

GATOR

FLORIDA

FALL 2019

The Green Gator Guide



**How UF is
Protecting the
Chain of Life**

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Who Are Putting
Nature First**

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PLUS

GLOZELL GREEN TALKS CINNAMON CHALLENGES AND CELEBRITY LIFE *Page 46*

A "SPURRIER GUY"-TURNED-SURGEON ON GOING FROM JOCK TO DOC *Page 74*

THIS YEAR, UF IS SHINING A LIGHT ON THE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS OF ITS EFFORTS THAT STRENGTHEN YOUR ENVIRONMENT. From technology that could alert scientists to possible red tide blooms to studies that inform the best ways to combat invasive species to science that shows how we all can participate in water conservation and anti-pollution strategies, UF faculty are indeed working on the front lines of a myriad of environmental concerns. The following Gators are among those who have generously supported these important endeavors. The Gator Nation thanks them and others not listed here for their noble dedication to our planet and to our university's missions.



LINDA AND KEN MCGURN

The McGurns have played a vital role in the sustainable redevelopment of downtown Gainesville, with a special focus on solar technology. They are longtime advocates of the Florida Museum of Natural History, investing in endowments and UF's Biodiversity Institute. Their gifts to the institute sponsor seminars, collaborative symposia and research fellowships — all designed to engage biodiversity scientists and potential partners across campus.



JON AND BEVERLY THOMPSON

The state of Florida is a unique laboratory for analyzing the environmental impacts of climate change, and the Thompsons' major investment in 2018 to launch the Thompson Earth Systems Institute created a new platform from which UF can address complex environmental issues. Jon, a former ExxonMobil executive, and his wife, Beverly, are committed to the institute's mission to advance public understanding of how human activity affects our natural environment.



NANCY CONDRÓN

Pictured here with her daughter, Shelby, Nancy is known for her generosity that transcends her significant support of the construction and development of the Sea Turtle Hospital at UF's Whitney Laboratory for Marine Bioscience. She is one of Whitney's most dedicated volunteers, patrolling northeast Florida beaches before sunrise to locate and protect sea turtle nests. Condrón's passion has created a safe harbor for sick and injured turtles and a refuge for weak hatchlings.



KELLEY BERGSTROM

UF's Bergstrom Real Estate Center is on the leading wave of coastal development and resiliency thanks to his major gift. Kelley's recent investment in the Applied Real Estate Research Program is enabling the center to innovate and develop best practices that will shape the future of the residential and commercial real estate industries while creating sustainable communities for all Florida citizens.

FEATURES

20 Protecting the Chain of Life

An alarming number of animals and plants are going extinct — and UF scientists are scrambling to stop the global catastrophe.

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Shaded walkways, restored wetlands, water gardens for the rainy season: A new campus plan embraces Gainesville's nature and brings UF closer to carbon-neutral status.

34 Florida's First Lady of Archaeology

She was a mother and homemaker until she found her passion in her 40s. At 92, alumna and professor emerita Barbara Purdy is still digging up treasures — and stirring up controversy.

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46 GloZell Green, Comedy Queen

Millions of her video fans can recite her signature line. Find out why this UF alumna and YouTube pioneer is more than "OK."

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ON THE COVER

This layered paper model of our planet represents the multifaceted nature of UF's efforts to preserve our world and its inhabitants. Some of the Gators involved include (from left) Florida Museum of Natural History Director Doug Jones, Zoo Miami spokesman Ron Magill and sustainability advocates Linda and Ken McGurn.

Florida GATOR

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Conversation with Kent Fuchs

AS THIS FALL SEMESTER IS IN FULL SWING IN GAINESVILLE,

UF FACULTY AND STUDENTS ARE ALSO MORE ENGAGED THAN EVER ACROSS FLORIDA, THE NATION AND THE WORLD.

If, as the saying goes, the Gator Nation is everywhere, UF is not far behind. Our faculty and students are more and more engaged across the state, country and world — and we aim to deepen this engagement as we build our stature as one of the nation's very best universities.

Today, UF education experts are working hand in hand with Florida's teachers to double the number of schoolchildren who read proficiently.

Our scientists and engineers are collaborating on a new system to monitor coastal ecosystems, enabling faster responses to red tides.

And, faculty from all 16 colleges are pursuing hundreds of projects in dozens of countries. In 2017-18, UF professors made more than 4,000 trips to 158 countries for research and education.

These and countless other examples of engagement across our exceptionally comprehensive university build on UF's founding charter to improve people's lives and contribute to our state.

But they are also important to our goal of joining the nation's top five public universities and becoming, as our overarching aspiration states, "a premier university that the state, nation and world look to for leadership."

How will we further extend the university's reach?

The UF/IFAS Extension network has traditionally underpinned UF's statewide engagement, with extension offices in all 67 counties.

Many years ago, extension expanded its services from agriculture to nutrition and health, financial literacy, protecting natural resources and more. Today, about 460 diverse, often multilingual faculty work from Pensacola to Key West.

This unique network provides a model for deepening and diversifying our reach. Already, for example, UF College of Public Health and Health Professions experts work closely with their counterparts in extension on developing health promotion programs in rural counties in north Florida — areas that, like most rural areas nationwide, traditionally have far fewer medical- and health-related services than their urban counterparts.

Extension leaders are now in discussions with College of Arts leaders about offering arts education through extension offices in rural schools with no current arts programming. They're also exploring ways to build eco- and agro-tourism with College of Health and Human Performance tourism experts.

The College of Engineering in 2016 began establishing its own extension network with UF Innovation Station in Sarasota, a technology and innovation hub. As that college develops those efforts, other UF units are eyeing even more extension possibilities — perhaps most excitingly, UF Health, which already serves thousands of patients around the state and region in Gainesville, Jacksonville, Naples and other locations.

Now leaders are exploring an expansion of that network in collaboration with UF/IFAS extension. Indeed, UF/IFAS Extension and UF Health's Clinical and Translational Science Institute cosponsored a conference this spring to discuss partnerships aimed at improving health services and outcomes in rural areas.

Imagine a statewide network of UF health practitioners who are as well-trained, well-supported and

IN 2017-18, UF PROFESSORS MADE
4,000+ TRIPS TO 158 COUNTRIES
FOR RESEARCH OR EDUCATION.

UF ENGINEERING ALREADY HAS ITS OWN
EXTENSION NETWORK WITH UF INNOVATION
STATION IN SARASOTA, AND A TECHNOLOGY
AND INNOVATION HUB.

UF HEALTH ALREADY SERVES
THOUSANDS OF PATIENTS AROUND
THE STATE AND REGION.

THE UF/IFAS EXTENSION NETWORK HAS
ABOUT 460 FACULTY WORKING ACROSS
ALL OF FLORIDA'S 67 COUNTIES.

UF EDUCATION EXPERTS ARE
ALREADY HELPING FLORIDA'S
TEACHERS TO DOUBLE THE NUMBER
OF SCHOOLCHILDREN WHO CAN READ
PROFICIENTLY.

UF SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS ARE
COLLABORATING ON A SYSTEM TO
MONITOR COASTAL ECOSYSTEMS,
ENABLING FASTER RESPONSES TO
THREATS, SUCH AS RED TIDE.

IMAGINE EXPANDING UF'S
DEEPLY COMMITTED AND
LOCALLY BASED AG EXTENSION
PROGRAM TO INCLUDE UF HEALTH
PRACTITIONERS, EXPERTS IN THE
ARTS, HUMANITIES AND MORE.

deeply committed to their home
communities as extension agents.

Now imagine adding the arts, the
humanities, engineering and more to
this network.

When considered with our
international engagement, you can
see the outlines of an even more
intensely publicly focused UF —
a university that is vital to, and
supportive of, the work and daily
lives of Floridians, Americans and
global citizens.

As we pursue this opportunity, I
welcome your ideas at
Kent.Fuchs@uf.edu.

Kent Fuchs, Ph.D.
President
University of Florida

UF/IFAS
Extension
offices
(67 total)

FIELD & FORK: THANKS TO A GENEROUS GIFT, UF'S FOOD PANTRY IS GROWING AND GROWING

UF/IFAS College of Agricultural and Life Sciences students harvest vegetables and fruit for the Alan and Cathy Hitchcock Field & Fork Pantry from the program's Farm and Gardens by Lake Alice before summer cover crops are planted. Since 2015, the pantry has provided fresh produce and nonperishable food for UF community members who experience food insecurity. Thanks to a leadership gift by the Hitchcocks that helped secure additional funding, a construction crew expanded the pantry's facility near McCarty Hall B and Marston Science Library this summer to make room for more nonperishable food items and fresh produce, a teaching and cooking demonstration space, and dedicated areas for storage and processing donations. The revamped space is intended to provide a synergy between care, support and education. Support the Field & Fork Campus Food Program at www.ufl.edu/give/fkfp.

PHOTO BY AARON DAYE

UF WINS STATE FUNDING

After submitting numerous state budget requests to the Florida Legislature, UF is happy to have received full funding for three big projects:



Florida state Capitol in Tallahassee

\$25M for the Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering's new **Data Science and Information Technology Center**

\$11.5M for a new middle-high school building at P.K. Yonge, the College of Education's developmental research K-12 school

\$16.4M to invest in faculty and students to help UF achieve recognition as a Top 5 public university

In addition, the Legislature supported these projects:

- An upgrade of the WUFT-TV/FM broadcasting facility in order to meet hurricane-shelter standards
- Construction of a facility to house UF's Center for Translational Research in Neurodegenerative Disease. Staff here focus on research and treatments for central nervous system conditions including Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases and stroke.
- Workload requests for UF/IFAS facilities
- Rollout of a developmentally appropriate emergency response training program in public schools that was supported by the College of Education's Lastinger Center for Learning

HEARD IN GATORVILLE

"We're spending all this money to restore the Everglades only to let these pythons ravage all this wildlife? That's not acceptable."



— FLORIDA GOV. RON DESANTIS

During a UF event that celebrated Tom Frazer's new role as Florida's chief scientific officer, UF/IFAS' School of Natural Resources and Environment director will coordinate and prioritize research to address environmental concerns.



— GRANT HOLLOWAY (3LAS)

UF track and field champion addressing athletic contributors about their investments in Gator student-athletes

"Everything I do is for the grace of God. But I'll forever be in debt to Florida athletics and these people here for what they have done for me."

THINK YOU KNOW WHAT KIND OF DOG THIS IS? RUH-ROH!

Almost 6,000 animal experts who predicted the breed of shelter dogs as part of a UF research study were only correct 27 percent of the time. One takeaway from the study is that many dogs were often labeled as being part pit bull, when genetic tests show they were not. Can you do better? Take the quiz at bit.ly/ufbreedquiz.



UF ASSISTS AGRICULTURE-CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP

Numerous farmers, ranchers and forest land owners have joined UF and conservationists on a work group that aims to improve the quality of Florida's water, air and soil. Called the **Florida Climate-Smart Agriculture Initiative**, its members will focus on how to keep agriculture profitable while providing nutritious food, clean energy and ecosystem services, such as water filtration and carbon sequestration.

Solutions from the Land (SfL), a nonprofit that promotes farmer-inspired solutions to global challenges, is sponsoring the initiative and has partnered with UF/IFAS. The group's second meeting took place in April at UF.



A SUPER SURPRISE AT UF HEALTH SHANDS

In May, UF Health Shands Children's Hospital hosted some famous visitors who aimed to put a smile on the faces of long-term pediatric patients. Spiderman, Captain America, Iron Man and Batman came from all directions — from the sky in a UF Health ShandsCair helicopter and on the ground in a Batmobile. Black Panther, Loki and The Flash also joined their fellow superheroes. Photography by Jesse Jones

Watch the children's reactions at bit.ly/ufsuperheroes.

NUMBERS OF NOTE

10,303

UF students who graduated in May. One of them was former Gator basketball standout Canyon Barry,



who earned a master's degree in nuclear engineering. During his college career, the Academic All-American also earned the 2017 SEC Sixth

Man of the Year award. He played with the NBA's Minnesota Timberwolves this summer on its league team and says he's thrilled to have earned a degree that will help him "get a job in the real world" someday.

1

UF is the only SEC university with 100 or more student-athletes on the academic honor roll during each of the last 19 years.



BRIANNE LEHAN

"I wouldn't be happy just focusing on STEM. Music gives me a break from the stress of STEM classes. When I'm feeling stressed out, I can practice cello or write a song."

— XANDER BOGGS, UF FRESHMAN

He chose UF for its unique Music for Pre-Health Professions degree that allows him to pursue both music and medical school. Other universities told the Merritt Island resident he could not seek both degrees simultaneously. UF offers other music degrees that combine with management, entrepreneurship and arts tracks. bit.ly/32Mr1wx

WORLD BUILDERS: UF LAUNCHES A THEMED ENVIRONMENT DESIGN PROGRAM



ITEC ENTERTAINMENT

Real estate developments, museums and exhibitions, retail, dining and entertainment venues, theme parks and cruise ships: These facilities are often designed around a theme, such as a tropical paradise, the Wild West or a medieval kingdom.

UF's College of Design, Construction and Planning is launching a new graduate-level program that brings together all the expertise needed to create such a themed environment. And the program's new leader is a titan in the industry: Steven Grant, a 28-year veteran of Walt Disney Imagineering.

"He has a tremendous wealth of knowledge on themed environments and is committed to developing the next generation. We are excited about his vision and plans for the program," said DCP Dean Chimay Anumba.

The master's of science in architectural studies with a concentration in themed environments integration launched this fall at the college's CityLab-Orlando location. A graduate certificate option is also available. Through internships and instructors from the field, students will have unprecedented access to global leaders in the themed environments industry. As the program grows, other UF colleges, such as engineering and the arts, will be able to contribute expertise and resources.

COMMENCEMENT 2.0

The final report of UF's task force that evaluated commencement practices was released this summer. Some of its recommendations are to engage a stage manager for the universitywide ceremony, add a step in ceremony preparations to ensure student names are pronounced correctly and add more events leading up to graduation weekend to emphasize the community's collective achievement. UF has already implemented many of the group's suggestions. The full report can be read at <http://bit.ly/comm-taskforce>.



UF NEWS



424

Exotic wildlife species that have become unwelcome Florida residents. One is the Nile monitor lizard (above), a sharp-clawed lizard that can grow to 7 feet long. UF/IFAS researchers are working to determine the extent of these predators, which are decimating local bird, fish and small animal populations.



FLORIDA ARCHIVES

99

Age of Ralph Turlington (BSBA '42), namesake of UF's Turlington Hall. He celebrated his birthday on Oct. 5 at his home in Durham, N.C. A WWII veteran, Turlington taught business classes at UF before serving in the Florida House of Representatives (1950-74). He was Speaker of the House in 1967 and Florida's Commissioner of Education from 1974 until his retirement in 1987. A collection of documents from his career is available at UF's Smathers Libraries. Send him a birthday card or message at: FloridaGator@ufalumni.ufl.edu or P.O. Box 14425, Gainesville, FL 32604-2425.

GEAR UP GATORS!



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UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

Museum Road & Reitz Union Drive

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SIXTH

UF's rank on Forbes magazine's "America's Best Large Employers" list. UF came in 17th among all universities that made the list. Factors included opinions of those working within the organization, workplace culture, compensation, benefits and local and state quality of life.



\$7 BILLION

Estimate of amount spent on fantasy sports annually in North America.

A College of Journalism and Communications study on players' habits revealed detailed profiles of participants, the effectiveness of various advertising strategies and how players depend upon social media in conjunction with game-watching. One of the findings: YouTube and Twitter are actually more important than TV during sporting events.

FIRST

SEC university to have a venue certified as sensory inclusive. Staff at UF's Alfred McKethan baseball stadium can now better care for sensory-sensitive guests, such as those with autism, dementia and PTSD, by offering noise-canceling headphones, weighted lap pads and access to a dedicated, physician-designed quiet room.



SHANDRA TRANTHAM

FIGHTING FRIEDREICH'S ATAXIA

UF genetics and genomics grad student Shandra Trantham from Jupiter says she wants to find a cure for Friedrich's ataxia (FA), the rare neuromuscular disorder she was diagnosed with at age 12. Now 21, she says she chose UF because of its top reputation in this field. Trantham works in a Powell Gene Therapy Center lab run by Dr. Barry Byrne, whose work inspired actor Harrison Ford's character in the film "Extraordinary Measures." She is pictured here with her RaceRunner bike, which helps her run.



UF/IFAS

UF/IFAS DEPLOYS NEW TECHNOLOGY IN FIGHT AGAINST CITRUS GREENING

It takes lots of man hours to track the progression of Asian citrus psyllids, the insects (at right) that spread the greening-causing bacteria in citrus groves. That's why UF researchers developed a machine (above) equipped with cameras, GPS and AI software to speed up the identification and tracking process for grove owners. So far, the machine has a 90 percent detection rate.



FARMER & RANCHER



COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

POST-STORM PET RECOVERY

Thanks to a generous grant, the College of Veterinary Medicine now has a tricked-out truck and trailer that students, volunteers and faculty can use to set up mobile animal treatment clinics in natural disaster areas. The vehicle contains 10 foldaway bunks, medical carts, cabinets, tents and other gear, and was unveiled in May just before hurricane season. Learn more at bit.ly/2E7w5C3.

"We can live there, shower there and do everything we need ... So, no hotels, no relying on other groups for bunk trailers or tents."

— LARRY GARCIA



UF VETS medical director and Maddie's clinical assistant professor of shelter medicine

\$150,000

Barfield Foundation and PetSmart Charities grant

44 FEET

Length of the response vehicle

UF VETS

The UF Veterinary Emergency Treatment Service team is one of the oldest and largest animal disaster response teams in the country, having responded to hurricanes, wildfires, floods, oil spills and other crisis situations.



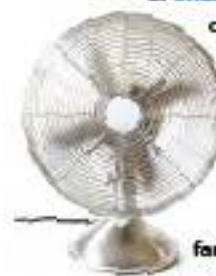
11 WAYS TO REPEL MOSQUITOES

Improve your backyard activities with these tips from UF's mosquito experts: medical entomologist Jonathan Day and urban entomologist Roberto Pereira (PhD '91).

