

Sawdust

FALL 2018

THE MAGAZINE OF THE SFA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY



Ed and Gwen Cole STEM Building
A space to collaborate, innovate, inspire

Share what's new in the Nac you knew.



From fun new venues to newly restored old favorites, Nacogdoches has become the ideal gathering place for groups of all sizes. It's a one-of-a-kind location for a meeting or conference - one with an array of surrounding attractions and unforgettable experiences. Contact the Nacogdoches Convention and Visitors Bureau today to learn about how our team can enhance your big event, from registration assistance to welcome bags, spouse tours, special offers and more. Call or click today and let's get a plan.



888-564-7351 | VisitNacogdoches.com

President's Letter

"And while it's on your mind, go ahead and save the date for Sept. 18, 2023, for SFA's centennial celebration. Planning for that momentous event already is underway."



THE START OF a new academic year is always an exciting time at Stephen F. Austin State University, but this fall promises to be an especially memorable one for our Lumberjack family.

In July, we celebrated the opening of the Ed and Gwen Cole STEM Building, a visually stunning, \$46 million facility that opened to students with the start of fall classes. Named for two of the university's most faithful supporters, this new hub for SFA's science, technology, engineering and mathematics education programs provides a unique, collaborative and high-tech learning environment for our STEM students that is second to none. Soon SFA graduates in these disciplines will be making an even greater impact across Texas as part of our state's broader initiative to prepare more young people to enter high-demand STEM fields.

The timing of the opening of this state-of-the-art building — with its modern, all-glass façade revealing the planetarium's impressive new 52-foot dome — will create an interesting juxtaposition with the celebration of SFA's 95th anniversary Sept. 18. On that special date, and throughout the coming year, we will all be thinking about those early days at SFA when just a few hundred students and their teachers were laying the groundwork for what is now approaching a century of Lumberjack history, tradition, scholarship and pride.

If you are like me, you can't help but wonder what Dr. Alton W. Birdwell, SFA's first president, would think of our exceptional university if he could see it today. I hope many of you will be on hand Sept. 18 to enjoy cake and purple ice cream with us as we mark this historic occasion. And while it's on your mind, go ahead and save the date for Sept. 18, 2023, for SFA's centennial celebration. Planning for that momentous event already is underway.

In the meantime, we have much to look forward to this fall, including the first athletic events under the leadership of new Director of Athletics Ryan Ivey, who arrived at SFA this summer. He replaces retired director Robert Hill, and he is just as strongly committed to SFA student-athletes' continued success, both in the classroom and on the field of play. Please join me in welcoming him to the Lumberjack family.

The annual Battle of the Piney Woods game against Sam Houston State University is set for Oct. 6 at NRG Stadium in Houston, and the SFA Homecoming game against Lamar University will follow Oct. 27 in Homer Bryce Stadium. Wherever this letter finds you, I hope you are able to join us "mid Texas pines" to support the Lumberjack football team and all of our athletic programs this year.

Our cheers will be bolstered by the enthusiasm of a record-breaking 1,426 May 2018 graduates and other newly minted alumni who are receiving Sawdust in the mail for the first time this fall. To them I say, "Welcome to the fold." And to all of our SFA alumni, friends and fans, I would like to express my gratitude for your unique contributions to making SFA an extraordinary place to live, learn and grow for the past 95 years. ★

Axe 'em, Jacks!

Baker Pattillo '65 & '66
President, Stephen F. Austin State University



STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS

Brigittee C. Henderson '85 & '95, Lufkin
chair

Alton L. Frailey '83 & '85, Katy
vice chair

Nelda Luce Blair, J.D., The Woodlands
secretary

David R. Alders, Nacogdoches

Dr. Scott H. Coleman '80, Houston

Karen Gregory Gantt, J.D., '95, McKinney

John R. "Bob" Garrett '75, Tyler

M. Thomas Mason '70, Dallas

Kenton E. Schaefer '70, Brownsville

Kate Childress '17, Lumberton
student regent

ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Baker Pattillo '65 & '66
president

Dr. Steve Bullard
*provost/vice president
for academic affairs*

Dr. Danny Gallant '83 & '86
*vice president
for finance and administration*

Jill Still '00
*vice president
for university advancement*

Dr. Steve Westbrook '81 & '89
*vice president
for university affairs*

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY

is a comprehensive institution
dedicated to excellence
in teaching, research, scholarship,
creative work and service.
Through the personal attention
of our faculty and staff,
we engage our students
in a learner-centered environment
and offer opportunities
to prepare for the challenges of living
in the global community.

In This Issue



↑ THE EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING Center, operated by SFA Campus Recreation's Outdoor Pursuits program, offers groups the opportunity to zip line on a high challenge course. The zip line, along with other challenge course components, is used by groups to expand personal boundaries, develop trust and communication with teammates, and instill confidence in decision-making skills among group members. It also can be used for a fun daytime activity.

Photo by Robin Johnson '99

Campus Life

Ed and Gwen Cole STEM Building	18
Lumberjack Marching Band in Ireland	26
A few of our favorite purple things	29

Alumni News

Alumni Association President's Letter	34
Alumni Awards	35
Homecoming Events	36

In Every Issue

FACULTY ADVISING by Dr. Mark Scanlan	7
VISTA VIEWPOINT by Sherry Chaney Morgan	8
'JACKS OF ALL TRADES with Arrica Lagsding	9
'JACK TALK	20
ATHLETICS HIGHLIGHTS	21
WORK SPACE with Dr. Dana Cooper	28
ALUMNI CALENDAR	38
SCHOLARSHIPS	39
LIFE MEMBERS	39
IN MEMORIAM	40
CLASS NOTES	42

UNIVERSITY MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS STAFF MEMBERS

Dr. Shirley Luna '85, '06 & '14
Sawdust executive editor and
executive director of
University Marketing Communications

