, Hickory Crawdads and the Charlotte Knights. Alumni in these regional chapter areas, as well as Appalachian students, friends and faculty/staff, gathered for good times and Appalachian cheer. Pre-game picnics along with appearances by Yosef and Appalachian coaches made for home-run fun. Look for ways to be involved with the Alumni Association by visiting www.alumni.appstate.edu or contacting the McKinney Alumni Center at 1-866-756-ALUM.

GAME NIGHT: Left, cousins Jasmine Jackson and Alana Patterson, with mom Lynn Patterson, show their Appalachian pride in Hickory; below, Michael Clifton ’03 and Rachel Guenther ’03, seated front, join friends to cheer the Charlotte Knights; and students Morgan Green and Betsy Cotrell meet the Hickory Crawdads.

Cummings named to ASU Foundation board

Hugh M. Cummings IV ’76 of Burlington has been elected to the Appalachian State University Foundation Board of Directors.

Created in 1970, the foundation is an independent organization that receives and invests private funds to support the university. With assets of more than $30 million, the foundation provided more than $60 million to support the university during the last decade.

76 | AWARDS/HONORS: ■ Martha Chandler Matanzo received national board certification in early adolescence math. She is a 7th grade math teacher and math department chair at Southern Middle School, Graham.
Seizing Opportunity

Educator-turned-broadcaster is thankful for his Appalachian degree

Broadcasting entrepreneur George Beasley ’58 ’59 is poignantly aware of the role Appalachian State University has played in his journey from life on the family tobacco farm to chairman and CEO of the 17th largest broadcasting company in America, Beasley Broadcast Group. Beasley oversees more than 670 employees and 41 radio stations in 10 markets from Philadelphia to Fayetteville and Miami to Las Vegas.

Beasley joined the Army in order to pay for his college education. He recalls that he was discharged on December 7, 1955, and enrolled in Appalachian State Teachers College three days later. “I didn’t waste any time getting here,” he laughed.

His intention was to be an educator. “Early on, all I ever wanted was to leave the tobacco farm and become a coach and a teacher,” he said. Which he did, for one year, before becoming an assistant principal at Dan River High School in Ringold, Va. He then moved to Benson, N.C., to become a principal there, where he remained for the next seven years.

It was during that time that Beasley and his wife, Ann, were faced with an economic reality. “We had four children and our fifth was on the way,” Beasley recalled. “I thought to myself, ‘How am I going to be able to educate my children on a principal’s salary of $12,000 a year?’” Beasley decided he needed a sideline, something that would bring in extra income and supplement his principal’s pay.

In his younger days, he had worked with both his uncle and a cousin at their radio stations, and he had learned a lot about the broadcasting business on his own. He convinced his uncle to help him get a permit to build an AM radio station in Benson. At 1580 on the radio dial and 500 watts—which broadcast about 15 miles

that Top 40 radio station was the seed that germinated into the company he runs today. He stayed on as principal for several more years, going to the station in the afternoons and selling advertising on Saturday mornings.

“We were able to deliver a service that was not being delivered to that community, and the advertisers followed,” he said. “Within about two or three years, I was doing better economically speaking with the radio station than I was as a school principal.”

When the opportunity came to sell the Benson station at a profit, he did so. He bought a larger station in Goldsboro with more power and a better frequency. In 1969 he left his principal’s job and moved his family to Goldsboro to begin broadcasting full time. “That’s when things really started turning and we began to grow,” he said.

His business model was to purchase underdeveloped stations in small markets, develop them over three years then sell them at a profit to be reinvested in more underdeveloped stations in ever-larger markets. Beasley proudly notes that today four of his five children are executives in his company—the fifth is a doctor—making them the third generation of broadcasters in his family.

But he also stayed in education. Several years after moving to Goldsboro, a group of community leaders asked him to run for the school board. He was elected to four successive, four-year terms.

Shortly after relocating his headquarters to Naples, Fla., he was asked to join the Appalachian State University Foundation board in July 1996. He still serves on it today. In 2001, Gov. Mike Easley appointed him to the Appalachian State University Board of Trustees.