1. BE COOL: Mosquitoes are attracted to carbon dioxide and secondary attractants released in your sweat.

2. AVOID MEALTIME: Mosquitoes are most active at dusk and dawn when humidity is high and wind speed is low.

3. CREATE A BREEZE: Wind currents above 1 mph make it difficult for these blood-sucking pests to fly. So plug in fans or pick a breezy spot. Since mosquitoes tend to fly low to avoid wind, direct fans toward the ground.



4. USE DEET: Don't spray it on. Follow label instructions and rub it onto your ankles, elbows, wrists, forehead and other places where blood is close to the surface of your skin. Products with 7-10 percent DEET work well. Those with 30 percent or more can cause irritation.



5. AVOID PERFUMES: Lotion, soap or perfumes interact differently on some individuals and may attract more mosquitoes to those people. Discover by trial and error what products make you more attractive to mosquitoes.

6. SLOW YOUR BREATH: When searching for food, mosquitoes are attracted to carbon dioxide. Alcohol, spicy foods and exercise can increase your metabolism and your CO₂ production.



7. GET NATURAL: For DEET-sensitive people, try Picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus or para-menthane-diol (PMD), a eucalyptus derivative formulated for military use.

8. WATCH WHAT YOU WEAR: Apparel that is tightly woven can keep mosquitoes from biting. Also, mosquitoes look for things that contrast with the horizon. Light colors make you blend in.

9. GO GREEN: Some plants have repellent properties, including lavender, lemon grass, marigolds, basil and citronella. But don't rely on these to keep all mosquitoes away.



10. DITCH THE OASIS: Mosquitoes like to breed in any amount of standing water. Search around your home and eliminate all potential breeding grounds.

11. TRAPS: For areas prone to mosquitoes, light, heat or scent-based traps may also help.

"Drugs evolve continuously. These threats must be identified and mitigated quickly to save lives."

— BRUCE GOLDBERGER, UF HEALTH FORENSIC MEDICINE DIRECTOR



who has been named to a 14-member White House committee that will identify and respond to new drug threats nationwide and report to the Office of National Drug Control Policy. He is a longtime UF pathology professor and expert toxicologist.



SOUTH FLORIDA SUN SENTINEL

Madison Borman, front row, third from left.

"In order to succeed as an entrepreneur, you have to fail multiple times because learning from your mistakes is what shapes improvement."

— MADISON BORMAN, UF FRESHMAN

and Olympic Heights Community High School alumna, whose tweet won her Boca Raton high school a visit from four "Shark Tank" TV show stars: Kevin O'Leary, Mark Cuban, Daymond John and Alli Webb. Borman is majoring in Family, Youth and Community Sciences.

"A picture could solve everything."

— BRETT TAYLOR, CANCER SURVIVOR

and recent graduate who decided complex medical jargon could be simplified through the use of drawings. Taylor (BFA '19) wants to use imagery to change the way health professionals communicate with patients. Learn more at bit.ly/2GEJbqL.

\$3.4M

Amount of a five-year National Institute on Drug Abuse grant for UF Pharmacy researchers to study kratom. Derived from a Southeast Asian tropical tree of the same name, this drug is considered a dangerous psychotropic in some parts of the world but a remedy for drug addiction in other parts. UF scientists aim to find out why and determine any safe uses.

5 YEARS

Length of a UF research study that will use registered nurses' observations and notes to develop a model for preventing death and injury of hospitalized older adults who are at a higher risk for falls and delirium. The National Institutes of Health awarded the project a \$2.57 million grant.

16

Members on the UF committee who are searching for the next College of Veterinary Medicine dean. Current Dean James Lloyd announced his retirement this spring after six years of service. During his tenure, the college moved up five spots in the U.S. News & World Report rankings to No. 9 — the most improvement of any UF college in that time.

UF INNOVATES: A FEW OF THE LATEST UF-SPAWNED TECHNOLOGIES

More details: 352-392-8929 or innovate.research.ufl.edu



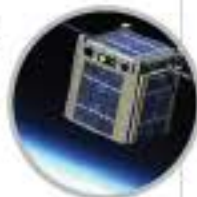
SEEING UNDERGROUND: UF/IFAS researcher Nan-Yao Su's new smartphone app improves upon his successful termite bait system, Senticon, which is credited for saving countless homes and even the Statue of Liberty from foraging pests. The app lets users know when a predetermined amount of termite bait has been consumed, eliminating the need for regular inspections and maintenance. It also allows operators to monitor a large number of bait stations at multiple sites remotely and can automatically notify your pest control company when baits need to be replaced.

ALMOST A CURE-ALL: UF researchers Ferenc Soti, Hong Xing and William Kern developed a compound that safely and efficiently treats some neurological disorders and addictions. It is based on two natural products. One is found in the ocean and selectively stimulates a learning/memory brain receptor. The other is found in plants and is known for its effectiveness in treating tobacco and other chemical addictions. Combined, they offer more effective results when treating cognitive deficits (including Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases), depression and nicotine addiction.



ANOTHER USE FOR ALGAE: College of Pharmacy scientists Valerie Paul, Ranjula Ratnayake and Hendrik Luesch discovered that when an edible green alga (commonly called sea lettuce) is enriched with a new keto-type fatty acid and other agents, the compound activates the body's antioxidant response. This helps prevent inflammation, cancer and potentially other diseases, as well as age-related effects.

PERFECTING TINY SATELLITES: UF mechanical and aerospace engineering researchers Vivek Nagabhusan (MS '09, PhD '13) and Norman Fitz-Coy developed a better and less-expensive actuator that controls the orientation of small satellites in space. Their invention boasts both rapid retargeting and precision pointing advantages over all actuators on the market. The scientists also developed an instrument for assessing the performance of attitude-control systems. Called GATorSense, it can combat unwanted disturbances and provide full range of motion for more intricate simulations of true space episodes.



ROB MACK

\$320,000

Amount the town of Yulee committed to a new UF/IFAS Extension office, north of Jacksonville in Nassau County. The office, located on eight acres also donated by the town, will soon serve as a central source of agriculture assistance/expertise, master gardening classes, 4-H and other UF activities and programs. The facility will feature a teaching pavilion, teaching kitchen and aquatic education dock. UF has extension offices in each of Florida's 67 counties, as well as 12 research and education centers throughout the state.

**94**

College students who participated in a College of Journalism and Communications study on whether fear- or humor-based anti-alcohol ads work best. Results: Humor-based ads worked best with binge drinkers. The opposite was true for occasional, non-binge drinkers. Next step: a wider study about how and when humorous appeals would be effective with binge drinkers.

ZORA NEALE HURSTON

A Legacy Plucked from the Flames

When Zora Neale Hurston died in 1960, the trailblazing author's papers were almost lost forever. They were being burned outside her Fort Pierce home when a friend saved them. The following year, Hurston's neighbor donated the papers, which include letters, photographs and even an unpublished manuscript, to the Smathers Libraries at UF. The collection has grown since then with contributions from Hurston's friends and colleagues. Today, students, researchers or anyone who requests to see these items — about a thousand in total — can feel the presence of the celebrated writer of "Their Eyes Were Watching God."

See a video about the collection at
bit.ly/ufznh-legacy



ABOVE: Zora Neale Hurston in 1938

AT RIGHT: Materials from the Smathers Libraries' collection



PETER FREDERICK — WILDLIFE ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION

TYLER JONES UF/FAS

Peter Frederick (center), along with UF students, conducts an oyster reef survey near Cedar Key.

A WALK ON THE **WILD(LIFE) SIDE**

RENOWNED UF ECOLOGIST SAYS LONG-TERM STUDIES ARE KEY TO FINDING BETTER ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS

Q. How wild is your work?

A. My interests are diverse but loosely centered around understanding wetland processes both for their own sake and as guides to restoration and conservation activities.

Q. What professional tools do you use most?

A. Because I work in wetlands, my go-tos are boats — outboards, jet drives, air boats — and unmanned aerial vehicles — things that help me get to places that are just plain difficult to reach.

Q. Describe a revelation from your work.

A. When wading birds turned out to be strongly associated with droughts. ... This turned out to be an enormous piece of information for trying to manage large wetlands like the Everglades. Many people said, "Dry it out!" as a way of stimulating birds, but that's too short a cycle. Then many people said, "Flood it!" because if you have more water you have more fish. That was wrong because you get all predatory fish. It was the intermediate that really mattered. That surprise came about after studying 130 years worth of records collected by my predecessors.

Q. Are you mainly an ornithologist?

A. I always tell my students they better go into any room with at least seven hats. I guess my hats

would be ornithology, toxicology, animal behavior, wetland ecology and a few more.

Q. Advice for students?

A. Stick with something long term. The systems that we study have long-term memory through evolution of traits. I've been working in the Everglades for 30 years. We're only just now starting to see some of the real payoffs, and much of that is drawing on studies from 50 and 100 years ago! So if you think you're going to make a mark, know that mark is going to be more and more valuable over time.

Q. What contentious issues have you worked on?

A. Everglades restoration, in part because it's about where you put water and who all the water users are. The Everglades had tremendous resilience in the past because it fluctuated naturally. Because we've now added 25 user groups for all the water — that either want it to be too wet or too dry — we are now attempting to manage in an impossible situation.

Also, oyster reef restoration ... because some people want you to restore so they can fish the reef, and others want the ecological benefits.

Ecology is an uncomfortable arena, but that doesn't mean we can't provide a lot of answers.

— RHETT BARKER (BS '16)



10

Gators in the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame. The most recent inductee is UF chemistry professor Richard Yost, whose co-invention of the triple quadrupole mass spectrometer (used to determine a molecule's structure) has become a staple tool for the drug development, disease testing, food safety and environmental studies industries. He holds UF's Col. Allen R. and Margaret G. Crow Professorship and leads UF's analytical chemistry team.



5

Gator tennis student-athletes who participated in the **NCAA singles and doubles national championships** this summer in Orlando. They are Sophomore **Andy Andrade**, Sophomore **Oliver Crawford**, freshman **Sam Riffice** and doubles duo Senior **McClain Kessler** and Sophomore **Duarte Vale**.

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SEEING THE WORLD

UF's annual International Center Global Culture Photo Contest winners were announced in August. **Macarena Vergara's** image below is from her trip to Sitges, Spain, where she took in a local celebration. Vergara is a pharmacology post-doc in UF's College of Medicine. Alumni, students, faculty and staff can submit entries at <http://bit.ly/ufgpc2019>

The UF Human Resources Summer photo contest winners were also announced. At right is **Tina Nguyen's** (BA '14) shot of her roommate, **Amanda Cheng** (BA '13, MAMC '17), at Dream Lake in Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado. Nguyen is an IT specialist in the Warrington College of Business who will graduate from the MS-ISOM program in 2021. Cheng works at IPro TV in Gainesville.

GATOR TAKES HIS
FAKE FAMOUS COMEDY
SHOW ON THE ROAD

Barry S. Naylor II (BSTEL '07) performed his Fake Famous Comedy Show in University Auditorium during homecoming as part of the UF Association of Black Alumni Reunion in October.

Naylor says his comedy set was born from rejection: Although his comedy career was growing, UF declined to book him for on-campus events, telling him he was "not famous enough," he says.

Since then, he teamed up with **Trey Ford** (BSA '11) and others to launch the Fake Famous Comedy Show, which is on



AARON DAYE

a six-city tour. In each city, the tour is partnering with black-owned businesses and community organizations to channel some show proceeds into action plans for local neighborhoods and schools.

A documentary about Naylor's journey, titled "Famous For Real," will be released in the spring.

UF DIABETES SCIENTISTS
WORK ON NEW SYSTEM

A group of UF researchers are using a new \$5 million grant to develop a islet platform that will allow them to more efficiently and effectively study Type 1 diabetes and its triggers, and quickly test new treatments — potentially saving years of clinical trial efforts and millions in testing costs.

In Type 1 diabetes, the immune system goes rogue and kills cells in the pancreas that regulate blood sugar. Islets are the regions of the pancreas that contain insulin-producing cells. The new UF system will harness recent advances in stem cell technology, gene editing and biomedical devices to replicate the conditions in the body that result in Type 1 diabetes.

A LEGACY OF POSITIVITY, PASSION AND PRIDE

GATOR NATION MOURNS THE PASSING OF MR. TWO BITS

One of UF's most well-known honorary alumni, **George Edmondson**, died July 2. Better known as Mr. Two Bits, he first cheered for UF's football team at a 1949 home game. Over the next 60 years, Florida's faithful followed his lead by encouraging student-athletes in every sport with the chant, "Two bits, four bits, six bits, a dollar, all for the Gators, stand up and holler!"

Although the WWII veteran and Tampa insurance agent retired from leading the cheer at home football games in 2008, other fans continued his tradition. Today, Gator celebrities are invited to perform the cheer while clad in Edmondson's signature yellow shirt and orange-and-blue striped tie. In addition to contributing enthusiasm and positivity, Edmondson and his wife, Jane, 85, gave several donations through the years that will forever support UF cheerleaders through a scholarship endowment. Mr. Two Bits was 97.



"All of Gator Nation will remember George for his enthusiasm, dedication and love for Florida."

— JEREMY FOLEY, UF ATHLETIC
DIRECTOR EMERITUS



1975 football scene, captured by Reed Galin (BSBR '76)



Send your memories about Mr. Two Bits to FloridaGator@ufalumni.org.
See a tribute video at https://youtu.be/RtSq_1hJfLU.

PROTECTING THE WEB OF LIFE

AN ALARMING NUMBER OF ANIMALS, PLANTS AND INSECTS **ARE GOING EXTINCT** — AND UF SCIENTISTS, JOINED WITH CONCERNED PHILANTHROPISTS, ARE SCRAMBLING TO STOP THE **GLOBAL CATASTROPHE**

BY DAVID FINNERTY

Philanthropists Ken and Linda McGurn



Monarchs might be small, but their role in the ecosystem is huge. Most flowering plants depend on the butterflies and other insects for pollination. Even though monarch caterpillars are poisonous to most predators because of the toxins in the milkweed the monarchs eat, some animals — like orioles, grosbeaks, ants, wasps and spiders — feed on them. Their summer breeding grounds cover most of the United States and Southern Canada, but monarchs migrate to Mexico, the California coast and South Florida to overwinter.



"We hope UF can present fact-based research that will be persuasive to our leaders in the state so that we can survive climate change."

— LINDA MCGURN (BSBA '73, JD '78)

MEXICO'S CENTRAL HIGHLANDS flutter in gold each winter when the monarch butterflies arrive. Hundreds of millions migrate to forests there in one of nature's most spectacular phenomena. Thick clusters cling to fir trees and underbrush. Flapping, rust-colored wings carpet footpaths. When disturbed monarchs take flight, the swell almost blocks the sun. But their population is dwindling, biologists warn. There was a time when branches would snap under the butterflies' weight and the chatter from so many fluttering wings sounded like a river's babble.

Their decline concerns Gainesville entrepreneurs Ken and Linda McGurn. "When you see it firsthand it is awe-inspiring — to stand there surrounded by millions of monarch butterflies and realize they're at risk, and that what we do puts them at risk — we need to protect them," Linda McGurn (BSBA '73, JD '78) says.

It's not just the monarchs that worry the couple. Not since the end of the dinosaur era have extinctions been this massive and widespread. Tropical rainforests alone are said to be losing 27,000 species each year, and odds are that within the next few decades the last lowland gorilla, black rhino, Asian elephant, Galapagos penguin and Malayan tiger will be gone. Even the famed Joshua tree, which has been around for 2.5 million years, might not survive another 100.

It's with those troubling predictions that the McGurns — this year's Go Greater campaign co-chairs — have invested in UF's Biodiversity Institute to slow the extinction rate of plants and animals in Florida and across the world. The institute's specialists are from disciplines ranging from engineering and journalism to wildlife biology and land management. Their collective hope: use research and hard data to convince communities to adopt conservation strategies, while preparing them for a soon-to-be unfamiliar environment.

That's important work, Ken McGurn (BSBA '72, MBA '73, PHD '81) says.

"We've seen how what we do affects folks around the world," he says. "It's the bigger picture that a lot of people don't see, and that's what the university is doing: having interactions all over the world as we tackle these issues."

The McGurns' interest in protecting the environment is nothing new. Long ago, the couple started incorporating solar energy and other environmentally-friendly practices into the apartment buildings, storefronts, commercial offices and parking lots they owned. It made good business sense, the McGurns insist, but it was also the right thing to do. The Alachua Conservation Trust and other environmental groups are also high on their priority list of things they support. With the university, Ken McGurn sees another way to "leave the world a better place," he says. "We're looking at the long term, and the university is in it for the long run."



10 CRITICALLY ENDANGERED ANIMALS

- **Amur Leopard**
- **Rhino** (Black, Javan, Sumatran)
- **Gorilla** (Cross River, Eastern Lowland, Western Lowland)
- **Hawksbill Sea Turtle**
- **Tiger** (Malayan, South China, Sumatran)
- **Orangutan** (Sumatran and Bornean)
- **Saola**
- **Sumatran Elephant**
- **Vaquita**
- **Yangtze Finless Porpoise**

SOURCE: World Wildlife Fund



AMUR LEOPARD



ORANGUTAN



YANGTZE FINLESS PORPOISE

"We're looking at the long term, and the university is in it for the long run. What we do today is very important for generations to come."

— KEN MCGURN
(BSBA '72, MBA '73, PHD '81)

"What we do today is very important for generations to come," he explains. "If we don't recognize some of the bad things we're doing, we can't correct them."

Along with Mexico, the McGurns have been to Panama, Great Britain and the Galapagos Islands with UF scientists for fossil digs and explorations. Those experiences have deepened their commitment to the environment.

"When you dig up something that's 10 million years old, it kind of puts everything else in perspective," Ken McGurn says.

"Everything is so interrelated," Linda McGurn adds. "We've learned how fragile the ecosystem is. If we kill all the milkweed in the middle of our country, butterflies might not make it — and everything just starts cascading."