GRAPHIC DESIGNERS
Robin Johnson '99
Sawdust art director and
graphic design coordinator of
University Marketing Communications
Meagan Rice '12

PHOTOGRAPHER
Hardy Meredith '81
Sawdust photographer and
photography services coordinator of
University Marketing Communications

VIDEOGRAPHERS
Trey Cartwright '04, '06 & '12
James McMahan '17

WEB DEVELOPERS
Jason Johnstone '05
assistant director for web services of
University Marketing Communications

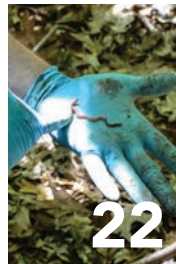
Kim Gaynor
Sarah Kouliavtsev '09
Roni Lias
Dr. Alan Scott

WRITERS
Donna Parish '99 & '07
Sawdust editor and
assistant director for creative services of
University Marketing Communications

Joanna Armstrong '17
Christine Broussard '10
Emily Brown '17
Kasi Dickerson '13 & '15
Kerry Whitsett '07 & '12

SAWDUST ONLINE
Read past issues, watch video extras
and submit class notes:

sfasu.edu/sawdust
facebook.com/sfasawdust



4 DESTINED TO DESIGN
Corgan vice president shares passion for career

10 MUSIC MAN
Business major's love of everything Texas
helps country artists' dreams come true

14 THE SKY IS THE LIMIT
Military experience helps launch careers
managing helicopter repair and maintenance

22 BURIED TREASURE
Alumnus, faculty member discovers
new earthworm species

30 VIDEO VISIONARY
Fine arts graduate is segment producer
for popular lifestyle show



ON THE COVER: Aglow in purple, the planetarium in the new Ed and Gwen Cole STEM Building serves as the newest focal point on SFA's beautiful campus. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held July 24 to officially open the 87,000-square-foot facility that will now serve as the hub for SFA's science, technology, engineering and mathematics education programs. / Photo by Hardy Meredith '81

DESTINED TO DESIGN

CORGAN VICE PRESIDENT SHARES PASSION FOR CAREER





IN THE CORNER of an open-format office at the end of a row of benched desks (picture cubicles without the dividers), Liz Decker Wilson '93 sits next to a wall of windows looking out on a large parking lot on the edge of downtown Dallas. Across the wide lot is the former Texas School Book Depository, and on the other side of the building is the historic intersection where former President John F. Kennedy was tragically assassinated.

Overlooking a classic city setting, Wilson has been privy to the slow changes that have shaped downtown Dallas during the past 24 years. She's seen and, as vice president at a design firm, has even been part of the growth that has paid homage to the city's history while helping its skyline expand.

Like the city itself, Wilson's role has drastically changed. She began at Corgan, an architecture and interior design firm specializing in corporate interiors, as an intern and for more than two decades has worked her way far up the ranks.

"My position has significantly changed through the years," Wilson said. "When I first started, I shared computers with the colleague sitting next to me. I only was able to work in a (computer-aided design) program and check email in the afternoon. Now, I no longer draw in CAD, I no longer spend hours faxing (requests for information) to general contractors, and I no longer share a computer. All employees have laptops now!"

Yet even with the prestigious title of vice president, Wilson inconspicuously sits at the benched desks she shares with her team members rather than in some distant office. The proximity allows even the smallest swivel of office chairs to give way to collaboration.

"The relationships I've built with the clients and with the team is one of my favorite parts of this job," Wilson said. "I think if you have a good relationship with someone and something goes wrong, you're able to work through those things much more easily because you have that friendship base to fall back on. I always have people here to help me get through it and trust to make sure we're all going to get it done." ➔

STORY BY CHRISTINE BROUSSARD '10

STARTING EARLY

Wilson's passion for design began at a young age. Just for fun, she would pick up a notepad and pen, pencil or marker in her spare time and draw house interiors and elevations. When not drawing, she would sometimes wander near homes that were under construction in her neighborhood to better understand space utilization and efficiency.

As Wilson grew older and began considering which college to attend, she knew a huge university setting did not appeal to her.

"I was interested in interior design, and I knew SFA had a good program," she said. "Then a couple of my friends decided they were going there, too. So that made my decision easier."

In 1989, Wilson joined the interior design program at SFA, which at the time was housed within the Department of Home Economics, now the School of Human Sciences. According to Dr. Mitzi Perritt, SFA professor of human sciences, the interior design program has been accredited since the early 1980s by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation, previously known as the Foundation for Interior Design Accreditation.

Perritt remembers Wilson as a promising young professional, always on time, alert, very polite and respectful, kind and helpful.

"The interior design faculty is extremely proud of Liz's rise in the professional world," Perritt said. "She has always represented our program and SFA so well. Even at her present status at Corgan, she remains the humble and warm person we loved and appreciated when she was in school. She wears her success well."

STAYING A STEP AHEAD

The U.S. Congress passed the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990 during Wilson's four-year university career. Understanding how much the law would drastically alter existing design regulations, coordinators of SFA's interior design program immediately implemented curriculum to teach ADA policies. Wilson explained how helpful those courses were and how they put her a step ahead of graduates from other universities.

"I remember early in my career being aware of codes like the ADA and Texas Accessibility Standards and feeling comfortable working through code issues in space planning," Wilson said. "This was due to the quality of professors and instructors in the interior design department. I especially would like to thank Dr. Mitzi Perritt for her support and for pushing me outside my comfort zone. Dr. Perritt and I are still in touch today."

"My education at SFA really helped with the ADA portion because that was just being introduced when I graduated, and I felt really comfortable with that when I started at Corgan," she added. "Dr. Perritt actually taught the class, and it was really involved, detailed stuff."

LIFE AT CORGAN

As a vice president, the biggest part of Wilson's current job is to support studio operations, including quality of work, resource allocation, utilization and project profitability.