“I’ve enjoyed my continued involvement with Appalachian because without Appalachian I might still be on that tobacco farm, which I hated so much,” he said. “When I first came here, I immediately noticed the friendliness of everyone. There was—and still is—a special relationship between faculty and students that I have not found at other schools.

“That’s why I give of my time and financially to the university. I know there are a lot of brilliant minds across the foothills and in these Blue Ridge Mountains that are untapped, and Appalachian is a place that can help open those minds and give these people an opportunity. After all, what else is a person looking for in life other than an opportunity?”

–Lynn Drury

Cover Story: George Beasley as featured in Radio Ink, a leading industry magazine.

Radio Entrepreneur: A former coach and teacher, George Beasley ’58 ’59 has distinguished himself in the radio industry for 40 years.

Appalachian Today Fall 2004 27

Photo credit: Nancy DeNike
This issue includes death notices received by the Donor Advancement Services Office November 19, 2003 through May 18, 2004.

'29 Hazel Mitchell Hampton, 92, Sparta, Sept. 12.

'32 Esther Beam Shuford, 88, Lincoln- ton, Dec. 15, retired elementary school teacher, Mada Franklin Carswell, 92, Morganton, Nov. 15.

'35 Mary Hestor Pennell, 88, Lenoir, Dec. 27.

'36 Marie Chapman Stamey, 88, Annapolis, MD, Dec. 15.


'39 Alma Barnes Bebber, 94, Taylorsville, Jan. 15, Gladys Terry Dixon, 85, Bies Creek, Nov. 7, retired teacher and reading specialist.


'42 James M. "Jim" Storie '49, 83, Boone, Jan. 4, retired college administrator and dean from Mitchell Community College, Jamie Harmon Henson, 84, Vilas, Dec. 26, retired teacher.

'44 Amanda Ruth Prevatte, 93, Lumberton, Jan. 8, retired teacher, Louise Crowe Tracer, 81, Santa Monica, CA, Dec. 2, retired librarian from Los Angeles Public Library System.


'48 Cleo White Pike, 76, Houston, TX, Jan. 16, James D. Bradford, 80, Winston-Salem, May 15, retired residential appraiser from N.C. Right-of-Way Department; survived by wife Madeleine Edmisten Bradford '49.

'51 James D. "Don" Felton, 74, Winston-Salem, Dec. 10, survived by wife, Katie Hauser Felton '52.

Walter T. "Tom" Ligon, 76, Charlotte, Nov. 24, retired teacher and coach.

'52 Betty Smith McKee, 72, Matthews, Feb. 5, retired teacher, Estelle Carpenter McFee, 73, Newland, Feb. 10, retired teacher, James E. Rhodes, 73, Clemmons, Dec. 2.

'53 Jerry H. Roberts Jr., 85, Charlotte, Feb. 11.

'54 Troy L. Washam, 83, Hickory, Nov. 10.

'55 James C. White Jr., 75, Goldsboro, Nov. 8.


'59 Amalee Boyd Ritchie, 92, China Grove, Aug. 29, Harry E. Upchurch Sr., 69, Norwood, Nov. 18, retired from Collins and Aikman; survived by wife, Ann Sills Upchurch, 59.


'61 Mary Hopkins Lentz, 81, Concord, Dec. 31.


'64 Sue Watts Wilmoth, 68, Boone, Nov. 6, retired executive director of Boone Area Chamber of Commerce; survived by husband, Wade Wilmoth, 56.

'66 Martha H. Meek, 93, Kinston, TN, March 20, Yla Puig Walsh, 87, Gastonia, Nov. 25, retired professor from Gaston College.

'68 Sonja Turner Hutchins, 58, Concord, Feb. 24.


'72 Richard V. Gaddy, 57, Rutherfordton, Oct. 31, survived by wife, Sylvia Greer Gaddy, 68.


'77 Irene W. Underwood, 83, Eden, Feb. 16, Marjorie Mills Burkett, 66, Cornelius, March 29, Mary Elizabeth Neely Streeter, 81, Charlotte, April 1, retired teacher.

'81 Bonnie Grinels Blanton, 52, Sherrills Ford, Dec. 11, teacher at Sherrills Ford Elementary School.