10 OF THE MOST ENDANGERED PLANTS

- Baobab Tree
- Monkey Puzzle Tree
- Dragon Tree
- Bois Dentele
- Cork
- Underground Australian Orchid
- Venus Flytrap
- Baseball Plant
- Green Pitcher Plant
- Welwitschia Mirabilis

SOURCE: Conserve Energy Future



BAOBAB TREE



UNDERGROUND AUSTRALIAN ORCHID



VENUS FLYTRAP

THERE'S AN APP FOR THAT



One Tree One Planet is a mobile app developed through the Florida Museum of Natural History to map the relationships that link all living things and to discover ways to protect life on Earth.

WHAT IS BIODIVERSITY? AND WHY IT'S SO IMPORTANT

The variety and abundance of plants and animals in a given area define its environmental health. Each plays a critical part, and imbalances can be catastrophic — not only for the habitat but also for humans. That delicate mix is known as biodiversity.



EXTINCTION BY THE NUMBERS

- 21** Percent of reptiles in the world deemed endangered or vulnerable
- 68** Percent of evaluated plant species that are threatened
- 251** Bird species in the United States that are of conservation concern
- 700** Imperiled North American freshwater fish species (39 percent)
- 1,131** At-risk mammal species across the globe
- 6,300** Species of amphibians, a third or more of which are estimated to be at risk
- 1.3 million** Known invertebrate species, of which 30 percent could go extinct

SOURCE: Center for Biological Diversity

SAVE THE BEES

Worldwide bee populations are in decline. Keeping bees healthy got a major boost with the opening of the University of Florida's state-of-the-art Honey Bee Research and Extension Laboratory in 2018. The facility's mission is to advance understanding of managed and wild bees in Florida, the United States and the world through research and education.

Find out more at <https://bit.ly/2hDXxhP>



GOPHER TORTOISE

FLORIDA'S FRAGILE SPECIES

Florida's ecosystems include more than 4,000 plant species, and the state supports the highest concentration of federally sensitive, threatened or endangered species in the country. On the other side of the equation are invasive species. More than half the plant life in South Florida is non-native, throwing that touchy balance out of whack.



FLORIDA PANTHER



FLORIDA MANATEE



RED-COCKADED WOODPECKER

12 WAYS TO INCREASE BIODIVERSITY AT HOME

A dozen ways you can give wildlife, pollinators and plants a fighting chance:

- 1. GO NATIVE.** Native plants provide better food and cover for wildlife and pollinators, and generally require less care and resources.
- 2. REDUCE PESTICIDE USE.** Spraying your yard to kill one pest can also eliminate other beneficial species, including pollinators such as bees, wasps, beetles, moths and butterflies. Instead, spot treat or use baits, and allow pest eaters, such as spiders, ladybugs and paper wasps, to do the job for you.
- 3. LIMIT THE LAWN.** Manicured lawns are like concrete to most species. By not mowing certain areas, you will be creating shelters, as well as food sources.
- 4. GO FOR GROUNDCOVERS.** Not only are native groundcover plants more valuable for wildlife than lawns, but they require less mowing, fertilizing and water.
- 5. ADD ISLANDS.** Islands grouped near each other reduce the amount of open space animals must cross, alleviating some risk that they will become prey.
- 6. LAYER YOUR LOOK.** Think a tree near a medium-sized bush with some groundcover beneath. "Vertical layering," as it's known, provides safer feeding opportunities for wildlife. Leaving some dead trees and a brush pile or two is beneficial for small mammals, birds and butterflies, too.

- 7. PLANT A BUTTERFLY GARDEN.** Add plants for both adult butterflies and their larvae (caterpillars) to munch. (They feed on different types of plants.)

- 8. PROVIDE BIRD FEEDERS, AND BIRD AND BAT HOUSES.** Keep feeders clean, and research the type of house and feed that work for your area.

- 9. REMOVE INVASIVE EXOTIC PLANTS.** About 1.7 million acres of Florida's remaining natural areas have been invaded by exotic plants. Pest plants destroy more natural habitat every year than development.

- 10. MANAGE PETS.** Cats are expert hunters, and loose dogs harass and kill a wide variety of wildlife species. And it goes without saying: Don't release parrots, iguanas, snakes, toads or other pets into the wild.

- 11. CONSUME CONSCIOUSLY.** The less you buy, the less habitat is destroyed to manufacture products, and the less is thrown away in landfills. Reuse items as often as possible and learn to compost. Your reward: a rich soil amendment.

- 12. HELP OUT.** Support your local park by visiting, donating or volunteering. Participate in cleanups to remove garbage and invasive species from natural areas.

SOURCES: UF Office of Sustainability; UF/IFAS Extension Landscaping Backyards for Wildlife (by Mark Hostetler, Gregg Klowden, Sarah Webb Miller and Kara Youngentob)

SEA TURTLE



MIAMI BLUE BUTTERFLY





**"IT'S IMPORTANT THAT THE
UNIVERSITY'S OUTDOORS
ARE AS AWE-INSPIRING AND
IMPRESSIVE AS THE ACADEMICS
TAKING PLACE INDOORS."**

— CHARLIE LANE CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

NORTHEAST CAMPUS GATEWAY A wide and elegant entrance by Tigert Hall at 13th Street and Southwest Second Avenue will feature a circular driveway, a prominent sculpture and space for both vehicle and foot traffic.

A CAMPUS FOR ALL KINDS OF WEATHER

SHADED WALKWAYS, RESTORED WETLANDS, WATER GARDENS FOR THE RAINY SEASON. A NEW PLAN EMBRACES GAINESVILLE'S NATURE AND BRINGS UF CLOSER TO CARBON NEUTRAL STATUS.

BY DAVID FINNERTY

UNION WALK Union Road in the campus' historic section will be transformed into a tree-covered promenade reserved for shoes and bikes. One feature will be a reflecting pool by University Auditorium.



A mammoth landscaping project

will turn some roads into footpaths, sidewalks into shaded trails, intersections into social corners and entrances into welcoming gateways.

Native grasses and shrubs will be reintroduced. Water gardens will collect rain. Flowers will be abundant. Wild spaces — creeks and ponds, wetlands and woods — will be restored to their natural grandeur. Even benches, bike racks, trash cans, drinking fountains, streetlamps and simple tree grates will be upgraded.

When all is done and the last southern magnolia placed in the dirt, UF's 2,000-acre campus will be another step closer to a neutral carbon footprint, and, UF officials add, more reflective of one of the nation's premier universities.

"It's important that the university's outdoors are as awe-inspiring and impressive as the academics taking place indoors," says Charlie Lane, UF's chief operating officer. "If we want to be a leader in academia, which we are, we need to be unflinching in our commitment to the environment and to

our students. That's our responsibility, and it's what this plan is all about."

Being green has always been in UF's plans. Back in 1905 when architect William Edwards designed UF's campus, he pictured a sprawling lawn as its heart. That central green became the university's town square, the Plaza of the Americas.

UF's new green plan is just one of several chapters in the university's 15-year strategic plan. But it will be the most visible. With it, just as Central Park in New York and the National Mall in Washington, D.C., are the backyards of those cities, UF's outdoor spaces will be gathering places and escapes for Gators, Lane says.

"One of the things that makes UF's campus special is how naturally stunning it is. In spring, when azaleas are in bloom, there aren't many places more pleasant than this university," he says. "New landscaping and outdoor renovations will make campus even nicer for alumni, students and guests to enjoy — and during all four seasons."



TOWER PLAZA The north end of Newell Drive will disappear to create an enormous courtyard stretching from Turlington Hall to the Music Building. With Century Tower as the centerpiece, there will be plenty of outdoor seating with places for gatherings and performances.

the plan at a glance

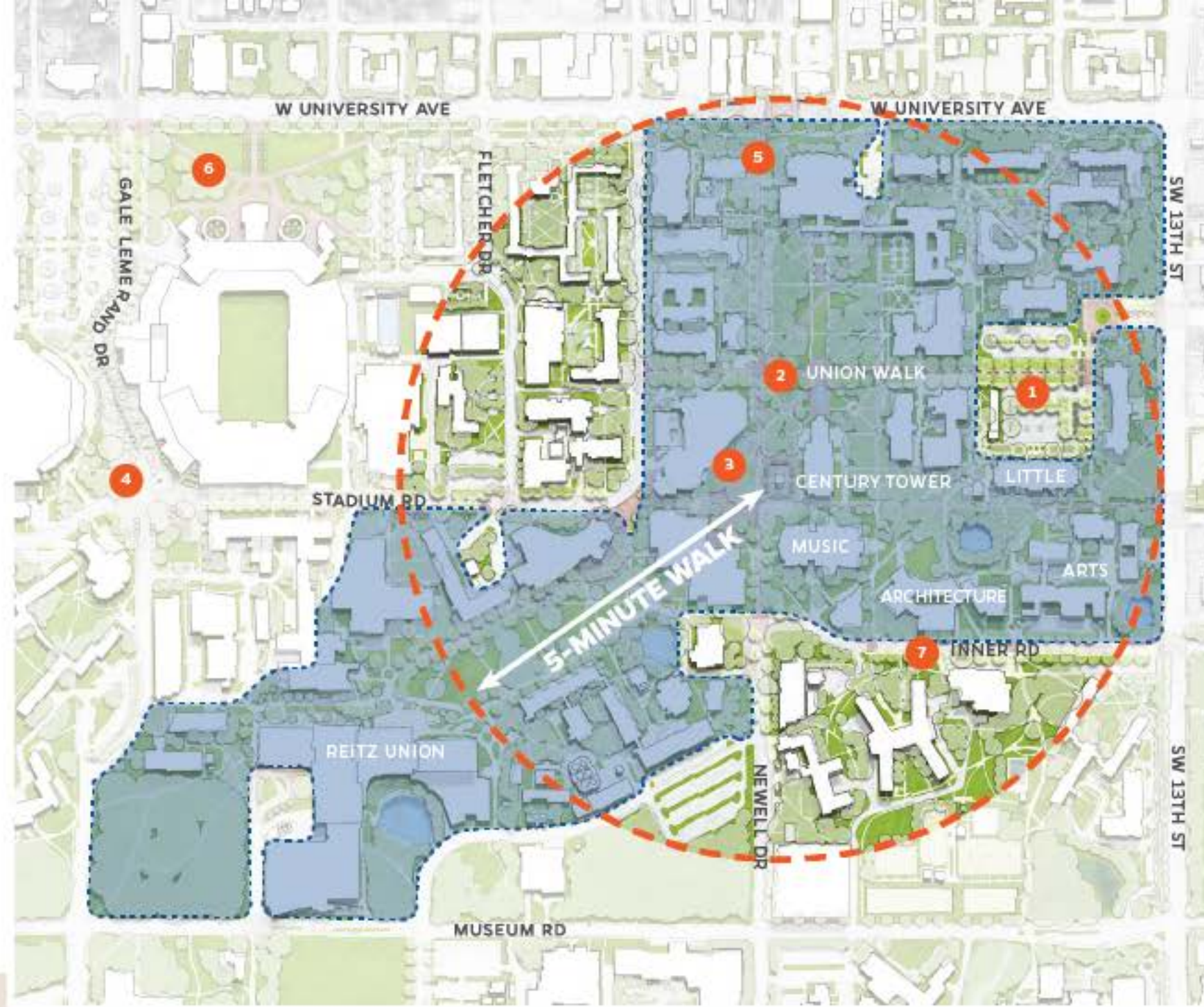
Purposes: Make campus more inviting, eco-friendly and sustainable; encourage town-and-gown interactions; accommodate transportation options (from buses to feet); develop a cohesive campus image; honor the university's natural setting and environmental heritage.

Process: University leaders sought input from alumni, students, professors, staff, Gainesville residents and landscape architects; identified needs and priorities; and worked with professional landscape designers to create a blueprint.

Timeframe: This two-phased approach begins this year and is part of UF's overall master plan. Leaders say the project should be completed in 10-15 years.

Cost: \$27 million.

Want to see more? UF's complete campus landscape master plan with additional illustrations, project descriptions and costs is available at www.facilities.ufl.edu/committees/docs/1536877403.pdf.



a more walkable campus

For decades, the heart of campus has been open to vehicle traffic. However, this plan proposes to restrict cars and buses in an effort to maximize the pedestrian experience.

Once complete, the changes will better connect two of the university's major pedestrian zones: the Plaza of the Americas and the Reitz Union lawns. In the illustration at left, the area highlighted in blue will encompass an 86-acre pedestrian-only zone. Note the streamlined access for walkers and bicyclists that will reduce trip times.

Curbless, brick walkways will improve navigation for all Gators and allow for the elimination of redundant sidewalks. Native and flowering plants will enhance the appearance of the area. And most importantly, upon completion, Century Tower will be a safer walk, more pleasant five-minute trek from 13th Street or the Reitz Union.

seven priority projects

1 NE CAMPUS GATEWAY

A transformed Tigart Court creates a welcoming link between the campus and downtown Gainesville, announcing the campus, welcoming the casual visitor and orienting guests to the pedestrian-centric campus beyond the pedestrian gate at the end of Union Walk.

2 UNION WALK

The conversion of Union Road to a major pedestrian way will be a transformative step that removes the division between the Plaza of the Americas and the open space surrounding University Auditorium. This removal will greatly increase the amount of contiguous open space on the campus.

3 TOWER PLAZA

With the continued conversion of Newell Drive to a pedestrian corridor, the area around Century Tower, Turlington Hall and CSE Building/Marston Science Library will become a grand plaza. The regrading of the plaza to ensure universal access and its replanting to improve sight lines and increase shade will enhance the space for large and small group gatherings and performances.

4 GATOR PLAZA

On seven Saturdays in the fall, this area becomes the focus of game day activity and the face of UF to campus visitors and alumni. A tabled intersection and special paving will unite the pedestrian and vehicular zones to connect the stadium with the O'Connell Center and the plaza areas south of Stadium Road to create one large civic space.

5 NEWELL GATEWAY

A new gateway at Newell Drive will mark a major pedestrian way through the heart of the campus. The gateway will frame one of the most appealing long views of the campus.

6 STADIUM LAWN

Like Gator (Corner) Plaza, the open lawn north of the stadium is required to wear two hats. For seven Saturdays of the year, the space is ideally situated to become a hub of game day excitement. For the rest of the year, the space plays a key role in establishing positive first impressions for campus visitors arriving from West University Avenue.

7 INNER ROAD

The transformation of the campus core to a pedestrian realm is achieved through the clear redirection of vehicular traffic to Inner Road and its conversion to two-way traffic to allow for vehicles to enter as well as leave the campus on this corridor.

“THE INTERCONNECTEDNESS OF UF AND GAINESVILLE SHOULD BE COMMUNICATED THROUGH A FAMILY OF ATTRACTIVE WELCOMING PORTALS.”

— UF LANDSCAPE MASTER PLAN



INNER ROAD AND NEWELL GATEWAY

With the closing of Union Road and the creation of a plaza around Century Tower, Inner Road (currently one-way, single lane) will be converted to two-way traffic, allowing cars and buses to enter and leave from the eastern edge of campus. Tree-lined sidewalks and bicycle lanes will enhance the reenvisioned corridor. Newell Gateway (below) on the west side of the Plaza of the Americas will expand access to and from University Avenue.

NEWELL GATEWAY

Newell Drive will be converted into campus' northern doorway, a walking lane from midtown. A long, tree-lined view of the historic campus will greet alumni, students and visitors.



WEST UNIVERSITY AVENUE

New walkways through Ben Hill Griffin Stadium's north lawn connect with new crosswalks across West University Avenue to improve pedestrian safety.



STADIUM GATEWAY

The memory-brick-lined stadium entrance on University Avenue where players assemble for pre-game Gator Walks will be expanded for fans to join in tailgating activities.

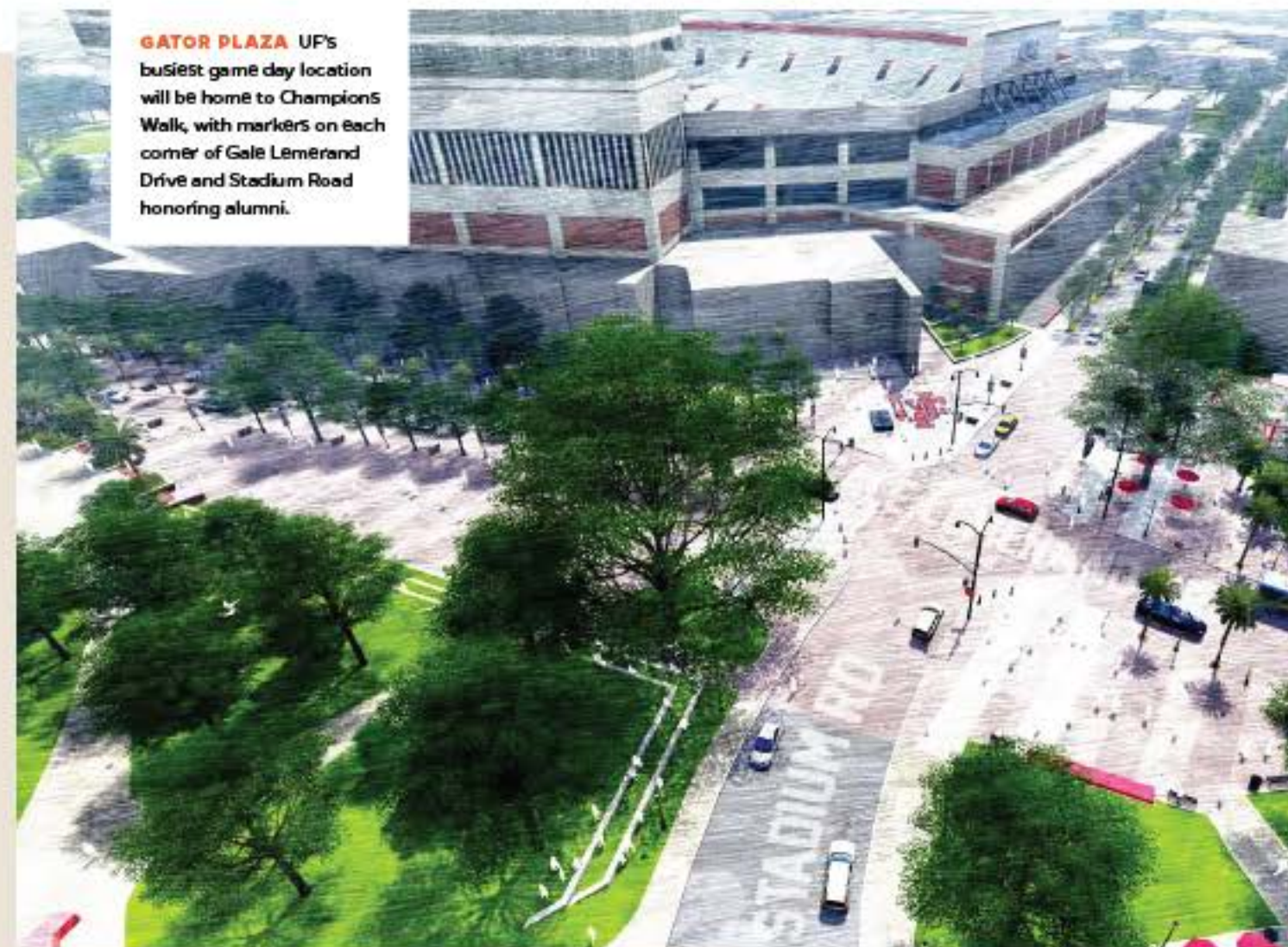




STADIUM LAWN This tailgating hotspot will be turned into a green space worthy of UF's winning tradition. The intersection of Gale Lemerand Drive and West University Avenue will shift westward to align with a neighboring off-campus street, improve traffic flow and increase the lawn's size. Brick sidewalks will stretch across the lawn.