"My role at Corgan now is a project manager, and I assist in managing the interiors studio in Dallas," Wilson explained. "Corgan's

Top left: Corgan collaborated on the design of the Dallas City Performance Hall.

Bottom left: Exeter, a vehicle financing company headquartered in Irving, selected Corgan to provide interior design services.

Top right: Neiman Marcus utilized Corgan for architecture and interior design services for multiple projects at several office locations across downtown Dallas.

Bottom right: Corgan renovated Fossil's corporate headquarters, which included a 535,000-square-foot relocation for the lifestyle and watch brand.

Photos courtesy of Corgan



Dallas interiors studio employs more than 60 staff members and is growing. Most of the projects I have worked on have been large. Most recently, I worked on the 1.5-million-square-foot State Farm hub in Richardson and Pioneer Natural Resources, which is building a 1.1-million-square-foot facility in Irving.”

Shedding some job responsibilities during her professional advancement has been bittersweet for Wilson, such as having to move away from drawing interiors. Of course, the job flexibility encouraged at Corgan allows her to dip her toes back into non-administrative pools.

“I think what’s unique about Corgan, and something I enjoy, is that even though we have roles or job descriptions, it’s very intermingled,” Wilson said. “Although I don’t draw as much anymore, I could be doing a sketch to hand off to someone else, or I could be writing a proposal. We just work as a team to get everything done, which I think is a great way to work.”

As she plugs away on her computer, the hammering and drilling of ongoing construction work fill the space around her. After years of helping other companies expand operations, Corgan is now experiencing its own growth, as office space is added and existing areas modernized to keep up with the company’s professional successes. The progress Wilson has watched happen across Dallas from her third-story window has finally made its way to her own desk. ★



Faculty Advising

TIPS TO AVOID BAD CREDIT

BY DR. MARK SCANLAN

Professor of Economics
Nelson Rusche College of Business



Identity theft is a hot topic in today’s news with endless commercials discussing how to check your credit score online for free, yet many people remain indifferent regarding their credit situation. A yearly review of your credit report can help find inaccuracies that can

hurt your credit score or uncover instances of identity theft. Credit rating agencies use your credit history to determine a single credit score that lets lenders know how risky you may be as a borrower. So, why should you care about your credit score, and how can you maintain good credit?

1. **Bad credit is costly.** The interest rate you pay on credit cards, auto loans, student loans and mortgages are all related to your credit score. This means someone with bad credit may pay thousands more for the same car as someone with good credit. Bad credit also can make it harder to rent a nice apartment, to have low insurance payments and could cost you a job since potential employers can check your credit report, too.
2. **Work with creditors.** Emergencies happen! You may have medical bills, student loan payments or other expenses you struggle to pay. Creditors often will work with you on repayment. They may delay when you start making payments or reduce the amount of each payment until you get back on your feet. Contacting creditors early is crucial if you find yourself struggling to pay your bills.
3. **Establish good financial habits.** Frequently missing payments or making late payments are common mistakes people make regarding credit. The key to keeping good credit is to establish good financial habits and stick to them. This could mean using online bill pay or setting aside one day a month to pay bills.
4. **Monitor your savings and establish a budget.** Frequently monitor your bank accounts to avoid overdrafts and consider using one of the many websites or apps to help you with budgeting. Establishing a budget helps ensure you live within your means. ★

Vista Viewpoint / By Sherry Chaney Morgan '94



I DISTINCTLY REMEMBER being 8 years old and riding in our family car, squished in the middle of the back seat, as I am the youngest of four. As we drove along, I saw a billboard along Highway 59 that read, “Visit Nacogdoches, The Oldest Town in Texas.”

We were traveling to Nacogdoches to help my oldest sister move into her residence hall at SFA, and I wasn’t particularly happy about it. In fact, I was more than a little pouty about the concept of losing my idol to this thing called “college.” That billboard, however, softened my resolve. If she had to leave, at least she was going to the oldest town in Texas. After more than an hour of playing slug bug and asking, “Are we there yet?” we pulled in front of two of the tallest buildings I had ever seen — the twin towers of Steen Hall. Suddenly, “college” didn’t seem too shabby.

Forty years later, I find myself now living in the oldest town in Texas, sitting at a desk inside the Charles Bright Visitors Center, poring over spreadsheets and hotel occupancy tax projections to try to find money in the budget for more billboards — this time digital ones — to help spread the word about the historic hamlet known as Nacogdoches. Talk about a full-circle moment!

In 1991, I came to SFA to work for the Department of Residence Life as a hall director for Kerr Hall. In 1992, I began my coursework for my master’s degree in education. I found myself in the unique position of being able to pursue two of my life’s passions — education and student affairs. The fact that I got to do this on the idyllic SFA campus was just gravy.

“We were traveling to Nacogdoches to help my oldest sister move into her residence hall at SFA, and I wasn’t particularly happy about it. In fact, I was more than a little pouty about the concept of losing my idol to this thing called ‘college.’”

SHERRY CHANEY MORGAN '94

Executive Director

Nacogdoches Convention
and Visitors Bureau

I grew professionally within Residence Life, soon taking on the role of advisor for SFA’s Residence Hall Association, as well as advisor for the Texas Residence Hall Association. I was entrusted to attend admissions recruiting events and speak on behalf of housing and Residence Life, as well as serve on several university committees representing my department. I was blessed with caring and invested peers and supervisors.

My classes were engaging and thought provoking. The synergy of receiving instruction among like-minded people and from such knowledgeable professors is an experience I have yet to find again. It felt like I was just getting to the good stuff when my academic advisor informed me I had the credits to graduate. It was with great pride that I walked the stage to receive my Master of Education and cemented my place in Lumberjack culture.