'83 Daniel C. Black, 42, Southern Pines, Oct. 8, Michael A. Boggs, 45, Asheboro, Sept. 27.

Professor emeritus Elbert Victor "Bert" Bowden of Blowing Rock died July 17. He taught finance, banking and insurance from 1978 to 2003. He also held the Alfred T. Adams Distinguished Professorship of Banking. Among his scholarly contributions, he wrote “Economics, the Science of Common Sense.” Nine editions were published.

Lawyer, historian and former judge Durward Maynard '45 of Louisville, Ky., died April 14. The recipient of a Distinguished Alumni Award in 1998 and an honorary doctorate in 2002, Maynard supported Yosef Club and other scholarships. He also funded the Daniel Boone sculpture near the campus duck pond.

In Memoriam

Eileen Lackey Sharpe of Hidenite died March 22. She developed The Hidenite Center, a folk and cultural arts complex. The Sharpe Family Foundation funds a chair of fine arts in Appalachian’s Hayes School of Music and contributes to An Appalachian Summer Festival. The university presented Sharpe with an honorary doctorate in 1986 and the Dougherty Medallion in 1999.

This issue includes death notices received by the Donor Advancement Services Office November 19, 2003 through May 18, 2004.
Beck inducted into Academic All-America Hall of Fame

As an assistant U.S. attorney in Greensboro since 1992, Col. Gill Beck ’78 was among five former athletes inducted into the CoSIDA Academic All-America Hall of Fame in July.

While a student, Beck earned Academic All-America status for his excellence in the classroom and on the football field. A Mountaineer from 1974-78, Beck maintained a 3.98 GPA. He was named Academic All-American and All-Southern Conference for three years.

The College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) established the Hall of Fame to recognize Academic All-Americans who demonstrate career success and a commitment to service. Beck holds law degrees from Duke University and The Judge Advocate General’s School. He served the U.S. Army and U.S. Army Reserve for 26 years in the Judge Advocate General’s Corps.

Among his military honors, Beck was named the top U.S. Army Reserve and National Guard Judge Advocate in the country in 2001. He received the Attorney General’s Distinguished Service Award in 1997 for participation in LABSCAM, which resulted in a $182 million recovery for the United States.

At the induction ceremony, held in San Diego, Beck said, “Respect for the student-athlete... is especially important because the vast majority of collegiate athletes will not go on to careers in professional sports. With the proper focus, these student-athletes... take the lessons learned on playing fields and become leaders in business, education, law, medicine, engineering, and other fields, and make society a better place because they have learned the true values of sports—teammwork, the pursuit of excellence, work ethic, service-before-self, and other essential lessons.”

Fellow inductees were former NFL standouts Terry Hoage, Dave Rimington and Rolf Benirschke and former pro volleyball player Dylann Duncan Ceriani.

DEGREES: • Stephen Lane, Statesville, doctor of education, educational leadership, UNC-G.

NEW POSITIONS: • Bryan Edwards, town manager, Sparta.
• David DeHart, catalog librarian and assistant professor, Appalachian State University, Boone.
• Larry Roberson, project engineering manager, Ronic Weld Systems Inc., BMW Manufacturing Corporation, Greer, SC.
• Teresa Mangum, associate dean of international programs, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA.

RETIREMENTS: • Larry Roberson, Simpsonville, SC, as a colonel in the U.S. Army, after 32 years of service stateide and abroad. He was awarded the Legion of Merit, second oak leaf cluster, upon his retirement.

AWARDS/HONORS: • Bob Crumley moderated a national interactive telephone seminar, Lawyer Advertising: Ethical and Practical Considerations, sponsored by the Association of Trial Lawyers of America. He is president and CEO of Crumley and Associates, PC, Asheboro.

George Laughrun II, voted one of the Legal Elite in the area of criminal law by Business North Carolina magazine from a vote of attorneys and judges across the state. He is a criminal attorney at Goodman, Carr; Laughrun, Levine and Murray, PA, Charlotte.

Kenny Frye, national board certification as an exceptional needs specialist. He is an exceptional children teacher in Cabarrus County Schools, Mount Pleasant Middle School, Concord.

Mike Smith, York, SC, named as the athletic trainer for the 2004 South Carolina Shrine Bowl football team.