GALE LEMERAND The northernmost block of Gale Lemerand Drive must meet the needs of daily use by the UF community, as well as the unique celebratory role that it plays on fall gamedays.



GATOR PLAZA UF's busiest game day location will be home to Champions Walk, with markers on each corner of Gale Lemerand Drive and Stadium Road honoring alumni.



GALE LEMERAND In addition to its north-end intersection being shifted to align with Northwest 20th Terrace by Earl and Christy Powell Alumni Hall, this area will see greatly expanded walkways. Note the special paving that unites the pedestrian and vehicular zones, signaling motorists to the presence of pedestrians throughout the year. On game days, the unified pavement serves to connect



the Stadium with the O'Connell Center and the plaza areas south of Stadium Road to create one large civic space. The area will be the setting for a future Champions Walk, with each of the four corners of the intersection honoring UF alumni and celebrating important aspects of Gator life: academics, student life, arts and culture, and athletics.

"ON SEVEN SATURDAYS THE AREA BECOMES THE FOCUS OF GAMEDAY ACTIVITY."

— UF LANDSCAPE MASTER PLAN



PREHISTORIC TOOLMAKING EXPERT Barbara Purdy stands amid her favorite Marion County dig site. Behind her is a large piece of chert (hard rock) she nicknamed "Paleo Dog." Her research indicates it was shaped by early modern humans more than 20,000 years ago, a whopping 6,500 years before the date long identified as the original settling of Florida. Purdy's longtime volunteer dig assistants (from left) are Mike Bertelsen, Don Munroe, Ray McGee and (not pictured) Jerry Kidder and Jim Tatum.

FINDING BARBARA PURDY

She was a trailing spouse — a mother and homemaker — until she found her passion in her 40s. At 92, Florida's first lady of archaeology is still digging up treasures — and stirring up controversy.

Story by Barbara Drake Photography by Aaron Daye

If you're searching for mysteries, don't gaze at the heavens. Look beneath your feet — about 60 to 140 centimeters deep, specifically — in the dark clay of north central Florida.

That advice has been a shining beacon for half a century for lithic expert Barbara Purdy (PhD '71), professor emerita of anthropology at UF, curator emerita at the Florida Museum of Natural History and one of the most innovative figures in American archaeology.

Since her days as a doctoral student at UF, Purdy has been tenaciously digging in Florida's woods, swamps and lakes to uncover traces of long-lost civilizations. She's discovered a massive Paleoamerican weapon-making site in Marion County, analyzed fossils

to confirm early Floridians walked alongside giant extinct beasts, and unearthed more prehistoric dug-out canoes than anyone else in the state.

And she accomplished all this in her 40s and beyond, after two decades as a stay-at-home mom of four kids.

Today, despite two early bouts with cancer, the 92-year-old Gainesville resident shows no signs of slowing down. She's still conducting fieldwork. And she's still going head-to-head with naysayers who pooch-pooch her theories about the original settling of the Americas.

"I'm a fighter," she says.



"She's a dynamo," said UF paleontologist Bruce MacFadden, FMNH distinguished curator and a recent collaborator with Purdy on dating finds from Vero Beach. "She has a wonderful curiosity to solve interesting questions and an intensity of focus."

"Her energy is contagious," agreed Kathryn Rohlwing (MA '16), a former student of Purdy's who now supervises Manatee Village Historical Park in Bradenton. "She challenges the field to keep an open mind."

THE CLOVIS CONTROVERSY

Purdy belongs to a growing group of researchers who question "Clovis-first," a theory that dominated U.S. archaeology

for decades. It posits the first Americans were the Clovis people — named for a site near Clovis, N.M. — who migrated across the Bering Strait and followed a southern route downland, peopling the Americas around 13,500 years ago, at the end of the last ice age.

Recently, however, archaeologists have dug up many sites that appear to predate Clovis, including Monte Verde, Chile (14,500 to 18,500 years old). Some scholars believe humans came to the Western Hemisphere by sea, or by land and sea. In 2012, a pair of archaeologist-authors caused a stir with "Across Atlantic Ice," which lays out considerable evidence ice age mariners followed America's eastern shoreline 20,000 years ago.

But care must be taken: It's difficult to date the stone objects often used as evidence, and the results are often fiercely contested, as Purdy well knows. She's been taking the heat since the '70s for her conviction that Florida was settled way before Clovis, an idea that now has the support of others in the Southeast.

"There's still much more research and analysis to be done," she said, "but thermal luminescence [dating] has shown some of the items I've found might be 25,000 to 30,000 years old. The marks on the stone indicate they were probably shaped by humans."

A TRAILING SPOUSE SOARS

Born in San Diego in 1927, Purdy earned a bachelor's in zoology at San Diego

State College (now University) in 1948. Early that same year, she met Laurence Henry "Hank" Purdy. The ex-serviceman — described as "extremely handsome" by Purdy — quickly won her heart, and just three weeks later, on Valentine's Day, they wed, with Hank embarking on an academic career that would culminate in his being named chair of the Department of Plant Pathology at UF/IFAS in 1967.

"I was 40 years, one week, and one day old when we arrived in Gainesville," she says, the precise age etched in her consciousness like a fossil preserved in stone.

During the '50s and '60s, Purdy devoted herself to raising their four children, along with, she says, housekeeping, knitting, baking and bridge playing. Hank conducted research at Washington State University, and Purdy, ever-frugal, mended all his work shirts on a green 1955 Elna sewing machine. But she yearned to explore the wider world.

"I loved playing bridge, but I didn't want to play it every afternoon of my life after the last kid got into school," she said.

Purdy began typing students' dissertations at WSU. What she read piqued her interest, and she pursued a master's degree in archaeology, participating in excavations of local stone remains from early time periods, an area that would become her specialty.

"It was like the whole world opened up to me, being able to learn something new," said Purdy.

When Hank accepted the UF chair in 1967, Barbara enrolled in the university's fledgling doctoral program in anthropology, with an emphasis on archaeology.

"I was 40 years, one week, one day old when we arrived in Gainesville," she says, the precise age etched in her consciousness like a fossil preserved in stone.

Purdy plunged into archaeology, excavating local prehistoric sites and taking master classes in flint-knapping, the ancient art of stone toolmaking. Her findings on how prehistoric Floridians heated chert (a type of extremely hard flint) to facilitate toolmaking were published in *Science* magazine in 1971. That year, she became the first person to earn a doctorate in anthropology from UF, soon earning faculty appointments with the Department of Anthropology and the FMNH.

She was a "godsend" to the university and its students, said historian David Colburn, former UF provost and a longtime friend.

"We knew she was something special," said Colburn. "Making a switch from raising a family to getting her Ph.D., becoming a faculty member and conducting an ambitious research program — she didn't hold back on anything. The rest of us were inspired to try and keep up."

PALEO DOG DISCOVERED

A flurry of fieldwork occupied Purdy for the next 45 years. One of her most promising early dig sites was on Marion County land then owned by the Container Corp. of America (CCA) and now the property of Whitehurst Cattle Co. The deeper she dug, the more intrigued she became.

The sandy top layer held artifacts from 5,000 to 13,000 years ago. But 60 centimeters down, her shovel hit hard dark clay from an earlier era. Other archaeologists had labeled the stratum "culturally sterile," but to Purdy, the items embedded there were a dazzling treasure: stone tools and art objects similar to those found in Europe from the Late Stone Age (50,000 to >20,000 BP).

Also buried on the CCA property was a mysterious 4-foot-long weathered stone object she nicknamed Paleo Dog. Although the piece lacked detail, Purdy believed it had deliberate cut marks that replicated the eye, snout and limbs of a canine, a form unlikely to have been shaped by nature.

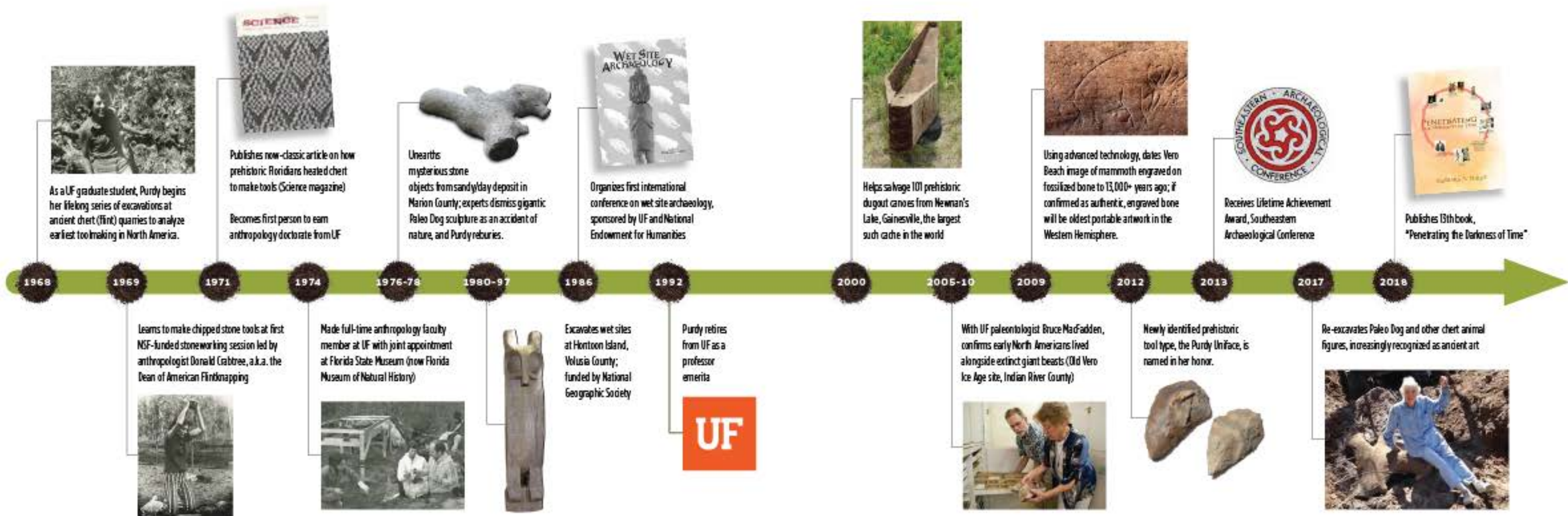
DR. PURDY'S SECRETS FOR AN ACTIVE NON-RETIREMENT

Nonagenarian Barbara Purdy says she inherited her energy, good health and "curiosity about life" from her mother's side of the family. Apart from good genes, she credits her longevity to lifestyle choices. Her suggestions on how to stay healthy in your golden years include:

- 1 CHARGE UP THAT HILL!** "When I have to do something but I don't feel like doing it, I force myself to do it anyway. Conquering it gives me a sense of victory and all my energy comes back."
- 2 TAKE UP A SPORT** "I played tennis until I was 89 years old. I was not that good a player — I got into the B status when I was playing team tennis — but it kept me fit."
- 3 EAT COLORFULLY** "I used to be a horrible meat eater; that's mainly what I ate. Two years ago, I read up on the Mediterranean diet. Now, instead of ignoring fruits and vegetables, I have become a rabbit. Every single dinner, I have about five different kinds of fresh produce."
- 4 RAISE A GLASS** "I have a little glass of red wine every evening. The studies say it's better for your health than white."
- 5 MIND OVER MATTER** "Never say you're old." Banish that label from your vocabulary; it only holds you back.



On Purdy's home desk, her 1970s UF faculty photo floats over prehistoric stone tools given to her by colleagues. A piece of ancient peat (far left) once covered traces of an Iron Age road built in north central Ireland in 148-147 BC.



"I loved playing bridge, but I didn't want to play it every

When Purdy presented her findings to the Florida Anthropological Society (FAS), most attendees were interested but skeptical; a few became her vocal opponents.

"My suggestion of antiquity was incomprehensible," said Purdy.

Reluctantly, she reburied Paleo Dog in 1978. It wouldn't again see the light of day for four decades.

PREHISTORIC MEETS HIGH-TECH

Purdy did much of her groundbreaking work in wetlands archaeology in the '80s and '90s, culminating in the 2000s with the discovery of 101 prehistoric canoes in Newman's Lake, Alachua County, the largest such cache in the world.

Over the years, Purdy would call on her UF colleagues in the departments of soils, geology, material sciences engineering and nuclear engineering to help her analyze and interpret the artifacts she found.

With the FMNH's MacFadden, she used rare earth element analysis on ancient human skeletons from Vero Beach to show modern humans had roamed Florida with giant sloths and mastodons at the end of the last ice age. Their 2012 findings resolved a century-long debate about whether the skeletons were as old as the extinct animal bones originally found with them.

They also conducted forensic tests to determine the age of an etched ice age bone discovered by an amateur archaeologist near Vero Beach. Tests revealed the bone and carved image to be about 13,000 years old (although Purdy cautions that further analysis is needed to confirm the piece's authenticity).

"This is an incredibly exciting study," said co-author Dennis Stanford in a statement. "There are hundreds of

depictions of proboscideans [animals with trunks] on cave walls and carved into bones in Europe, but none from America — until now."

BRIDGE, GRANDCHILDREN ... AND DIGS

Today, Purdy's impressive raft of accomplishments include 13 books, 75 published articles, and awards from the International Conference of Wetlands Archaeology, Southeastern Archaeological Conference and FAS (the organization once scandalized by her pre-Clovis hypotheses).

Widowed in 2015, Purdy enjoys showing her five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren how to flint-knap, using a hardened moose antler she keeps in her home office. ("Early Floridians probably used manatee bones," she said.) She also established an archaeology

afternoon of my life after the last kid got into school."

research endowment at the FMNH expressly for prehistoric studies.

But even though she's now a regular on the Gainesville senior bridge circuit, she's nowhere near retired. She's still active at conferences and doing fieldwork with her "five guys," longtime volunteer excavators.

On a recent spring morning, Purdy and three of the "guys" — Don Munroe (BSNE '77, MS '80), Ray McGee (BA '85, MA '95) and son-in-law Mike Bertelsen (see photo on page 34) — drove three miles down a bumpy dirt road in Marion County. Munroe had reopened part of the Whitehurst site the previous week, and Purdy wanted to do an archaeological wellness check on her old canine friend.

Back in 2017, she'd re-excavated Paleo Dog for the first time in nearly 40 years, also locating several shaped stones nearby that looked remarkably like animals. In her field journal, she wrote: "I am more

convinced than ever that [the CCA site] has a human component dating prior to the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM), i.e., greater than 25,000 years ago."

Today, it was easy to find the excavation 'unit,' a 4-foot-deep rectangular ditch dappled with morning light. And there he was Paleo Dog, newly rinsed, resting on his side, his white stone flanks gleaming in the dark earth.

"He looks okay," Purdy said, swatting away a few mosquitos.

She slipped on red silicone gloves as McGee and Bertelsen set up a sifting screen. Munroe began shoveling out muck from a nearby unit.

A pile of dirt rose beneath the shaker screen. Purdy's red gloves moved swiftly through clods of mud, searching for ancient objects.

"Oh, what a beautiful piece of chert," she exclaimed, holding up a dull, flat-

edged rock. Dipped in water, the stone turned an orange-brown.

"That color means it was heated," Purdy explained. "It's easier to shape."

Wrapped up in the excitement of unearthing prehistoric objects, Purdy reflected on why she returns to the field year after year.

"I got started kind of late in archaeology," she said, her blues eyes glinting. "I just want to keep going."

YOU CAN HELP

Support prehistoric archaeology research at UF through the Barbara A. Purdy Archaeological Research Endowment at www.ufl.edu/give/prearch.

Green

GATORS GUIDE

These 12 environmental experts bleed orange and blue, but they live green.

We asked them to share their everyday tips for keeping the planet healthy.