A lot of life has happened between my departure from Nacogdoches in 1994 and today. I am now the mother of two amazing daughters. One is soon to begin her junior year at SFA, while the youngest bides her time until she, too, can assume her place as a Lumberjack.

Additionally, I find myself with a new passion for travel and tourism, which I get to use every day as I lead the promotional efforts of marketing Nacogdoches to the state, region, nation and world as a premier travel destination.

And to think, all of this came about from one billboard. ★

'Jacks of All Trades / With Arrica Lagsding '05

TWIRLS, WHIRLS AND ROSE-COLORED GLASSES

Dancer shares her passion with all ages, ability levels

Story by Emily Brown '17 / Photos by Robin Johnson '99

ARRICA LAGSDING '05 describes herself as someone who prefers to see the world through rose-colored glasses.

"My life's motto is to have one positive thought at a time," Lagsding said. "We're all here to nurture each other. There's a time and place for competition, but learning to love an art is not that time."

At age 3, Lagsding's grandmother took her to an after school program in Houston, where she first began to dance. Since then, her feet haven't touched the ground. Lagsding fell in love with the art form and danced throughout her childhood at Banbury School of Dance, where she learned ballet, pointe, tap and jazz.

Later, she was a member of her high school's drill team in Missouri City. She eventually enrolled at SFA to study dance and English and joined the SFA Repertory Dance Company, where she had her first experience with modern dance with former dance faculty member Christy Sadler Gorman.

"Prior to learning from Christy, I always described dance as joyful and exciting, but she brought peace to the art," Lagsding said. "She made me look at dance from an organic view, and she gave me the craving to learn more."

After graduation, Lagsding settled in Dallas and began working for a civil engineering firm during the day and performing with various dance companies and teaching at a local dance studio during her free time. Hours spent teaching dance to children made her reflect on her own childhood and what an important role dance played in her life. She knew she wanted to pursue her passion.

"When I initially settled in Dallas, I wasn't thinking about an end goal — I was just living," Lagsding said. "However, dancing and working at the studio planted a seed in me that I needed to start my own business."

In November 2016, she opened Studio 6a Dance Academy in Plano. Her rose-colored-glasses' outlook came in handy, as she focused her excitement on the project while still juggling a full-time job and her new role as mother to son, Rysan.

Studio 6a Dance Academy is a place where anyone interested in dance is welcome to come and learn. Students range in age from 3 to 60, and Lagsding offers lessons for students of all skill levels.

Lagsding said one of her most rewarding classes has been a special education dance class she teaches weekly. She partners with an organization in Allen that offers special-needs individuals the opportunity to participate in various activities. Lagsding said these students have taught her far more than she has taught them.

"When the organization first approached me, I didn't think I was qualified to help. However, I quickly learned I was wrong," Lagsding said. "Anyone with a passion for what they do has the capability to help others. No matter the physical or mental limitations, everyone can learn to dance and find joy in it."

Lagsding often calls her young students "my loves," and she rejoices when one accomplishes an arabesque on the first try. Her face lights up as she sees "her kids" confidently dance across the studio floor. She also likes to form a bond with her students' parents. She greets them at the door and asks questions — whether it's about their job or their child's recent visit to the dentist.

Her caring personality and desire for a real relationship with the families helps her remain genuine, and it's her love for people and dance that pushes her to continue expanding the possibilities of her studio.

"When I think of dancing, it's a lifelong love, and my goal is to make people dancers for life." ★



View more photos at sfasu.edu/sawdust.



STORY BY KASI DICKERSON '13 & '15

PHOTOS BY HARDY MEREDITH '81

MUSIC MAN

Business major's love of everything Texas helps country artists' dreams come true

PEOPLE OFTEN SAY life is like a country song, and that is certainly true for Tye Phelps '90, whose life revolves around country music.

For almost 20 years, Phelps was co-owner of the Love and War in Texas restaurant and music venue in Plano, an eatery known for helping award-winning country artist Miranda Lambert launch her career.

"At the time, Miranda was only 16 years old, and Texas has laws that prevent minors from performing in bars and clubs. But because we were a restaurant, and the majority of our sales were food purchases, she could perform at Love and War," Phelps said.

His restaurant was the perfect place for a young and talented country music artist to get her boot in the door. Phelps introduced Miranda to Rusty Wier, a Texas music legend, and the duo sang at Love and War until she started performing solo.

In 2003, she performed on "Nashville Star," a nationwide televised singing competition. Phelps and Miranda's father, Rick, hosted watch parties for friends and fans. Miranda placed third in the competition and signed with Epic/Sony Records.

Miranda is one of many talented artists who have crossed Phelps' stage during his restaurant career. He is now starting another endeavor that he hopes will prove to be music to his ears — literally.

After years of helping young artists break into the music industry and sign with other entities, Phelps has opened a recording and management company of his own, Texas Music City Records. This venture comes on the heels of a partnership with the City of Lindale and the Lambert family to rejuvenate downtown Lindale, the Lambert family's hometown.

In 2016, local builders and Lindale City Council members contacted Miranda and her family about moving her store, The Pink Pistol, from Oklahoma to downtown Lindale.

According to the weekly publication Dallas Observer, "when city officials asked if the country music superstar and her family would relocate the store and use it to anchor the rehabilitation of downtown Lindale, the Lamberts' answer was simple: 'Only if Love and War in Texas comes with us.'" →

A TEXAS-SIZE PASSION

Born in Laredo and raised in Kerrville, Phelps fell in love with everything Texas after watching his father serve on tourism boards and chambers of commerce throughout the state, and through helping his parents run their restaurant located on the banks of the Guadalupe River.

"At 9 years old, I was washing dishes and busing tables, and I cooked when the main cooks went home," Phelps said.

Unlike his father, Phelps "was the music guy," he laughed. "I was the kid who had on headphones playing drums and singing aloud every night."