Pam Helms Novasad, Concord, earned national board certification-early childhood through young adult exceptional needs specialist. She was also named Teacher of the Year at R. Brown McAllister Elementary School.

Rebecca Newnam Finger, named the Outstanding Social Studies Supervisor by the National Social Studies Supervisor’s arm of the National Council for the Social Studies. She is the K-12 social studies curriculum and instructional specialist for Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, Charlotte.

AWARDS/HONORS: • Cathy Mauldin Armstrong, certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in the area of early childhood generalist. She is a teacher at Bain Elementary School, Charlotte.

Chris Swecker, approved by President Bush to receive one of the most prestigious awards for senior executives in government, the Presidential Rank of Meritorious Executive. He is assistant deputy director of the FBI, Washington, DC.

Cynthia Avery Alford received national board certification in AYA mathematics. She is a mathematics teacher in Guilford County Schools, Northwest Guilford High School, Greensboro.


Marcia Barnes Oliver, Sumter, SC, achieved national board certification in early adolescence science.

DEGREES: • James Hayes, Mount Airy, MS secondary education, Gardner-Webb University.

NEW POSITIONS: • G. Michael Sitton, pastor, Lord of Glory Full Gospel Church, Greer, SC.
• James Hayes, assistant principal, West Stokes High School, King.
• John Cook Jr., director marketing/business development, Procyr Inc., Sylvia.

REUNION: • 25th Reunion, October 23, 2004

AWARDS/HONORS: • Brenda Gant Waters, Taylorsville, appointed to board of directors of Northwest Regional Educational Service Alliance in Wilkesboro.

AWARDS/HONORS: • Ronald Stephens won the President’s Club Award for outstanding performance over the last 3 years which is awarded to the top 2 percent of employees. He is an executive sales representative at Aventis Pharmaceuticals, Charlotte.

WEDDINGS: • Janie Mathis and Thomas Westra, Jonesville, Oct. 11.

1981 NEW POSITIONS: • Chris LaFreniere, brigade intelligence officer, Army Reserve Unit-Consequence Management, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD.
• Jay Coble Jr., professor of trumpet, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL.

RETIREMENTS: • Lucy Davis Martin, as assistant superintendent for personnel at Iredell-Statesville Schools Board of Education, Statesville, after 32 years of service.

1982 AWARDS/HONORS: • Michael Questell, Rolla, ND, appointed clinical assistant professor for the department of family medicine at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine.

Patricia Stewart, Physician of the Year-American Association of Physician Specialists, also Research Associate-National Tropical Botanical Garden, Kauai, Hawaii. She is a physician at West Dermatology, Santa Barbara, CA.

NEW POSITIONS: • Jack Wilkins, jazz studies faculty, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL.

Michael
Wilson re-elected chairman of UNC Board of Governors

J. Bradley Wilson ’75 of Cary has been elected to a second two-year term as chairman of the UNC Board of Governors, the policy-making body of the 16-campus University of North Carolina.

Wilson was appointed to the Board of Governors in 1997. Before being tapped chairman in 2002, he was a member of the board’s Committee on Personnel and Tenure. He also has served as vice chair and chair of the board’s Committee on Budget and Finance and has twice chaired the Committee on Presidential Assessment.

Wilson is senior vice president, corporate secretary, and general counsel to Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina.

Ashe County teacher honored by college
Carmen Kincaid Wilson ’88 ‘92 MA, math teacher at Ashe County High School and a former N.C. Teacher of the Year, received the Outstanding Alumni Award this spring from Appalachian’s College of Arts and Sciences.

The award is presented to individuals who distinguish themselves in their profession, leadership roles, public service, creative endeavors or other accomplishments.

DEGREES: Teresa Clinton Little, Winston-Salem, doctor of philosophy, curriculum and teaching, UNC-G.
NEW POSITIONS: Tim Webster, vice president and chief operating officer, The Presbyterian Homes Inc., High Point.