COMPILED BY DAVID FINNERTY

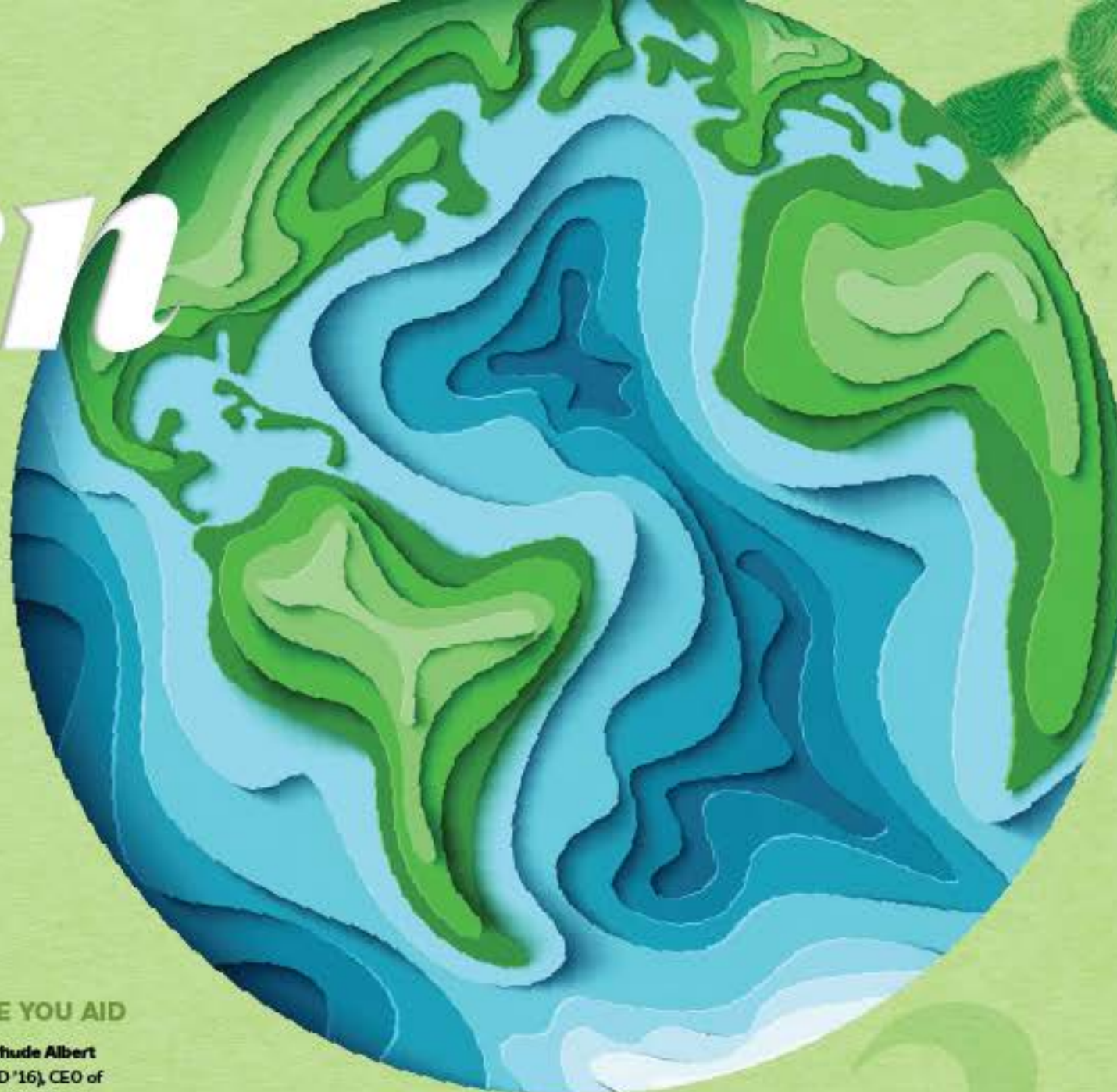
1 ASK BEFORE YOU AID

THE EXPERT: Bertrude Albert (BA '12, MA '14, PHD '16), CEO of the advocacy group P4H Global

Americans are some of the most generous people in the world, but our goodwill isn't always good. In Honduras in 1988, for example, a cargo plane delivering medical supplies to hurricane victims couldn't land because the tarmac was covered with boxes of un-requested donations. Following 1992's Hurricane Andrew, piles of clothing and other donated goods were left on Florida's roadsides and ended up in garbage dumps.

"During times of a crisis or disaster, don't assume," says Albert. "My first trip to Haiti, I brought over 400 pounds of clothes and food, only to find out I hurt local businesses because I flooded the local economy with supplies they sold."

For more information: p4hglobal.org



2 TURN THE LIGHTS OFF FOR TURTLES

THE EXPERT: Karen Bjorndal (PHD '79), director of UF's Archie Carr Center for Sea Turtle Research

We humans are making life tough for sea turtles. Seawalls, plastics, streetlights and even beach chairs that block the paths hatchlings take to the sea are leading to the deaths of these gentle creatures. Five of the world's seven sea turtle species nest on Florida's beaches, and all five are listed as threatened or endangered.

To do your part, Bjorndal recommends:

Limit beach armoring. Seawalls, jetties, sandbags and other constructions designed to hold back the ocean stop turtles from reaching nesting spots.

Let nature be. Those vegetated dunes on the back of beaches protect nests.

Pick up your trash. Plastic bags and straws, fishing gear (especially monofilament line) and other garbage in water are mistaken for food or get tangled around necks and flippers.

Keep nesting beaches dark. Moonlight guides hatchlings to the sea; porch lamps and other artificial lights disorient the newborns and draw them away from the waves.

For more information: accstr.ufl.edu



3 RECYCLE SOAP

THE EXPERT: Samir Lakhani, founder of the international non-profit Eco-Soap Bank

Roughly 5 million bars of hotel soap are tossed each day. Instead of all those suds going to landfills, you can recycle hotel soap through Eco-Soap Bank. The organization redistributes soap to families living in poverty in developing nations. Eco-Soap has reached 1.1 million people and is growing. Before checking out of a hotel, ask the desk clerk if its soap is recycled. If it's not, collect leftover amenities and send them to Eco-Soap Bank.

For more information: ecosoapbank.org





BREATHE EASIER, GO ELECTRIC

THE EXPERT: Richard Helmich (BS '04), a chemist at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Denver

The World Health Organization estimates that air pollution caused 4.2 million deaths in 2016. The good news is we can limit the pollutants in our lungs, Helmich says:

- Open your windows. That new smell in cars, houses and furniture is from volatile organic compounds formed in the manufacturing process. And cooking, smoking, air fresheners, candles and cleaning products harm indoor air quality.
- When using products containing solvents, work outdoors or wear protective equipment and ventilate. A dust mask does not stop exposure.
- For yardwork, use electric- or battery-powered tools.

For more information: epa.gov

SAVE THE REEFS, PLANT NATIVES

THE EXPERT: Katy Cummings (MS '16), a coral biologist for the National Park Service

Coral reefs are a paradise for snorkelers and divers. For land dwellers, reefs are nature's shield against hurricanes and beach erosion. But don't call them rocks, Cummings says. Corals "are animals that slowly build up limestone skeletons into fantastic structures full of fish and other marine life," she says. Like all animals, corals can get sick, she warns — one of the worst disease outbreaks on record is ravaging Florida's reefs.

To enjoy reefs without doing harm, Cummings suggests using reef-safe sunscreen, disinfecting dive gear with a diluted bleach solution and remembering not to touch coral. On land, she says, avoid overfertilizing lawns to keep runoff from waterways (even better, plant native plants). Also, reduce the use of plastics and limit fossil fuel consumption.

"People travel from all over the world to see our reefs," Cummings says. "We want to be able to enjoy them as long as possible."

For more information: nps.gov/subjects/oceans/coral-reefs.htm



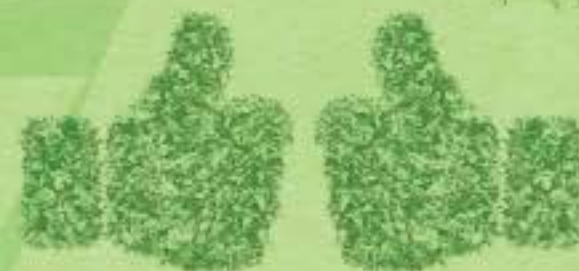
WALK THE WETLANDS

THE EXPERT: Bill Mitsch (ME '72, PhD '75), director of Everglades Wetland Research Park in Naples

Wetlands are nature's kidneys and one of the animal kingdom's favorite supermarkets — "where critters go to eat or be eaten," Mitsch says. While some of us are leery about exploring them, we shouldn't be. "The best way to know a wetland is to walk in a wetland. You will not sink and never reappear," he says.

If you don't want to get wet, boardwalks are common in many popular wetlands, such as Florida's Everglades. "Boardwalks have allowed millions of regular people to appreciate the beauty of wetlands without worrying about plunging into the muck," Mitsch says.

For more information: fgcu.edu/cas/centers/ewrp



FIND COMMON GROUND

THE EXPERT: Noel Kasewitz (BFA '13), an artist based in Washington, D.C., whose paintings and sculptures that raise awareness about the environment have been exhibited around the country

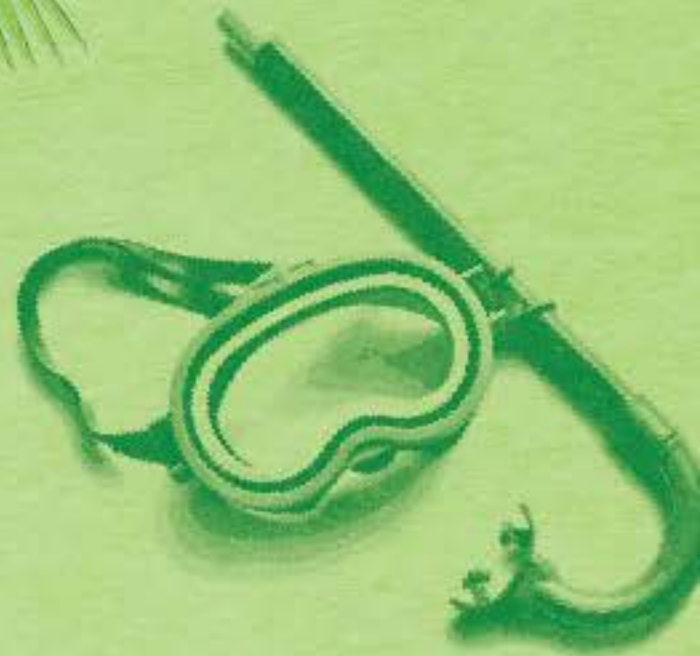
"Part of what I love about art is its nonverbal ability to transcend language barriers," Kasewitz says.

For the nonartists among us interested in having fruitful conversations about the environment, she offers these conversation tips: avoid words that are politically charged; focus on local and visible (an abstract future is hard to visualize); approach from a helpful angle (patronizing, belittling or shaming doesn't help); have clear facts and sources available when asked; and be prepared to provide suggestions on

things all of us can do to help.

"Each of us has a unique talent to lend to this planet," she says.

For more information: noelkasewitz.com



GET THE KIDS OUTSIDE

THE EXPERT: Renee Andrews (MED '86, MSAS '96), teacher at UF's P.K. Yonge Developmental Research School

"You won't protect what you don't love, and you won't love what you don't know," Andrews says. To be good stewards of the Earth, we need to be good teachers, she says.

To encourage young people to embrace the outdoors, Andrews suggests taking walks together in the woods, snorkeling in springs and signing up for citizen science adventures.

"We sell children short when we brand them as careless or apathetic," she says. "Many of the young people I know are the most passionate, dedicated, caring and frustrated stewards that our biosphere could have. It is by our actions or inactions that adults teach young people to be otherwise."

For more information: pkyonge.ufl.edu



TAKE ONLY WHAT YOU'LL EAT

THE EXPERT: **Anne Prizzia** (MS '03) directs the Field and Fork food pantry and program for the UF/IFAS College of Agricultural and Life Sciences



Americans waste 30 to 40 percent of our food — food that took a lot of resources to produce and deliver. Estimates are that as much as 80 percent of our water usage is for agriculture, and moving those goods from farms to our tables produces more than 25 percent of greenhouse gas emissions. "Our decisions have ripple effects," says Prizzia.

To be kinder to the environment (and smarter consumers), don't be so quick to pass over imperfect fruit or toss leftovers, Prizzia says. "In instances where it isn't possible to reduce food waste at the source, try donating it to hunger relief organizations or recycling it by composting," she says.

For more information: fieldandfork.ufl.edu

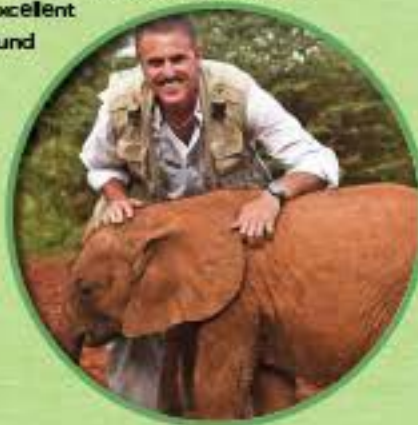
CAPTURE NATURE

THE EXPERT: **Ron Magill** (AA '80), communications director of Miami-Dade Zoological Park and Gardens

One way to connect with nature is to capture it in photos, says Magill. "Over the decades, the images I have taken have enabled me to tell powerful stories that inspire people to care about wildlife, while protecting it for future generations," he notes.

To capture the perfect wildlife moment, he advises knowing your subject's behaviors, maintaining a respectful distance and restricting your movement and sound. "Be an excellent observer with profound patience," he says.

For more information: zoomiami.org



YOU BETTER SHOP AROUND

THE EXPERT: **Edouard Rollet** (MAMC '01), co-founder of the sustainability-focused food company Alter Eco



Depending on what you're shopping for, your purchase could be bagged in cellophane, then packed into a layer of plastic foam, stuck into a cardboard box and wrapped in another coat of plastic. "It's essential for consumers to support companies with strong sustainability platforms and who actively give back to the environment," Rollet advises. For instance, look for items labeled Fair Trade Certified. "It's also important to look at the packaging your food comes in, and to buy products with compostable or recyclable packaging," he says.

For more information: alterecofoods.com



SPEAK UP, SPEAK OUT



THE EXPERT: **Robert Costanza** (BDES '73, MAARC '74, PHD '79), senior fellow at the National Council for Science and the Environment in Washington, D.C. (ncseglobal.org/)

We're addicted to an outdated economic model that favors immediate satisfaction over long-term environmental health, Costanza says. "To survive the looming climate emergency we need to build a better world based on the goal of sustainable well-being for humans and the rest of nature."

That means creating alliances among governments, academics and non-governmental organizations. To do that, he says, be a green champion: write letters to the editor, call your congressional representative and join the Wellbeing Economy Alliance.

For more information: wellbeingeconomy.org



GLOZELL GREEN, COMEDY QUEEN

“Is you OK? Is you good?”

**Millions of fans of her viral videos
can recite her signature line.**

**As for herself, this UF alumna and
YouTube pioneer is more than OK.**

BY BARBARA DRAKE

“OK, so I forgot what kind of cherry this is, but isn’t it cute?” asks GloZell Green as she dangles a small orange-yellow fruit in front of the camera.

You don’t need the video’s title, “Hot Pepper Challenge,” to guess what happens next. The comedian takes a few bites, realizes her “mistake” and begins gagging and spewing habanero like a human Mount Vesuvius. Off-screen, her husband unhelpfully offers water, not milk, prolonging her torment and zany ad-libs.

“OMG, she is hilarious!” commented one fan.

“Her cough sounded like a motor dying.”

“3:03 ‘The Exorcist’ deleted scene.”

“I fell off the couch because of this.”

“Hot Pepper Challenge” has scored over 36 million views since its YouTube debut in June 2012. It’s just one of 2,000-plus viral videos—including “The Cinnamon Challenge,” “Kylie Jenner Challenge” and spoofs of Top 40 lyrics—that have garnered GloZell more than 4.7 million channel subscribers and 1 billion views, earning her the title “The Queen of YouTube.”

Forbes, People, “Entertainment Tonight” and The New York Times have profiled

her comedic talents and massive social-media reach, and in 2015, she was invited to interview President Barack Obama at the White House. (It was mainly a serious event, but this being GloZell, there were a couple side-splitting mishaps she swears were unintentional.)

Fans often assume that GloZell is just a naturally funny person who loves clowning for the camera. Few know she’s a classically trained musician and actress, with a degree in theatre performance (BFA ’97) from the University of Florida.

Yes, the YouTube superstar is a Gator—and she bleeds orange and blue.

“I just want to say ... it’s great ... to be ... a Florida Gator!” she sang over the phone in her rich, throaty alto. “Go Gators!”

GATOR GROWL INSPIRATION

GloZell Green was born in 1972 in Orlando, “GloZell” being a portmanteau of her parents’ first names, Gloria and Ozell. Music was essential to the Green family (her sister, DeOzell Green, is a trained opera singer), and GloZell grew up playing the piano and singing at church, activities that helped her get over being “terribly shy” as a child, she said.

After attending Valencia Community College, GloZell transferred to UF where

she dove into classes in acting, singing, makeup and stagecraft. Her performance credits at UF include roles in “Carousel” and “A Flea in Her Ear.” At Gator Growl, she watched comics like Sinbad and Paul Rodriguez reduce the audience to tears. That gave her an idea: Maybe comedy could become her métier, too.

She had an “amazing time” at UF, but the future Queen of YouTube wasn’t prone to crazy antics back then. In fact, she imposed a curfew on herself for three years, a choice that still amazes her. “It was my first time living away from home,” she explained, “so I did what I’d always done: stayed home every night in my jammies.”

“Finally, my senior year, it clicked: I’m at college, I can go out at night!”

4.7 MILLION FOLLOWERS

In 2003, the aspiring actress/comedian moved to Hollywood, where she joined The Groundlings, the famed improv comedy troupe that launched Will Ferrell, Melissa McCarthy, Jon Lovitz and other greats.

Her main inspiration was comedian Jay Leno, whose “Tonight Show” she attended for 600 consecutive tapings. Early on, she began interviewing Leno audience members and posting the videos online, until people convinced her she was funny enough to star in her own. Her first viral hit was 2008’s “My Push-up Bra Will Help Me Get My Man,” followed by her translations of Rihanna’s “Rude Boy” and Ke\$ha’s “Tik Tok” hits in 2010.