During high school, his family moved to Sulphur Springs, where he joined the marching and jazz bands and enrolled in music courses. He played the drums and trumpet and remembers being named Best Trumpet and Best Trap Set for a Drummer at a University Interscholastic League state competition.

After a stint at Schreiner University, Phelps transferred to SFA to study management and marketing in an attempt to "get away from the restaurant business."

However, Phelps couldn't escape the restaurant scene. After graduating from SFA, he worked as a manager for Mr. Gatti's Pizza and later in purchasing, where he quickly discovered a desk job wasn't his cup of sweet tea.

"I realized I'm a restaurant guy. I love food, restaurants, the music business and everything about Texas," he said.

Soon, Phelps began planning for his own place. "I would come home every night and work on the blueprint for Love and War in Texas," he said. "The menu was everything I grew up eating and what people in Texas love to eat."

★ ★ ★

LIFE IN LINDALE

Fast forward 20 years, and Phelps' new Texas Music City, formerly Love and War in Texas, holds true to his original vision of creating "a place I wanted to hang out" with "good food and music."

From the Texas-inspired entrées and historical decor to autographed posters, it's evident Phelps has poured his heart and soul into his new establishment.

Situated a few miles off Interstate 20, Texas Music City and The Pink Pistol are key to Lindale's development project, The Cannery, which is giving new life to the downtown area, according to city manager Carolyn Caldwell.

"Texas Music City and The Pink Pistol are the anchor tenants in The Cannery development," Caldwell said. "Tye has brought a continuous array of entertainment to Lindale for the first time. The Cannery has proven to be a success, as the downtown area's spark has now turned into a flame."

A room inside the restaurant is one of six performance areas in The Cannery, and musicians play

here Tuesday through Sunday. Inside The Pink Pistol, the Hemingway Room provides an intimate space for songwriters. Across from the restaurant is Pickers Pavilion, a 100-year-old cannery turned event facility and three outside areas that can host larger concerts.

Phelps' dream was to "do it big" and draw talent and audiences from the region and state, which is exactly what he's accomplished. Featured artists include Stoney Larue, Mike Ryan, The Powell Brothers, Billy Bob Thornton, Aaron Watson and Whiskey Myers.

The Texas Music Office recently certified Lindale as a Music Friendly Community. This certification means Lindale provides a network for fostering music development and sends a clear message to industry professionals that it is serious about attracting and developing music industry growth.

"I've taken it a step further because that's how I like to do things," Phelps said. "We call ourselves a Texas Music City. Our goal is to make Lindale a one-stop shop for performances, recordings, artist management and training."

★ ★ ★

TEXAS MUSIC CITY RECORDS

To make his vision a reality, Phelps began a recording and artist management company, Texas Music City Records.

"I respect artists and songwriters," Phelps said. "Songwriting is such an awesome gift, and I wish I could do it. Being around songwriters, enjoying their craft and helping them when I can with the talents I have is something I'm passionate about."

Working together with his staff members, Phelps identifies young artists, provides performance venues and involves artists in songwriting circles.

"East Texas has a ridiculous amount of talent; it's like it's in the water," he said.

Recently, Texas Music City Records signed its first artist, Billie Jo Sewell, a young mother who is working hard to have her dream of becoming a country artist come true.

"We are trying to help artists along the way and cut down the time it takes for them to make it in the business," Phelps said. "We want to help them get an opportunity they thought they might never have."

Phelps also is utilizing his facilities as a training center for students studying commercial music at a local community college. The community college's instructors teach classes at Texas Music City on how to perform and record live music.

Although his hands are full juggling a restaurant, music venue and recording studio, Phelps continues to stay true to his passions. And if you happen to find yourself in Lindale one evening when an artist takes the stage, you'll likely find him sitting front and center in the audience, living his dream and working to make the dreams of others come true. ★

Photo courtesy of
Texas Red Productions
/ Melissa Arnold



*"We call ourselves a Texas Music City.
Our goal is to make Lindale a one-stop
shop for performances, recordings, artist
management and training."*

TYE PHELPS '90

Above: Country singer Mike Ryan performs during the Texas Music City Saturday Nights in Lindale. Ryan is one of many performers who have crossed the stages at Lindale's newest downtown development project known as The Cannery.

Bottom left: Decorations inside Tye Phelps' restaurant, Texas City, pay homage to iconic country and Texas country artists. A signed photograph of Miranda Lambert and Rusty Wier rests in a display case in the restaurant's hall.

Bottom right: A room inside Texas Music City is one of six performance venues in The Cannery.



The Sky is the Limit

Military experience helps
launch careers managing
helicopter repair
and maintenance



*Robert Sharp '84
Chief operations officer
Corpus Christi Army Depot*



*Mark Wagner '99
Deputy to the commander
Corpus Christi Army Depot*

STORY BY DR. SHIRLEY LUNA '85, '06 & '14

PHOTO BY HARDY MEREDITH '81

MANY PEOPLE MAY not know of the important role a depot in Corpus Christi plays in the nation's military defense. Many more may not be aware of the part two Lumberjacks play in making sure that role is fulfilled.

The Corpus Christi Army Depot is responsible for the repair and overhaul of helicopters and helicopter components for the Department of Defense and other government organizations. Established in 1961, the depot is the largest rotary wing repair facility in the world, and its mission is to return aircraft to service with uncompromising quality at the lowest possible cost and in the shortest amount of time possible.

"In addition to repairing aircraft, we provide training to active, reserve and National Guard personnel," said Robert Sharp '84, chief operations officer for the CCAD. "Soldiers work alongside our skilled artisans and learn how to repair deployed aircraft in their unit."

Mark Wagner '99, an SFA alumnus with a degree in communication disorders and psychology, was working as a financial advisor in 2001 when the terrorist attacks on 9/11 caused him to rethink his career. Wagner decided to pursue a master's degree in public administration and set his sights on working for the Department of Defense.