’89 REUNION: 15th Reunion, October 23, 2004
AWARDS/HONORS: Stan Latta. Cary, received the President’s Call to Service Award recognizing his lifetime commitment of 4,000-plus hours to volunteer service. He also received the Presidential Volunteer Service Award for 500-plus hours of service in 2003 alone. In February Stan was named the worldwide Volunteer of the Month by the IBM Corporation, and he received the Reverend J. William Jones Christian Service Award from the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

DEGREES: Pamela Sweepson Frazier, Kernersville, doctor of philosophy, curriculum and teaching, UNC-G.
BIRTHS: Joe and Patricia Moore Sikes, Wadesboro, a daughter, Mallory Brooke, Oct. 28. Tom and Cathy Raynor McDonald, Roanoke Rapids, a daughter, Rachel Addison, Jan. 29.

’90 AWARDS/HONORS: Leigh Foster. Winston-Salem, advanced to petty officer 3rd class in the U.S. Naval Reserves.
NEW POSITIONS: Bill Goins, principal, North Surry High School, Mount Airy. Greg Conner, assistant controller, Emory University, Atlanta, GA. Todd Clark, town manager, Maiden.
Alumna conserves pirate’s bounty

A sinking ship may go down in one piece. But when it’s salvaged after nearly three centuries on the bottom, it’s likely to come up in bits and pieces embedded in large, hardened masses of ocean sediment and other matter.

“It’s like concrete,” said Wendy Welsh ’00, who manages the conservation lab for artifacts retrieved from the wreck believed to be the Queen Anne’s Revenge, flagship of the pirate Blackbeard. Her job is to separate the relics from the concretion and preserve them.

Blackbeard’s ship sank in Beaufort Inlet on the North Carolina coast in 1718 after apparently running aground. A private salvage company discovered the remains in 1996, generating worldwide publicity.

That find has created a full-time job for Welsh, who majored in anthropology/archaeology with a minor in chemistry, an ideal combination for the preservation work she now does at the state’s conservation lab at East Carolina University. There she handles preservation, inventory control, and data management of the 15,000 items that have been recovered from Blackbeard’s ship. She also oversees lab safety, makes a photographic record of the conservation process for each object, and writes an online report of progress to date (www.qaronline.org).

Welsh said she must carefully separate each item from the concretion and treat it to remove corrosive sea salts. Then each item goes through a process to protect it from degradation when it’s exposed to air. For example, cannon are chemically coated to keep them from rusting.

Marine archaeology is different from unearthing relics buried in sand or dirt, she said. “When you take things out of the ground, you pretty much know what you have. With underwater archaeology, many artifacts come up in a large mass and we often have to X-ray it to see what’s inside.”

Some items, such as cannon, are separated from the mass by removing the sediment with a pneumatic tool. But this process would destroy brittle or soft objects, such as glass and lead shot. These objects are immersed in a chemical bath that dissolves the sediment without harming the artifact. All work is precise and slow. “It takes three to five years to preserve a large cannon,” she said.

So far, the retrieval effort has recovered a ship’s bell, five cannon, thousands of lead shot, gold dust, pewter plates, navigational tools, broken pieces of ceramic containers, wooden planks, and dozens of other types of artifacts.

The project also brought up things that aren’t likely to be seen at the North Carolina Maritime Museum in Beaufort, where Queen Anne’s artifacts are on display. “We find beer cans, golf balls and fishing line,” she said, the result of turbulent ocean currents at the wreck site.

Welsh said only an estimated two percent of the Queen Anne’s Revenge has been saved. The rest lies at the bottom, including at least 17 cannon. “Only a handful of artifacts have been brought up since 2001,” she said. “We can’t bring it up faster than we can conserve it.”

– Doug McInnis
Mentor relationship opens doors

Theatre graduate Hunter Thore ’03 made his off-Broadway debut this spring in Robby Benson’s production “Open Heart.” Benson, who wrote and starred in the production, convinced the Cherry Lane Theatre to open one more interm spot for a theatre major from Appalachian, where he was an artist in residence for a year. Benson also gave Thore a small part in the show.

Among his responsibilities, Thore organized publicity for “Open Heart,” which gave him a business perspective of theater. “The goal is to sell tickets. This is a business. That was works,” Thore said.

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Thore said Benson’s mentoring was invaluable. “Having worked in the business for 40 years, he brings with him a vast and very detailed knowledge of how the business really works,” Thore said.