By then, GloZell was no dewy-eyed ingénue but a savvy stand-up comedy veteran determined to stand out on social media. Bright green lipstick, lime-green shirts and plentiful chestnut-colored curls ensured high visual impact; each self-



After interviewing him in 2015, GloZell flubbed while giving President Barack Obama some green lipstick for his "first wife." She later said, "If I could just see FLOTUS in green lipstick, then I'd know we're cool." BELOW: GloZell meets Tim Tebow.

produced video opened with a rapid-fire "Hi, this is GloZell. Is you OK? Is you good? Cause I want to know."

It became her signature phrase.

The TV sitcom "Friends" was really popular then, and Joey would always say, "How you doing?" she explained. "So I'd say, 'Hi, this is GloZell. Are you OK?'"

One day, she blurted out, "Is you OK?" With no time to reshoot, she posted the video and watched as commenters went wild over the blooper.

Initially, she was mortified: "Here I am with a college degree. What will my teachers say?" But, as comments poured in and shares soared, she realized, "Oh, that's what I need to keep."

"You have to find a way for people to remember you," she said. "Cause they're gonna forget."

Song parodies, her wacky takes on Internet fads, her random musings on politics, Spanx, screaming kids on planes — viewers lapped it up. A plug by actor Elijah Wood during a 2011 interview on "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" brought her national fame.

Even negative attention is good, she learned: "The people who can't stand your videos? They're the ones who share them the most."

NEED MORE GLOZELL?

- @glozell
- @GloZell
- youtube.com/user/glozell1
- Autobiography: "Is You Okay?" at Amazon and other book sellers



Her influence with millennials and Generation Z was so pervasive, the White House invited her to interview Obama in 2015. They discussed cybersecurity, racial profiling and officer-related shootings.

To conclude, she handed the president some tubes of green lipstick as gifts for the first lady and their two daughters, but



INSTAGRAM

she misspoke, saying "One for your first wife..."

Obama turned to the cameras: "Do you know something I don't?" he deadpanned.

A BUMPY BABY JOURNEY

GloZell's rise to Internet stardom led to offers to appear on television and comedy stages. But her personal life hit a snag. At 39, she was told by doctors she couldn't have a baby due to health complications.

GloZell quickly posted a few candid videos on YouTube about her problems getting pregnant, not anticipating the



UF President Kent Fuchs asked GloZell to help him take the Cinnamon Challenge as part of his "Memes Look Fun" YouTube video that welcomed students to UF this fall.

Watch at www.youtube.com/user/universityofflorida/

YOUTUBE - UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA CHANNEL

"My dream is to perform at Gator Growl. That would be it for me."

struggle would go on for years — or that so many viewers would be able to relate to her frustration and pain.

"I've heard from people who say, 'I understand; I'm going through the same thing,' or 'I've given up,' or 'Keep going,'" she said.

Her story has a happy ending: On Aug. 4, 2016, GloZell and her husband, Kevin Simon, welcomed a baby girl, named O'Zell, via a surrogate.

The entire arc of GloZell's struggle from undergoing fertility treatments to finding a surrogate to becoming a mother was chronicled in the docuseries "Glo All In," which debuted in 2015 on Awestruck, a digital network for millennial moms.

GloZell voiced Grandma Rosiepuff in DreamWorks, "Trolls" (2016).



"My fertility journey brought me a new audience," she said. "Before, it was kids. Now it's moms, dads, grandparents: everybody."

GRANDMA ROSIEPUFF AND LITTLE DEBBIE

Today on GloZell's YouTube channel, you'll find her riffing on the kids' song "Baby Shark" and letting daughter O'Zell steal the limelight. That's understandable: Momma has bigger fish to fry.

Her acting and singing careers are taking off, with roles in the film "The Wedding Ringer" (2015), the Nickelodeon sitcom "Game Shakers" and parody videos "Cell Black Django," "Beauty and the Bear" and "Snow White and the Seven Thugs," by singer/actor Todrick Hall.

She's also in demand as a voiceover artist, playing Grandma Rosiepuff in "Trolls" (2016) and Little Debbie in "Ralph Breaks the Internet" (2018). Sometimes she can record her lines

at home, a bonus when caring for an active preschooler.

"It's great when O'Zell hears my voice in a movie and says, 'Oooh, that's Mommy!'" she said.

In 2016, HarperOne released GloZell's autobiography, "Is You Okay?," which traces her journey from anonymity in Florida to massive popularity on the Internet. The first-time author shares "all the big lessons in creativity, identity and adversity" she was "fortunately, not too stubborn to learn."

GloZell's next career move is wide open: She can keep mining the slapstick comedy that catapulted her into the limelight, focus on children's entertainment, take on dramatic roles or even host a lifestyle show.

Whatever path she chooses, GloZell has an ultimate goal in sight: "My dream is to perform at Gator Growl," the comedian said. "That would be it for me."

She might even be persuaded to ditch her signature green lipstick for the event.

"I have an orange lipstick and a blue lipstick," she said. "I've never worn them together before, but for Gator Growl? Heck, I'd do one color on each lip."



EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS

Gators head football coach Dan Mullen thrilled Victoria Price (BSPR '17) and her fellow Capital Area Gator Club members in Tallahassee this summer when he visited them to deliver updates on the team (more photos on page 59). Mullen and UF head basketball coach Mike White visited other Gator Clubs, as well.



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BRANDON JENKINS

6. ATLANTA GATOR CLUB®



On May 18, UF alumni took on service projects large and small to spread the Gator love throughout their own communities. Go Gator Nation!



7. PHILLY GATORS



8. MANATEE COUNTY GATOR CLUB®



9. ROCKY MOUNTAIN GATOR CLUB®



EMILY GROSSMAN

10. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GATOR CLUB®



11. JACKSONVILLE GATOR CLUB®



PORM RESIDENT JAMES

12. PANHANDLE GATOR CLUB®



13. THE SPACE COAST GATOR CLUB®

1. Aloha Gator Club® members volunteered at the Hamakua Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary in Kailua, Oahu.
2. Association of Black Alumni members in Atlanta gathered at Books for Africa to donate, sort and pack books and school supplies into shipments destined for numerous schools across Africa.
3. Houston Gator Club® members collected donations for Arms Wide Adoption Services that helps children in Houston and South Texas find adoptive families. The club also took some of the children bowling.
4. Greater Columbus Gator Club® in Ohio took on "dude ranch" chores at PBJ Connections, a local nonprofit that uses equine therapy to help children and adults with behavioral issues. Members cleaned a barn, spread hay and introduced horses to a new pasture. Members even helped a mama possum and her joeys find a new home.
5. DC Gators packed supplies destined for Florida Panhandle families who are still struggling from October's destructive Hurricane Michael.
6. Atlanta Gator Club® members supported Meals on Wheels, loading more than 2,000 dinners into delivery vehicles and delivering more than 300 meals to seniors in need.
7. Philly Gators trimmed overgrown bushes and performed other chores during a clean-up day at Wissahickon Valley Park.
8. The Manatee County Gator Club® hosted a baseball game for children who struggle with physical and mental challenges. Miss University of Florida Leah Roddenberry, one of the club's past scholarship winners, also attended.
9. Rocky Mountain Gator Club® members happily walked through Boulder, CO, to raise money for multiple sclerosis research.
10. The Southern California Gator Club® held a donation drive for Baby2Baby, which provides children living in poverty, up to age 12, with diapers, clothing and all the necessities that every child deserves.
11. Jacksonville Gator Club® members picked up litter around city parks and waterways.
12. Panhandle Gator Club® members helped the Panama City Rescue Mission by tidying up one of its facilities damaged during Hurricane Michael in October 2018. The mission — which helps homeless people and offers a recovery program for chemical and alcohol addictions — was in much greater demand after the storm by residents who were displaced.
13. The Space Coast Gator Club® hosted a food drive for the Second Harvest Food Bank in Brevard County. Members collected 488 pounds of food.

GREAT GATORS WITH GREAT NEWS



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCHER

Wildlife ecologist Don Hardeman (MA '19) recently became a project manager for the Institute for Wildlife Studies' San Clemente Island Fox Sentinel Monitoring Project in California. The human-wildlife conflict specialist is a former Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission staffer whose work (pictured here) focused on black bears in human-dominated landscapes.



HOOAH!
Brig. Gen. Michele Edmondson (BSEAE '92) is the Air Force Academy's new commandant of cadets in Colorado, overseeing 4,000 cadets and 200-plus

Air Force and civilian staff. She received her first star in August 2018 while directing space policy for the National Security Council.



CREATIVE RELEASE

Mamta Chaudhry (MAJC '79) wrote "Haunting Paris," a novel about a bereaved pianist who discovers a letter that launches

her into a decades-old search for a child who vanished in the turbulence of wartime Paris. Chaudhry lives in Coral Gables.

TOP HONORS

Carlyle Brewster (MAG '90, PhD '96) is now a professor emeritus at Virginia Tech, where he has taught and researched quantitative ecology since 1999. He lives in Blacksburg, VA.



HEAD BUSTER BRONCO

"It will be an exciting new chapter for me. I am proud to lead the dedicated faculty and staff as they serve students, Idaho and advance the transformative work of the institution."

— MARLENE TROMP (PHD '95), BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY'S NEW PRESIDENT AND FORMER UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ, PROVOST



ALL IN THE FAMILY

Patrick de la Roza (BS '00), above left, is CEO and co-founder of EASE Applications in Orlando, which partnered with UF Health Shands Hospital and other hospitals to offer secure HIPAA-approved texting capabilities for medical staff to communicate surgery and other updates with patient families. His brother, Dr. Kevin de la Roza (BS '98), is chief medical officer and co-founder of the company. They live in Orlando.

FELLOW GATOR

Oyster expert Carrie Schuman (PhD '18), who previously developed science museum exhibits on the effectiveness of oyster beds to clean and filter ocean water, recently finished a journalism fellowship so she can better convey stories about science, particularly those about coastal or wind power. This fall she began teaching at Coastal Carolina University.



LEADING THE WAY

"At some point in our lives, we all need someone to walk alongside of us and provide support and encouragement where needed."

— GALE KING (BSJ '83, MA '86), EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER FOR NATIONWIDE, WHO HAS BEEN ADVOCATING FOR MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS AND ADDRESSING THE STIGMA AROUND CHILDHOOD MENTAL ILLNESS



TOP OF HIS GAME

Richard Fain (BSESS '90) is a Fort Myers Housing Authority commissioner and senior vice president of Lake Michigan Credit Union. He is a former Gator football cornerback/defensive back (1987-90) who also played professionally for the Cincinnati Bengals, Phoenix Cardinals and Chicago Bears.



BACK IN THE SEC

David Longley (BA '93) is assistant vice president of Geico auto insurance's staff counsel, covering Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama and Louisiana. He lives in Franklin, TN.



Come on Gators, get up & go!



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UF'S TOP ALUMNI HONOR GOES TO ...

Gustavo Fonseca (MA '83, PhD '88), the Global Environment Facility's director of programs and a professor at the Federal University of Minas Gerais in Brazil, received UF's Distinguished Alumnus Award. He is a world-renowned ecological scholar in biodiversity conservation who has visited and worked in more than 60 countries. He was nominated for the honor by the UF/IFAS College of Agricultural and Life Sciences.



Read a Q&A with Fonseca at



WILL THEY EAT IT?

Mark Feinberg (BSBR '85) is owner and executive producer of Fine Productions in Atlanta, which recently produced a series of game show-themed videos for the National Pest Management Association highlighting termite damage called "Will They Eat It?" The show's host and urban entomologist is **Michael Bentley** (BA '05, MS '08, PhD '16).



Their videos are available at Pestworld.org



UF COLLEGE HONORS VETERINARIANS

Lucy Keith-Diagne (PhD '14) is founder and executive director of the African Aquatic Conservation Fund, which focuses on helping African manatees and other animals. Based in Senegal, West Africa, she received UF's Alumni Achievement Award.

Michael Wong (DVM '05) is a veterinary neurology specialist. UF recognized him with the Special Service Award because of his efforts to integrate business education into students' curriculum. He founded the Veterinary Business Management Association at UF in 2004.

Cynda Crawford (PhD '84, DVM '89) is a research scientist and clinical faculty member at UF, directing the UF Maddie's Shelter Medicine Program. She is noted for co-discovering the canine influenza virus in 2004 and developing a vaccine for it. She also holds patents for the technology associated with respiratory disease control in dogs. She received the Alumni Achievement Award.

Rob MacKay (PhD '87) has been an equine medicine professor at UF since 1987, specializing in neurological diseases and critical care of large animals. He received the Distinguished Service Award.



Learn from the best with the best

With only two weekend visits per semester over a three-year program, UF DBA prepares graduates to teach or consult.



"The amount of skill and knowledge I came out of the DBA program with is immeasurable. Being exposed to high quality research and learning research methodology from top researchers in the country really sets this program apart from any other program available. The training and insight the faculty provide has been invaluable to my journey as a researcher and educator."

SUSAN HENDERSON (DBA '18)
Assistant Professor at California State University, Fresno

MORE INFORMATION

+ warrington.ufl.edu/DBA
or contact Angie at: angie.woodham@warrington.ufl.edu

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ADMINISTRATION**
WARRINGTON COLLEGE of BUSINESS

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GATORS RALLY TO SEE COACH MULLEN

UF head football and basketball coaches Dan Mullen and Mike White signed memorabilia and visited with alumni and fans this summer during the Gator Gathering tour.

There are almost 100 Gator Clubs around the world. To find one in your area, visit ufalumni.ufl.edu, click "Get Connected" then "Gator Clubs."



Capital Area Gator Club,
Tallahassee

Capital Area Gator Club, Tallahassee



Capital Area Gator Club, Tallahassee



DC Gators, Washington, D.C.



Central Florida Gator Club, Orlando



Broward County Gator Club, Davie

Focus

It's a Gator thing.



UF Health is home to the No. 1 research hospital in Florida and is consistently ranked among the best in the nation by U.S. News & World Report. Our discoveries have advanced care for the millions of patients we help each year — from every county in the state and every state in the country, and beyond. Our sole focus is to provide you and your family with the highest level of world-class care.

UFHealth
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA HEALTH

UFHealth.org

GATORS AROUND THE WORLD



1



Ellen and Barry Setzer (BS '69) broke out this Gator flag beneath cherry blossoms in Sasebo, Japan.



2

1) Elaine (BS '72) and Ken Dean (PHARM '72) showed their Gator pride near Ayers Rock in the Australian outback.

2) Recently retired software engineer Adrian Agerton Jensen (BSIE '79) of Melbourne took her husband, Jeremy Jensen; son, Skyler Jensen; and their Gator flag to Giant's Causeway in Northern Ireland.



3

3) The Camarda family took their Gator flag all the way to Jokulsarlon Glacier Lagoon, Iceland. From left are Laura (BAEd '94), Domenic (BSBC '94), Francesco (4BA) and Isabella.

4) UFTrustee Len Johnson (BSBA '78, JD '80), his wife, Nancy, from Dade City,



5

and gubernatorial UFTrustee appointee and Vice Chair Tom Kuntz, with his wife, Carol, took this photo in the South of France.

5) Cara Trench (2 LAS) took her family to Zion National Park and Bryce Canyon in Utah. From left are her brother, Pete Trench Jr.; mother, Rose; and father, Peter Sr.



4



6

6) David (BSECI '86) and Karen Henley (BSHSE '86) paused at the Castle of San Giovanni in Kotor, Montenegro, for this photo while on their 25th wedding anniversary trip through Europe.

Send your photos & captions to:
FloridaGator@ufalumni.ufl.edu

NUMBERS OF NOTE

3

Generations of Gators in the Chin family. Matriarch **Carla Chin** (BSBA '87) is a marketing and advancement coordinator for Bishop Kenny High School in Jacksonville. Other Gators include her husband, **Danny Chin** (BSISE '88), son **Tyler Chin** (3 PHHP), daughter-in-law **April Chebi Chin** (BSN '16), niece **Brittany Shepherd Hayes** (BAEd '08, MA '09), and niece **Carly Shepherd** (BABA '12). Carla says they celebrate the Florida-Georgia tradition, raise children to dress for Gator games and decorate for Halloween Gator-style.



25K

Amount of The Collier Prize for State Government Accountability at UF that was recently created and announced at the White House Correspondents' Association dinner on April 27. On hand for the announcement were the prize's funder (on left), **Nathan Collier** (BSBA '74, MBA '78, JD '82), as well as his wife (on right), **Ani Collier** (BSA '99, MBA '03), **Linda McGurn** (BSBA '73, JD '78) and **Ken McGurn** (BSBA '72, MBA '73, PhD '81), all of Gainesville. Collier named the prize for his relative, **Peter Fenelon Collier**, who started Collier's weekly magazine in 1888. The award is designed to encourage investigative and political coverage of state government in the U.S. and is open to any news organization on any platform. Other Gators attending the dinner included **Rick Hirsch** (BSJ '80), managing editor of The Miami Herald; **Yvette Miley** (BSBR '85), senior vice president of MSNBC; and **Diane McFarlin** (BSJ '76), UF College of Journalism and Communications dean.



In May, retired Gators Athletic Director **Jeremy Foley** shared these lessons on leadership during a workshop with university leaders from across the Southeast. Highlights include these seven tips:

7

- » Organizational culture is most important.
- » If you haven't talked about your (company's) core values today, you haven't talked about them. Be sure every staffer knows, understands and lives them.
- » Invest in people, not hardware.
- » No detail is too small.
- » Take care of yourself and encourage your team to take care of themselves. Time away gives perspective.
- » No person or place is perfect. Be open about your own shortcomings and mistakes.
- » Steward your relationships and show you care every day.

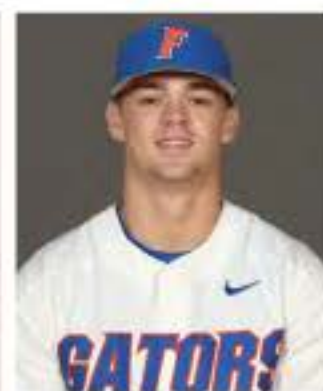
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GATORS CHOSEN IN MLB DRAFT THIS YEAR



1 **BRADY MCCONNELL**
KANSAS CITY ROYALS

Sophomore shortstop **Brady McConnell** (Telecommunications major) will play for the Kansas City Royals. He joins Gators **Brady Singer** (2016-18) and **Jackson Kowar** (2016-18), who were drafted by the Royals last year.