I WANTED TO SEE THE WORLD.

Sharp grew up in Ohio but wanted to go out of state for his education and chose Texas. After earning a liberal arts degree at SFA, he attended Air Force officer training school for 13 weeks in California and later worked in Cheyenne, Wyoming, as a nuclear missile launch officer.

"It's much duller than it sounds," Sharp explains, "You sit in a command center underground, monitoring nuclear missiles. As long as we don't go to war, very little happens."

While in Wyoming, Sharp earned a master's degree in public administration and later became an aircraft maintenance officer in Chinook, Illinois. He served at Dyess Air Force Base in Abilene and Langley Air Force Base in Virginia, and he later reported for duty in Korea. In 2006, he retired as an Air Force officer and later began a career with Hitachi Medical Systems America, which brought him back to Texas.

"Hitachi is a massive company; they make everything from microchips to nuclear reactors. One small portion of its work involves making medical equipment, like MRI and ultrasound equipment," Sharp said.

At the time, the company owned the technology for open MRIs, and orders for equipment were coming in as fast as the company could produce it.

"The salesmen and technicians were promoted up the ranks and became managers, but many of them had very little management experience. So the Federal Drug Administration came in during a nationwide audit, and the company had entirely too many write-ups," he explained. "They were scrambling, so they hired six retired military officers to come in and fix it. The salesmen would make a

sale, and we would take over. We would do the install and set up, then train the personnel and maintain the equipment after the fact. Meanwhile, we were cleaning up the FDA write-ups. I think that's the No. 1 thing that comes out of a military career — the knowledge of managing a complex organization."

Sharp led his Hitachi region to become the most cost effective in the company, but he longed to return to an aviation-related career. In 2011, he was hired as director of production management at the Corpus Christi Army Depot.

"When a helicopter comes in, we tear it down to the bare bones, completely rebuild the engine and transmission, and return it to like-new condition," Sharp explained. "I oversee the mechanics — we call them artisans — who do this work, the supply system that supports them and the program management that sets it all up."

In 2015, Sharp was named chief operations officer of the depot, which occupies facilities valued at \$746 million on 154 acres, making it the largest tenant of Naval Air Station Corpus Christi.

I LEARNED TO APPRECIATE EVERY OPPORTUNITY I WAS GIVEN.

Wagner, a Houston native, was in his early 20s when he enrolled at SFA with a GED and the experience of owning a video store in Houston for a few years. Two years after graduation, when the 9/11 terrorist attacks caused the financial markets to tumble, he looked at his life and realized he wanted something different.

"My wife had just given birth to our daughter," he said. "Therefore, I wanted to do something that mattered."

Wagner's financial advising experience proved to be a valuable asset.

"I went to work for Naval Air Systems Command in business and financial management advising acquisition programs buying weapon systems, reviewing budget and contractor information, and checking for accuracy and cost performance."

Three years later, Wagner found himself working at the Pentagon in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (comptroller).

"That was an amazing experience for a number of reasons," he said. "While I was there, I was watching President Obama give a speech on contractor reform, and one of the cornerstones of his reforms for the Department of Defense was an initiative I helped draft. I looked at my wife and said, 'Hey, I helped lead that effort!'"

Wagner left the high-intensity Pentagon environment several years later to return to work for the Navy as the comptroller for the commander, Fleet Readiness Centers, which is the Navy's aviation depot headquarters.

"My wife and I were planning to retire in Texas, so one day I was looking at opportunities in the state, and I noticed the CFO position was open here."

Wagner landed the job at CCAD in 2015 and was promoted to deputy to the commander within 18 months.

While Wagner calls being back in Texas "phenomenal," the two

"When a helicopter comes in, we tear it down to the bare bones, completely rebuild the engine and transmission, and return it to like-new condition."

Robert Sharp '84

“We have employees who had losses of their own from the storm. They would come to work, and then, after work, go out in their communities to help others.”

Mark Wagner '99

Lumberjacks found themselves last summer staring at Hurricane Harvey barreling toward the Texas coast with predictions of a Corpus Christi landfall, threatening the Army's helicopter repair facility.

“We locked it down, brought everything inside that we could and sandbagged around the doors to keep the water out of the buildings,” Sharp said. “We had 80 helicopters here when Harvey made landfall. The hangars were fine; the facility damage that we sustained could not have been prevented. All in all, we managed very well.”

Three employees stayed at the facility to monitor the situation and keep other team members apprised. On the first day after the storm, senior leaders and hazardous materials experts came in to assess the damage.

“Each day, we brought in more people, and by the end of that week, we had the full workforce back,” Wagner said. “We ensured they were coming into a safe work environment, and we knew where the hazards were. It also afforded folks the ability to stay home for a few days to take care of any issues at their own properties. Our No. 1 priority was our personnel, their safety and families.”

With a total workforce at the depot of around 3,500 in a city of more than 300,000 residents, Wagner says the sense of community in Corpus Christi can't be found in many larger cities.

“We have employees who had losses of their own from the storm. They would come to work and then, after work, go out in their communities to help others,” Wagner said. “It's very much like how the Nacogdoches and SFA communities feel — the personal relationships I had with so many professors.”

Sharp recalls playing softball with faculty members while he was a student and said he has turned to them for advice throughout his career. One of his faculty mentors, Dr. Dave Petty, was there when Sharp joined and retired from the Air Force, attending both ceremonies.

“He was truly someone I could turn to as a mentor,” Sharp said. “What I learned at SFA was valuable, but the mentorship that followed me after I left was tremendous.” ★



Photos courtesy of the Corpus Christi Army Depot



ED AND GWEN COLE STEM BUILDING

SFA BENEFACTOR ED Cole stands in front of the new science, technology, engineering and mathematics building named in honor of him and his late wife, Gwen, during the ribbon-cutting ceremony July 24.