The Department of Theatre and Dance is working to bring more professionals from the film, television and theater industry to Appalachian. To help fund such educational opportunities, contact Shawn Miller, director of development for the College of Fine and Applied Arts, at (828) 262-6689 or millersd@appstate.edu.

—Jennifer Propst
of the agency in April after four months as acting director.

As director, Ledford will oversee the division responsible for managing the state parks system, which includes 31 state parks, four state recreation areas, 16 natural areas, seven state lakes and the state trails and rivers systems. More than 13 million people visit N.C. state parks each year, making it the third most popular system in the Southeast.

Lewis Ledford ’76 joined the state parks system as an entry-level park ranger after graduation. This spring, he was named director of the N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation—the first person to rise from entry-level rank to the head of the agency.

Ledford began his career 27 years ago as a park ranger at William B. Umstead State Park near Raleigh. He served as park superintendent at Mount Mitchell State Park, then as west district superintendent for 16 years. He became superintendent of state parks in 2000. He was named head of the agency in April after four months as acting director.

A biology/education major at Appalachian, Ledford has been credited for developing a citizen advisory group for each park and creating partnerships among conservation organizations, law enforcement and other government agencies at the local, state and federal levels. He is a 1999 graduate of the Natural Resources Leadership Institute at N.C. State and a recipient of the Governor’s Award for Volunteerism.

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Web site makes giving easier

University Advancement Division’s new online giving Web site is improving people’s connection with Appalachian State University.

More than $14,000 was contributed online in 2003-04 by alumni, parents and friends. The Appalachian Family also used the site as a quick, easy way to update address information and share news of their latest personal and professional accomplishments.

“With this online option available, we continue to see more and more donors making their annual gift online, especially to the Yosef Club and the AppFund. Alumni and friends can now give at a time and place most convenient to their busy schedules,” says Geoff Graham, assistant vice chancellor for development.

Visit the site at www.give.appstate.edu. A matching gift search engine is included to help donors determine if their employer has a matching gift policy.

Stay in touch with your classmates!

Update your alumni records at www.alumni.appstate.edu by clicking on “Alumni Directory & Update”
Thanks to the efforts of student caller Carrie Mills and the rest of the AppFund team, more than 7,500 alumni, parents and friends contributed in 2003-04. The average gift rose, too— from $67 to $73. These gifts make a positive impact on the lives of today’s Mountaineers—including Carrie.

“I like knowing that as an Appalachian Ambassador our group and many others benefit directly from gifts given to the AppFund.”

AppFund callers return to work in August. When you receive your phone call this year, thank your student caller for the great work he or she does for Appalachian, and please continue to help them with your annual gifts. Who knows, you may even get to thank Carrie personally!

For more information or to make your AppFund gift online, visit www.appalachianfund.appstate.edu.
Friday, Oct. 22
6:00-9:00 p.m.
Spirit Under the Stars  A pep rally with bonfire, fireworks and music.
9:00 p.m. - Midnight
Mountaineer Mardi Gras Party
with DJ Chad Sain '84.
9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.
Fat Friday Dance
with Louisiana’s Rosie Ledet & Band.

Saturday, Oct. 23
9:00-10:00 a.m.
Appalachian Friends Breakfast
Complimentary for alumni and friends at McKinney Alumni Center.
11:00 a.m.
Homecoming Parade

Noon - 2:30 p.m.
Class Reunions
Noon - 2:30 p.m.
Yosef Clubroom Lunch
3:00 p.m.
Appalachian vs. Wofford Football Game
Tickets may be purchased in advance by calling 800-919-APPS.
For the latest Appalachian sports information check out www.goASU.com.
8:00 p.m.
American Brass Quintet  For tickets call 828-262-4046 or 800-841-2787.
8:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.
Silent Auction to benefit the Yosef Club for Student Athlete Scholarships and the Alumni Memorial Scholarship.
9:00 p.m.
Step Show & DJ Dance
9:00 p.m.
Class Reunion Social
8:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.
Mountaineer Masquerade
with The Embers.

October 22-24
To receive a brochure with full details, call 1-866-756-ALUM (2586) or see the schedule online at www.homecoming.appstate.edu