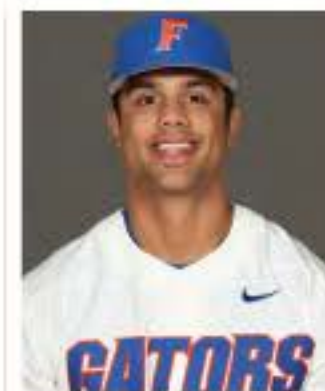
2 **WIL DALTON**
BOSTON RED SOX

Junior outfielder **Wil Dalton** (Family, Youth and Community Sciences major) will join four other Gators in the Boston Red Sox organization: **Brian Johnson** (2010-12), **Austin Maddox** (2010-12), **Bobby Poyner** (2012-15) and **Josh Tobias** (2012-15).



3 **TYLER DYSON**
WASHINGTON NATIONALS

Junior pitcher **Tyler Dyson** (Sports Management major) was selected by the Washington Nationals and joins **Taylor Gushue** (2012-14).



4 **NELSON MALDONADO**
CHICAGO CUBS

Senior outfielder **Nelson Maldonado** (Anthropology major) was drafted by the Chicago Cubs. This makes 88 players drafted into the MLB teams during head coach **Kevin O'Sullivan's** tenure.



Home runs hit by **Pete Alonso** (LAS 2014-16) in the final round of Major League Baseball's 2019 T-Mobile Home Run Derby to clinch the title. The New York Mets player and former Gators first baseman won a \$1 million prize, promising to donate \$50,000 each to the Wounded Warriors Project and Tunnel to Towers, a New York-based charity that aides first responders and their families.



Age of **Bria the Labrador**, best friend of pilot **Charles "Chick" Gregg** (BSCE '72), owner of Air Unlimited in Sanford. Gregg says Bria loves to go with him whenever possible, even in the air. "People aren't as anxious and uptight [about flying] because she's so relaxed. She'll go say hello and she'll sit until they pet her," he said.



WHAT'S GOOD.

Create a fun-filled daytrip or weekend getaway in your old stomping ground, Gainesville-Alachua County, home of the Gator Nation.

Come cheer for the home team, but stay for the adventure. With a perfect blend of restaurants, craft breweries, outdoor excursions and artsy vibes, you'll have fun reminiscing about your favorite places and create fond memories discovering new ones.

Rediscover Gainesville. View top entertainment updated weekly at WhatsGoodGNV.com.

SWEETWATER WETLANDS PARK PHOTO BY WESLEY HETRICK

TOM PETTY BIRTHDAY BASH PHOTO BY JOHN DAVISSON



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COURTESY OF KAREN PERSIS

MEET FELLOW GATOR AND LIFE MEMBER KAREN PERSIS

"I joined the Alumni Association so I could be an active member of the Central Florida Gator Club*. The club served as a great way to meet new friends and reconnect with many others when I moved to Orlando. It also offered a lot of fun leadership and volunteer opportunities that I enjoyed."

— Karen Persis (BSJ '01, JD '04) is an assisted reproductive technology attorney, proud mother and wife, season ticket holder, Kentucky Derby aficionado, fiercely loyal friend, party planner, wordsmith, extrovert, cat person, Orlandoan, fighter, volunteer, mac-and-cheese master chef, pragmatist, problem solver, barbecue enthusiast, traveler, reluctant social media user, Florida Bar nerd, yogi, perfectionist and doer. In short, a Gator.

208 OF YOUR FELLOW GATORS BECAME LIFE MEMBERS OF THE UF ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SINCE JUNE 1

Members receive a plethora of benefits, but more importantly, their dues support career networking programs, scholarships and fellow and future members of the Gator Nation. Your UF Alumni Association is proud to keep Gators connected to campus and to each other. **JOIN TODAY** by visiting ufalumni.ufl.edu or calling 352-392-1905.

UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



UNIQUELY UF TRADITIONS

Did you paddle past 'gators on Lake Wauburg? Sway with sweaty strangers to sing "We Are the Boys?" Survive on Krishna carbs, say cheese with Albert or swig a beverage at the Purple Porpoise? What is your favorite tradition?

I DID ALL OF THESE THINGS YOU LISTED! So many fond memories from my four years in Gainesville. Skateboarding around campus, relaxing in the grass at Plaza of the Americas. Although there were many unforgettable experiences, maybe my most memorable was waiting in line at the now-closed Taco Bell in Reitz Union and turning around to see Tim Tebow standing behind me. Such a genuine guy and great leader from our school. Proud to be a Gator!

Roy Rada (BSME '12) is working on his MBA at INSEAD school in Paris

I HELPED SERVE ALL THOSE GREAT DRINKS AT THE PURPLE PORPOISE, which paid my tuition. Great halftime fun, but hanging out at Turlington Rock or walking through the Plaza of the Americas for Hare Krishna free food were more memorable. Loved are laying out on Broward Beach, living in Beaty Towers, too, but living in the co-op of Buckman was the bomb! We became family and built an awesome Gator Nation! And I never quite understood the art behind the "French Fries."

Dani Gompers O'Quinn (AA '91) is senior director of compensation at Wake County Public Schools in Buies Creek, NC

AWESOME FOUR YEARS AT UF. Just went back to visit with my college roommate. We visited our old stomping grounds — what was left of them anyway. Memories include Burrito Brothers; quarter beer at CJ's; egg salad sandwiches at Joe's Deli; drinks and shenanigans at

Purple Porpoise; walking through the courtyard at the then-GPA building; macroeconomics class with Dr. Denslow (not a great memory, but he was popular); The Orange & Brew, which used to be the "fancy" place to go for a meal (don't think it was on my meal plan, so I "splurged" to go there); eating at the Rathskeller (food was so bad, and it was so dark and dingy); running stadiums; taking a lifeguard class at the O'Dome; free Tears for Fears concert at the O'Dome; watching people trying to climb the O'Dome; living in Tolbert and Beaty East (the guy next to us in Beaty had a ferret); watching the Gators play football (despite the team's probation years); watching free basketball games in the O'Dome; 3-for-1 drinks at The Copper Monkey; The Bank — great place for dancing; and being in class when someone came running through Weimer Hall yelling that the Challenger space shuttle had exploded.

Debbie Brill Bornstein (BSJ '86) is a baker and editor in Maitland

TOO MANY FUN MEMORIES TO ACCURATELY PORTRAY THE WONDERFULNESS OF THIS SCHOOL, but here are a few: \$90 per quarter tuition. Streaking and being chased by UPD, and diving into a convenient manhole, which led to safety in the steam plant tunnels ("streak and lobster" night). I had previously marched in the band, so I knew some of the musicians; they let me march into the stadium in their ranks with my horn, carrying a case loaded with beer. The 1972 May Day riots with the Alachua sheriffs



"WE ARE THE BOYS"

I don't know if there's a more uniting song in the country. It's essentially a pact that no matter what happens "we'll all stick together." The lyrics extend to all facets of life. I remember the 2013 football season when we inexplicably went 4 and 8 after being on the cusp of playing for a championship the prior year. I sat in Ben Hill along with a depleted attendance. During one of those "We Are the Boys" I thought this is why I'm still coming to these games. Because I was born a Gator (thanks Papa), I'm now a student at my beloved university, and I'll always be a Gator. There will be ups and downs, but that doesn't

change the love we have for Gator Nation. Remaining faithful and supportive during the hard times will make it all the more enjoyable and amazing when we rise back to prominence. Fast forward to this past October versus LSU. The Swamp was packed. Everyone could feel the momentum shift back in our favor. The third quarter ends and we lock arms. All of the down times in the previous years made that moment all the more joyous. The eruption in the stadium after the game-sealing "pick-6" still gives me the same goosebumps every time I think about it. You can almost call it the ultimate reward for all of us "stick[ing] together, for F-L-O-R-I-D-A."

Kristopher Maunez (BA '13, JD '18) is a lawyer in Deland

ALBERT SELFIES

Our tradition was to hunt out Albert and Alberta at every game possible to snag a picture with our favorites. Also, I'm absolutely loving the new Tom Petty "Won't Back Down" tradition. It gives me chills at each game. So thankful for the knowledge and experiences I gained from UR. Proud to be a Gator for life.

Rebecca Rawls (BABA '17) is an assistant project manager in Orlando

and their water-cannon dispersion tactics being flummoxed by the "hippies" on 13th Street, and the Domino's trucks braving the no-man's-land barricades outside Murphree dorms, being pepper-sprayed on campus by the anti-riot halftrack. Jogging for good health, followed by beer and pizza. Best concerts ever outside the Reitz Union, on the Plaza of the Americas and at Great Southern Music Hall. UF Jazz Band concerts were always exciting. Walking around Century Tower looking for a single brick. Finding exactly what I needed in the library (long before the Internet). Explaining to the "Parents Day" crowd that the array of bongs on top of our building was a hydroponic gardening project. Great professors with mind-expanding knowledge and lifelong friends.

Gary T. Riggs (BSCE '84) is a medical device industry reliability engineer in West Palm Beach

RUNNING IN THE GATOR GALLOP BEFORE THE HOMECOMING PARADE. Then seeing Robin Williams and his "Mr. Happy" skit, which put an end to risqué Growl performers. The following years featured the Smothers Brothers and Bob Hope, who was booed off stage. I was at CJ's when Gator football reached No. 1 in the SEC for the first time (1984) — what a crazy, fun night! Halloween parties at Tom "Petty's Past Pad" on 13th Street. My roommates and I actually saw Tom Petty at Sonny's BBQ on 13th Street in 1985. No cell phones then, just the memory.

Jill Gallagher (BA '87) is a freelance writer and graphic designer in Palm Beach Gardens

MY MEMORY FROM THE LATE 80s, EARLY 90s: It is about a million degrees outside, and we are packed like sardines baking in the sun in the student bleachers.

Emmitt Smith just ran for another 20 yards, and we are screaming so loud our voices are cracking. About five minutes before the half, we go back down and out of the stadium, rushing across the street to the Purple Porpoise for some halftime brews. Slipping back into the stadium, we missed another two downs of Emmitt carrying the ball, but all is good. The sun sets behind Florida Field, and we sing for the thousandth time, "C'mon Gators, Get Up and Go!" We file out of the stadium and across the darkened campus, already worried about the homework load for Sunday before exams on Monday. The crazy thing is that now, even 30 years later, I still have dreams about that paper due Monday for which I didn't work enough!

Michael "Fino" Finocchiaro (BSME '91, MSME '93) is CEO of Finocchiaro Consulting and TransformIT in Paris, (City Center)



IN THE LATE 80s I WENT TO EVERY FOOTBALL GAME I COULD AND WAS LUCKY ENOUGH TO “STAND UP AND HOLLER” WITH MR. TWO BITS. After I graduated, my dad and I came back for one game per year whenever we could. Later, we added my kids to this tradition. One year, we were in the stands early before the game. We had the good fortune to meet Mr. Two Bits, who was kind enough to stop for a photo with my dad and my kids. I love this photo because it reminds me of all I love about Gator football, past and present. This photo is even more special now because these two kids went on to attend UF, as well. My daughter graduated from CALS in 2017, and my son is a third-year student in the College of DCP. We are a proud triple-Gator family!

Michelle Schiff McEwen (BSADV '87) is a continuing medical education coordinator in Jupiter

MY FAVORITE UF TRADITION IS SIMPLY BEING A GATOR. Some think that means graduating from UF, which it is, and I did with great honor. But for me it's so much more. It's family history and tradition with two uncles who graduated from UF going on to have great careers as engineers. It's going every Saturday to Gator home games since I was 10 years old. Meeting up with my uncles and all my cousins as early as 8 a.m. in the morning, tailgating all day and half the

night, with KFC and boiled peanuts, then walking to the stadium and sitting in 15-plus seats together at Florida Field. It's homecoming parades with your uncle riding in it. It's Gator Growl with a huge pot of chili beforehand. It's walking back from a late class and seeing the football players walking out to the practice field, greeting you. It's wearing your Gator colors every Friday before Saturday game days and talking to complete strangers in line at the grocery store about how you think the team will perform. It's about proudly displaying your diploma and following in tradition to go to the school in your backyard. It's about your mom getting a letter from UF thanking her for her 40-plus years of being a season ticket holder and walking her to her last home Gator football game, with countless strangers saying “Go Gators” and thanking her for her support. It's a rich tradition that starts with the purpose to get a degree but ends up with deep-seeded traditions that you hold super close to your heart. I'm thankful for UF. It's more than a college; it's a way of life.

Leah Eland (BA '90) is a business process manager for Info Tech in Alachua and lives in High Springs

BURRITO BROTHERS OR LEONARDO'S PIZZA

Tracey Gardner-Paulfrey (BSHSE '98) of Duluth, GA, is executive director at Moving Forward Healthcare

PADDLING WITH GATORS

I remember at the time hearing there were more than 400 'gators in Lake Wauburg, but that didn't really deter us from going canoeing.

Margaret Dwyer (BA '92, MAURP '94) is a resource director at AECOM in Tampa

INDIAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION EVENTS, LIKE THIS ONE: HOLI 2019. Known as the “Festival of Colors,” Holi is a traditional Indian holiday that celebrates the commencement of spring and emphasizes the importance of community. Holi allows people to come together from all walks of life to have a joyous time by throwing colored powder at one another, singing and dancing, and enjoying good food and company. This festival serves to renew friendships, liven spirits, and celebrate diversity and unity.

Darshan Gabani (MSME '19) is a mechanical engineer in Gainesville

VISITING THE UF BAT HOUSES AT DUSK. My mom, dad and uncle came down for a football game and we all went along with my roommate. I did not think the umbrellas would be necessary, but they definitely were. It was hilarious. I never expected it to be that messy, but it made for a great video. Thank you!

Holley Snaith (BA '14) of Atlanta is an outreach specialist for Strive Media and is working on her master's in public administration

HANGING OUT AT THE SET BETWEEN CLASSES AND WATCHING STEP SHOWS. Running in the Swamp. Watching football practice. Tailgating in the Murphree Hall parking lot. Living in the Murphree dorm and

hanging out in the common area until the wee hours of the night because there was no A/C. Finding a quiet corner on the top floor of Library West to study. Writing papers in the Arch building computer lab. Burger King on campus. Maui Teriyaki and Pizza by the Slice were my go-tos. They would put coupons in mailboxes, and we would stock up. I think we single-handedly funded that owner's retirement.

Tocarra Nicole Thomas (BA '06, MAURP '08) is a client engagement engineer at BB&T Raleigh-Durham, NC

THE OL' HBC (STEVE SPURRIER) USED TO ROUTINELY BLOW OUT OPPONENTS IN THE 1990s. Back then, I used to take my young son to the patty games and enjoy a first half full of offensive fireworks. Then we'd leave at halftime to enjoy Leonardo's Pizza, watching the second half of the game on their TV. When the game ended, we'd be free-sailing our way back to St. Augustine listening to the postgame locker room show while University Avenue was a parking lot

traffic jam behind us. Great Gator tradition. Miss that decade of dominance.

Matt Jeffs (BHSPT '91) is principal faculty at The Back School in Asheville, NC, and a podcast host and producer

SO MANY TRADITIONS, I GET CARRIED AWAY: “College GameDay,” winning championships, camping out for basketball games, 21st birthdays at the Swamp and pics of the newly painted field.

Carol-Anne Dowling (BA '09) is a high school social studies teacher in Jacksonville

TUBING DOWN THE ICHETUCKNEE. In the “good” old days, it was a combination of a rowdy tailgate party and a crowded thoroughfare, with students chilling their bottoms and spilling their beer into the river. Now it's a state park, the river pristine and tranquil, a place to recapture memories of the past without needing rose-tinted glasses!

Mamta Chaudhry (MAJC '79) is an author in Coral Gables

CHEAP BREWSKIS AT THE RAT. Also, I once saw — in 1978 or '79 — former Gator and Cincinnati Bengal Cris “Cadillac” Collinsworth studying in Library West, just like I was doing. Thanks for the memories, Cris! Pinball at the Purple Porpoise is another tradition. I lived in Sledd Hall with no A/C, so the windows were usually open. There was a guy down the hall who could belch “The Star-Spangled Banner.” Quite a talented guy.

Lawrence Berman (BS '80) is a physician at Advanced Pain & Rehab in Lilburn, GA

DODGING THE TURLINGTON TABLERS

Nathaniel I. Reiff (BABA '16, MIB '17) is a law clerk at the de Beaubien, Simmons, Knight, Mantzaris & Neal law firm in Winston Salem, NC

TONS OF GOOD MEMORIES, ESPECIALLY IN THE SWAMP. This is before, when it was just called Florida

FRI-SAT
NOVEMBER
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Grand Guard Reunion Celebrating the Class of 1969!

Congratulations on the 50th anniversary of your graduation from the University of Florida. To honor this occasion, we invite you to be inducted into the Grand Guard Society — one of the longest-standing Gator traditions.

A weekend in your honor is planned for Nov. 7-9. A brochure with detailed information will be mailed to you. For weekend activities, or to register, please visit www.ufalumni.ufl.edu/grandguard.

We hope to see you soon, Gators!



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MAGICAL MUSICAL TOWN

I played some guitar and sang back then (still do) and played at various small venues. Gainesville has always been a magical, musical town, but in the early '70s it was something! You never knew who was going to drop in on you and play a few tunes. One of the fellows I played with was Tom Leadon of the original Mudcrutch group (later called Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers). I think he is now a guitar teacher in Nashville. His brother Bernie played in the Eagles (banjo on "Take It Easy") and they were on their own meteoric ride. Tom's entire family was gifted musically. I also actually met and played a tune with Michael Campbell of the Heartbreakers at his humble one-room abode one sunny, hot afternoon. Little did I know what was to come. Mudcrutch was the local band back then, and they played all over town often, at festivals and anywhere they could get a gig. They had a big white house out in the woods that we could go to on weekends, spread out a blanket, open a bottle of wine and listen to the band practice. It was a lot of fun, very mellow and cozy. It was a true Gator tradition for those who knew. It was special. We did not really know how special until Tom Petty became what he did and touched so many lives. Despite all the distractions of music, sports, organic farming and fun, I graduated with a BA in psychology with a 3.2 average. I am grateful for my Gainesville days and for my attendance at UF, the best university in the land! I am grateful for the opportunity I had. Here is Tom's video about living in Gainesville that sums a lot of this up: <http://bit.ly/petty-gainesville>.