Throughout the years, the Coles have been major supporters of art, audiology, biotechnology, engineering, mathematics, music, nursing, sciences, theatre, athletic programs and the alumni association at SFA.

BUILDING IS
87,000
SQUARE FEET

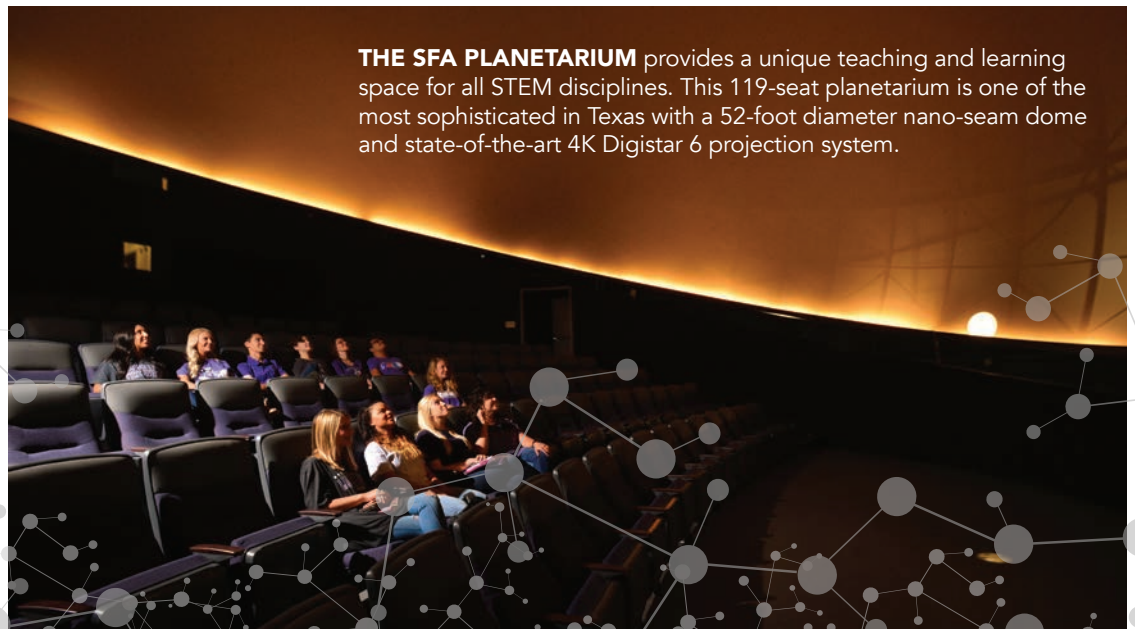
MORE THAN
250
COMPUTERS

13 CLASS
LABS

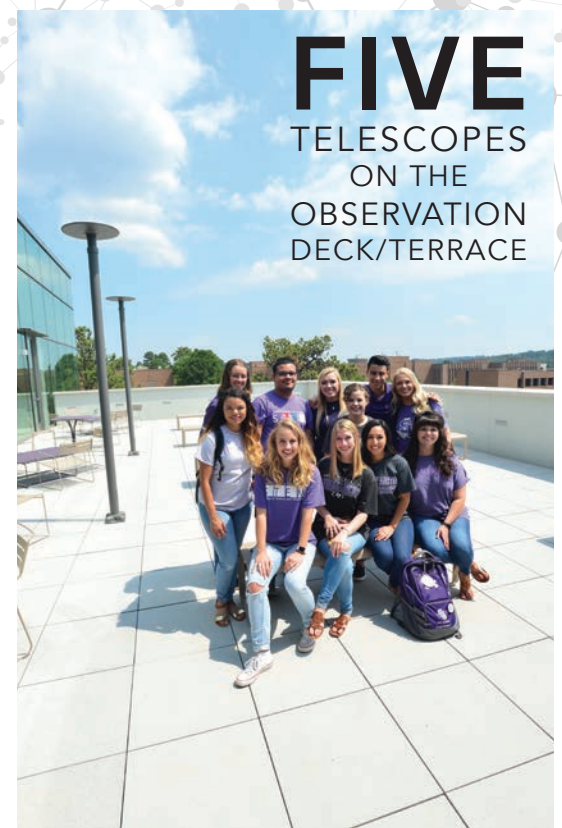
SIX
RESEARCH
LABS

FOUR
CLASSROOMS

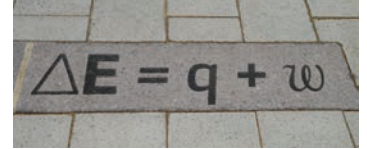
THREE
COMPUTER
CLASSROOMS



THE SFA PLANETARIUM provides a unique teaching and learning space for all STEM disciplines. This 119-seat planetarium is one of the most sophisticated in Texas with a 52-foot diameter nano-seam dome and state-of-the-art 4K Digistar 6 projection system.



FIVE
TELESCOPES
ON THE
OBSERVATION
DECK/TERRACE



ASTRONOMY ALSO IS represented at the new Cole STEM Building in the solar system courtyard, where massive steel sculptures that depict the planets are positioned in their proper rotation around a mosaic sun. Each sculpture details information about the planet that is cut into the steel. The outdoor space also includes STEM facts etched into walkways, three charging stations for computers and cellphones, and a classroom instruction area.

ONE EACH:
CYBERSECURITY LAB
DIGITAL MEDIA CENTER
MACHINE SHOP
STEM COMPUTER LAB



TWO MAKER SPACE AREAS

A maker space is a gathering place for people with shared interests, especially in engineering and computing, and serves as a hub for tools, projects, mentors and expertise. This maker space is equipped with 3D printers, laser cutters, various construction devices and a variety of tools.



15

HUDDLE ROOMS AND

huddle spaces provide students with a variety of ways to study in groups. Huddle rooms are small conference areas equipped with audio, video and display system technology. In addition, huddle spaces offer more open and flexible areas for students to study and collaborate.