Gurukirn Khalsa, aka Fred Gahr Jr. (BS '73), is a natural foods consultant in Altamonte Springs

Field, and we had not yet won our first official SEC football title.

Eric Cheng, (BSEE '90, MSEE '93) director of engineering at RED Hydrogen in Hong Kong

THE JUKEBOX AT SALTY DOG. POKEY STIX.

Carolyn Dehlinger (BSA '99) is an inside sales rep at Agilent Technologies in Jacksonville

BURRITO BROTHERS!

Anne Zellers (BSPR '89, BSADV '90) is an executive account manager at Galderma Laboratories from Boulder, CO

I LIVED IN MURPHREE HALL the semester The Rat burned down.

Robert Holland (BSBA '90) is a senior valuation analyst at HMS Valuation Partners from Mandeville, LA

LEARNED TO RIDE A BIKE AND DRIVE A CAR IN GAINESVILLE.

Was shocked to come across a small real 'gator on a bike path. Luckily for me I managed not to run it over. First time watching football game where Gators won — great stadium and awesome atmosphere. Best years in my life. Go Gators!

Rufat Khalafli (MSCHE '06) is an operations support team leader at BP in Azerbaijan

LATE NIGHTS AT SKEETER'S.

Cheap eats at Burrito Brothers, beer by the pitcher at Purple Porpoise, sweating in 90-plus with humidity at Florida Field, Gatorwood apartments and the Bicycle Club, Krishna food at Plaza de Americas, the student ghetto, Gator Growl performances, 34th Street, drop/add lines (not fun), Steak 'n Shake, margaritas at Ashley's Pub, the Hub bookstore, Joe's Deli gator tail, drive through liquor barn, the hunt for on-campus parking.

Joe Granados (BDES '92) is bid manager at The HCI Group in Columbia, MD

I WITNESSED GATORMAN SWIMMING WITH THE GATORS

and my first same-sex wedding on the shores of Lake Wauburg, 1978. Illegal then, not now, thank you U.S. Supreme Court. Ate free Krishna food once, got food poisoning, never again. Learned to be a journalist at the Florida 'Gator. Wouldn't trade that for anything.

Andrew Froman (BSJ '78) of Sarasota is partner at Fisher & Phillips tax law firm in Tampa

SANDWICH NO. 6 AT ALAN'S GATOR HAUS,

football at the College Inn and the Halloween festival.

Henry Dan (BSBA '77) is director of strategic solutions at MarketSphere Unclaimed Property Specialists in Atlanta

BURRITO BROS ORIGINAL

LOCATION on 13th Street. Still maybe the best guac I've ever had!

Jay Myer (BSBA '84) is vice president of sales at InfoTycoon in Alpharetta, GA

SO MANY TRADITIONS: studying until the wee hours in Marston library, block parties, margaritas at Ashley's, student section at Gator games, the French Fries, the old Reitz Union, Maui Teriyaki, Lillian's, ABC rotator bar '80s night. I could go on. Great to be a Florida Gator!

Rachel Truxall (BSA '98) of Port Orange is associate vice president for patient engagement at Accel Research Sites

BACK IN FALL, FRESHMAN YEAR

1967, I took the UF bus from Hume Hall to College West. Spent my days at the library in between classes and eating the best fried chicken at the College Inn.

Janis Sexton (BAEd '72) is a retired public schoolteacher in Palm Coast

THE MOST FUN I HAD AS A 10-YEAR OLD GIRL VISITING

GAINESVILLE, where my family would soon be moving, was attending Gator Growl with the skits, music, fireworks and celebrity appearances. I remember

Did you see how UF's campus will be changing in the next few years (pages 24-33)? Don't worry: The potato and French Fries aren't going anywhere. And Lake Alice should be more beautiful than ever.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE PLACE ON CAMPUS, AND WHY?

Send your replies to FloridaGator@ufalumni.ufl.edu.

Jim Stafford singing "I don't like spiders and snakes" and thought I had found heaven. As a Gator girl eight years later, the tradition and the fun continued every year in between and since — the passing of people up and down the stands until finally I also got passed one fun Friday night at Growl. What a happy memory!

Beth Bennion (BAEd '83) of Orlando is assistant director of academic success and an adjunct professor at Stetson University's College of Law

SKEETER'S BIG BISCUITS AT TWO IN THE MORNING and Krispy Kreme donuts in the dorms at midnight. Bowling in the Reitz Union.

Tammy Gagne Allen (BS '89, BS '89) is administrative project coordinator for the Pinellas County Air Quality Division in Tampa

MY SKYDIVER GROUP jumped into the lake, but we had a boat ready to get us out of the water quickly

David M. Henson (BSAE '70) is a mechanical integration engineer in Titusville

HANGING OUT AT SEAHORSE KEY

trading for freshly farmed clams. Fishing in the back of Lake Alice. Eating at Chinese Takee Outee. Hanging out on the steps of Jennings Hall.

Emilio Power (BS '98) is a research analytics lead and SAS architect at Duke Clinical Research Institute in Durham, NC



MASTER'S IN AIR FLOW

The Rat (Rathskeller) was our favorite hangout. I remember watching the fire and being so sad. The dorms have A/C now. I took my kids there for college tours and was kinda sad the residents would never have to learn how to situate box fans in the perfect way to create a cross breeze in the dorm rooms.

Karen Kraftchick (BSCEI '90) is senior director of club operations at Exploria Resorts in Orlando

CHOMPIN' IT UP WITH GATOR CLUBS



Want to connect with other Gators in your area? Try out your local club by attending one of the many local events hosted each year. Here is a small sampling of activities hosted this summer. Visit connect.ufalumni.ufl.edu/network/GatorClubs for details.

◀ Miami, Broward County and Palm Beach County Gator Clubs teamed up to celebrate a UF alumni night at a Miami Marlins game with Florida coaches Tim Walton and Kevin O'Sullivan.



▲ The Atlanta and Dallas Fort Worth Gator Clubs both teamed up with UF's Parent and Family Leadership Council to hold separate send-offs for local students who are freshmen or first-year students at UF this fall. Atlanta freshmen are pictured above, left; Dallas above, right.



▼ New York City alumni gathered for brunch with fellow Gotham Gator Todd Hoffman of Chloe's Soft Serve Fruit Co. to discuss his journey from UF to CFO of a growing frozen snack company. Pictured are Selina Radlein, Hoffman and Kimberly Schneider.



▲ Daytona Beach Gator Club members hosted UF Director of Football Strength and Conditioning Nick Savage to get ready for football season.

▼ Central Florida Gator Club members hosted a Welcome to the Gatorhood reception for new alumni moving to the Orlando area this summer.



THREE MINUTES WITH ADAM SCHWARTZ



Adam Schwartz (BSTEL '08) always knew he wanted to be an entrepreneur. He just wasn't sure he'd accomplish it. But in 2018, the New York City Gator's dream came true when he sold the company he started just five years earlier for a fortune. TeePublic — a platform for artists to sell their designs to consumers in the form of customized T-shirts, mugs and other goods — was purchased for \$41 million, making Schwartz an instant millionaire.

LESSON LEARNED:

"Have convictions around what your business is, get a little bit of tunnel vision and don't worry about what everybody else is doing."

ON BEING A MILLIONAIRE:

"It's a bit surreal, but you still feel like you. In my better moments I pause to reflect and am grateful for the position I've been put in. You say to yourself 'I can do anything I want, it better be good.'"

SPLURGES:

"My wife and I did buy a townhouse in Brooklyn and did some renovations on it. And I bought an expensive handmade instrument I really wanted, called a handpan. I'm also supporting the Storm King Art Center in New York, a 500-acre outdoor sculpture museum."

WHY THE ARTS:

"I like being a patron of the arts. I feel passionate about its impact on the world, and it's under threat right now with its funding being cut, particularly in schools. It feels logical to me at this stage to give back to the art world, which is the community that got me here."

BIGGEST SURPRISE:

"When I graduated from UF I knew I wanted to be an entrepreneur. What I was completely unconvinced of is that it could actually happen. The surprise is that you can become the person you set out to be."

FAVORITE GAINESVILLE HANGOUTS:

"I spent a lot of time around campus enjoying the atmosphere. I was in the midtown bars all the time: Gator City, Balls, The Swamp. I lived behind this venue called 1982 near downtown — we shared a backyard — and we got to know the owner. He let us come to the shows, and we let the bands park in our driveway."

HOW UF PREPARED HIM:

"You're not going to believe this, but being on the executive board of my fraternity was a really good experience. We had a piece of real estate, employees, a half-million-dollar operating budget, insurance, and we were trying to achieve philanthropic and other goals. I learned a lot about how an organization runs and what effective leadership looks like."

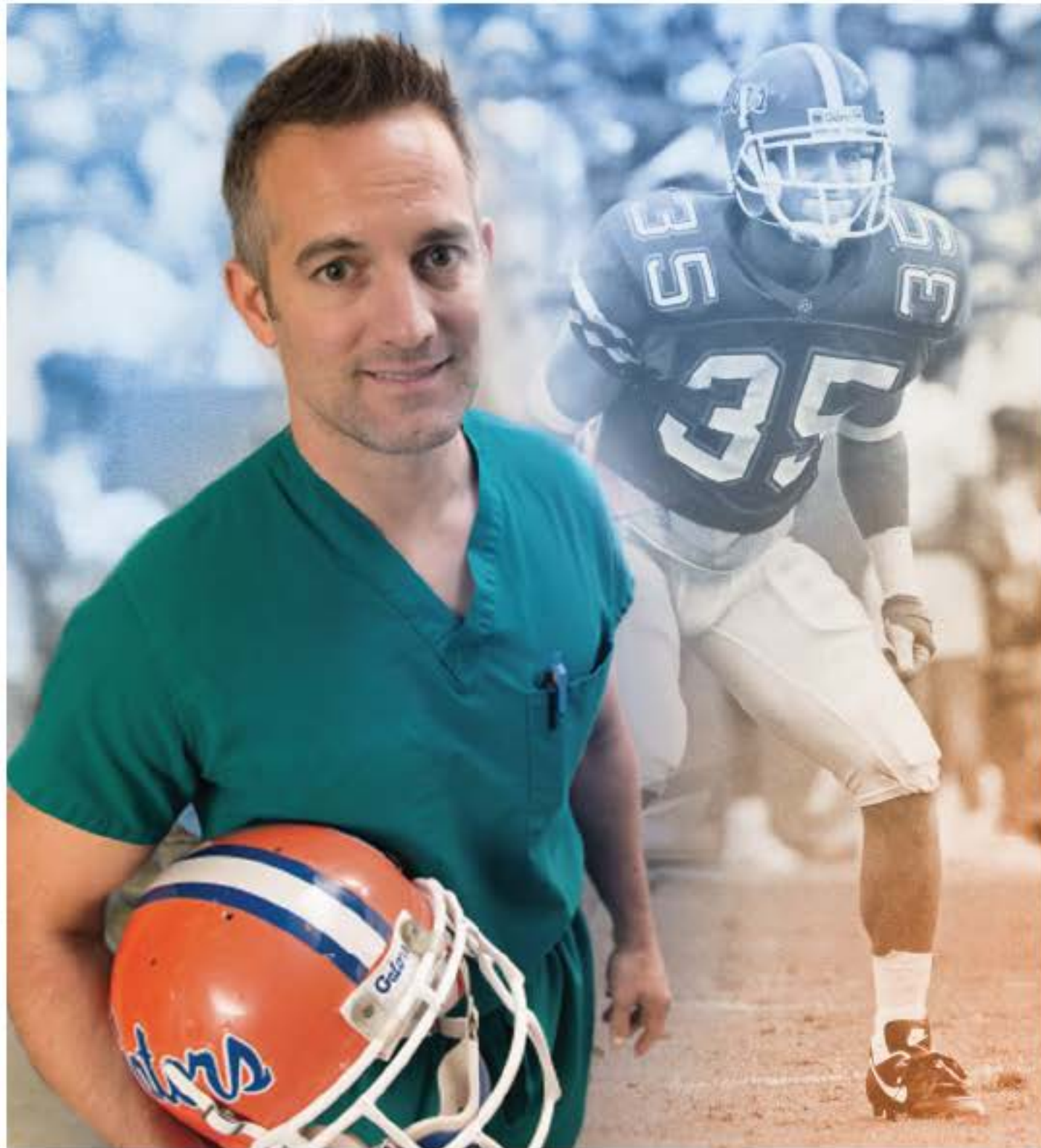
— DAVID FINNERTY



FINISHLINE

BY DAVID FINNERTY

DR. MICHAEL GILMORE



FROM "SPURRIER GUY" TO SURGICAL SCRUBS

Up in the state's Panhandle is the little town of Chipley. It's a glimpse back to old Florida. A powder-blue water tower looms over the business district; a railroad meanders past homes and storefronts; a free-standing chalkboard outside Katie's Kafe advertises lunch specials.

This, for Dr. Michael Gilmore, was home. His beginning.

It's where he discovered a love for science and sports. Where his father, UF alumnus Theron "Dow" Gilmore, was a business partner at Kings Discount Drugs. Where his mother and sister still own the clothing store Emmie & Co. on Main Street.

"Chipley's small, but the coaches and teachers there were excellent. The discipline I got growing up there, the things I learned and the skills I developed took me to the University of Florida," Gilmore says.

And back again.

In 2004, 14 years after Steve Spurrier made him a centerpiece of his first Gators recruiting class, Gilmore returned to northwest Florida as an orthopaedic surgeon. His practice, Panhandle Orthopaedics, now has offices in Crestview, Panama City and Pensacola, and serves patients all along the Interstate 10 corridor.

Even with all the years and miles that separate Gilmore from Gainesville, there's still a lot of UF inside the Gator great. It's where he met his wife, Laura, and where the couple's first child was born.

"The university is a very, very special place for me. I wouldn't be where I am today without it," says Gilmore (BA '94, MD '99, HS '00, HS '04).

PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE

1990 was a big year for Gators. Spurrier was back. And with the Heisman winner, a return to the swagger, razzle-dazzle and glory that had eluded the orange-and-blue for much of the 1970s and '80s.

The Head Ball Coach's first order of business: recruit players who'd buy into the commitment he demanded. In Gilmore, Spurrier (BSPE '81) found a kindred soul.

Even now, he refers to Gilmore as "one of my guys."

"Michael did what the team asked him to do," Spurrier says. "He was smart. He gave maximum effort on every play. He was a guy we could count on."

And in Spurrier, Gilmore had a coach he could count on, too.

"What was around me was excellence," Gilmore says. "We were all trying to do the same thing: be as good as we could."

Gilmore's toughness and intelligence made him a natural leader. By the time the clock expired in his last game in a Gator uniform, he'd lettered all four seasons, won two SEC championships and twice been named a first-team Academic All-American. A captain in 1993 and '94, teammates voted him Most Valuable Player the latter season.

No. 35 was special, Spurrier says.

"He's one of the best student-athletes ever to come to Florida. He did everything well," the coach says. "There are very few like Michael."

As committed to academics as football, Gilmore graduated magna cum laude, was a Rhodes Scholars finalist, served as chief resident at UF's Orthopaedic Institute and helped invent air-cooled shoulder pads to keep players from overheating.

Balancing sports and academics wasn't always easy, Gilmore admits.

"Sometimes I had to leave football practice a little early so I could get to the chemistry lab, even if it meant halfway being in my football pads because I didn't have time to change," he says.

Coaches and professors worked with him, though. Take the 1993 SEC Championship week — the same week the Rhodes

Scholars selection committee was interviewing. Gilmore missed a lot of practice, but was still allowed to start that Saturday.

The decision was a no-brainer, Spurrier says. "He knew what to do. The other things he was doing that week were important."

It was a good call. Gilmore came down with two interceptions in the 28-13 victory over Alabama on Birmingham's Legion Field.

NEVER GIVE UP

Gilmore, to most Gators, is remembered as the gutsy free safety who offered thoughtful insights during postgame interviews. What fans didn't see was his determination to be great on and off the gridiron.

"Back then, being self-motivated and pushing myself to the limits in all aspects for all those years at the university — the day-to-day grind, back to back to back, just over and over — makes me proud," he says.

It's one reason Gilmore is so invested in his alma mater. He and Laura (BSESS '93, BSMD '98, MPAS '98) generously support UF Health, the College of Medicine and Athletics.

Nowadays, the Gilmores don't make it back to Gainesville as often as they'd like. Their jobs and children's activities swallow most their time. UF, however, is never long out of their minds.

"I get really excited when I see someone with a Gator hat or shirt. We immediately have a bond, even if we don't know each other," Michael Gilmore says. "A lot of that comes from just having pride in all that we have there."

"WHAT WAS AROUND ME WAS EXCELLENCE."

— Dr. Michael Gilmore



GATOR NATION Tailgates

The University of Florida Alumni Association invites all members and their guests to gather at **Emerson Alumni Hall** prior to each home football game this fall. Get ready to cheer on the Gators with fellow alumni while enjoying live entertainment, a face painter, tailgate games and food and beverages for purchase.

FOR MORE INFO, INCLUDING TAILGATE TIMES, VISIT [HTTP://BIT.LY/GNT2019](http://bit.ly/GNT2019)

September 7	September 21	September 28	*October 5	November 9	November 30
UT MARTIN	TENNESSEE	TOWSON	AUBURN (HOMEWORK)	VANDERBILT	FLORIDA STATE
Gator Nation Tailgate at Emerson Alumni Hall	Gator Nation Tailgate at Emerson Alumni Hall	Gator Nation Tailgate at Emerson Alumni Hall	Gator Nation Tailgate at Emerson Alumni Hall	Gator Nation Tailgate at Emerson Alumni Hall	Gator Nation Tailgate at Emerson Alumni Hall

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