THE ATRIUM IN the new Ed and Gwen Cole STEM Building is named in honor of former Regent Barry E. Nelson, a 1971 SFA alumnus. Nelson was a commercial real estate developer who served as a member of SFA's Board of Regents from 2013 until his death Nov. 8, 2016. His work as chair of the Buildings and Grounds Committee and as secretary of the board were instrumental during the design and planning stages of the Cole STEM Building.

'JACK TALK

Facebook - SFASU
Instagram - SFA_JACKS

Twitter - @SFASU
Pinterest - SFALUMBERJACKS

Use #AxeEm or #SFAJackTalk on social media.



We are incredibly inspired by Cassie DeBolt, who had to delay graduating by a year when she was diagnosed with cancer. She graduated summa cum laude from @SFASU with a bachelor's degree in music education, all while on treatment!

CANCER FOR COLLEGE / TWITTER

Bye Nacogdoches! Thank you #StephenFAustin for your hospitality! Great university and amazing faculty members and students! #ThinkBig #LittleCouple

JENARNOLDMD / INSTAGRAM
TLC'S THE LITTLE COUPLE

We both have different paths, but the same end result, drive and passion. Thankful for our brotherhood.

GORDON W. REYNOLDS / TWITTER



Let's go @SFA_MBB!
#MarchMadness2018 #jacks
#flannels

AARON RODGERS / TWITTER
GREEN BAY PACKERS QUARTERBACK



This is Laini. She loves to read and attends kindergarten at the amazing @sfa_jacks charter school in Nacogdoches, the oldest town in Texas. Axe 'em, Jacks! #ProveThemWrong

NOAHSDADDOTCOM / INSTAGRAM

Hey, @SFASU, I took a picture of my fiance playing corn hole with some boards with your logo on it.

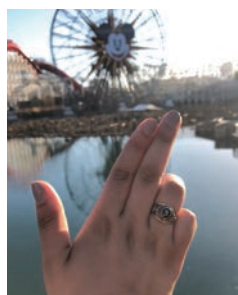


He looks like he belongs in a pamphlet of yours, right? lol

EMILYMDOLLAR / TWITTER

#AxeEm from @Disneyland.

_MELIALFONZO / TWITTER



Special shoutout to my little cousin ... he was determined to get out of that wheelchair and walk across the stage!

YOUNGXDOPVJ / TWITTER



He didn't get that #firstkiss until he took me on our second date! 34 years later we tried a small re-enactment! #sfasu #steenhall #embarrassthkids

TEXASSILVERGIRL / INSTAGRAM

We went for a tour recently and were thoroughly impressed with the friendly staff, campus tour guide and the beauty of the campus. Lots of options with many majors to choose from and many resources to succeed. Really like that everything is close in proximity and it's easy to get around; plus you get the feel of a private university.

LISA MYERS / FACEBOOK

Athletics Highlights

FIFTH-STRAIGHT WOMEN'S ALL-SPORTS TROPHY



SFA CLAIMED ITS fifth-straight Southland Conference Women's All-Sports Trophy.

By receiving a Southland Conference regular season title from volleyball, as well as runner-up finishes in soccer, women's basketball, women's outdoor track and field, and softball, SFA accumulated 88.5 points to hoist the Women's All-Sports Trophy.

NFL DRAFT

SFA DEFENSIVE END John Franklin-Myers '18 achieved his childhood dream in April of becoming a professional football player. Franklin-Myers' name was called by the Los Angeles Rams during the fourth round of the 2018 NFL Draft. The Greenville native is the first NFL Draft pick for SFA in seven years.



SFA BASKETBALL



IT WAS ANOTHER memorable March in Nacogdoches as SFA men's and women's basketball teams advanced to the postseason.

The Lumberjacks advanced to the NCAA Tournament for the fifth time in program history by winning three games as the No. 3 seed in the 2018 Southland Conference Tournament. Junior TJ Holyfield was named the tournament's MVP and helped SFA earn

a 14-seed in the East region before the Jacks traveled to Dallas to face 14th-ranked and third-seeded Texas Tech University in the opening round of the dance.

The Ladyjacks amassed 25 wins for the second straight year. Most of those triumphs came during the squad's runner-up finish in the race for the Southland's regular season title before SFA marched on to the league's tournament title game. Those 25 wins helped SFA earn a bid to the Women's National Invitation Tournament for the fifth time in program history.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

TWENTY-SIX LUMBERJACKS and Ladyjacks were named to the 2017-18 Southland Conference All-Academic Team. Additionally, 179 student-athletes made their way onto the Commissioner's Honor Roll. The upward trend of SFA's student-athletes' academic success peaked when the group posted a cumulative GPA of 3.0 in fall 2017, marking the first time in almost a decade the program's cumulative mark reached at least a 3.0 for a single semester.

MARLINS TAKE NORTON

ON THE FINAL day of the 2018 MLB Draft, SFA junior right-handed pitcher Jake Norton became the latest Lumberjack to hear his name called when he was chosen by the Miami Marlins. With Norton's selection, the total number of SFA baseball players selected in the MLB Draft is up to 19, all of which have come since 1991.



STEVE MCCARTY NAMED TO NACDA HALL OF FAME



IN JUNE, THE National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics named former SFA Director of Athletics Steve McCarty to NACDA's 2018 Hall of Fame class.

McCarty is a two-time SFA graduate and a member of the SFA Alumni Association's Football Coaches Hall of Honor. He originally entered college

athletics administration following a successful high school football coaching career.

During McCarty's time as SFA's athletics director, Lumberjack and Ladyjack athletics experienced success across the board: two NCAA playoff berths for football; three NCAA volleyball championship appearances and two National Invitational Volleyball Championship appearances; 14 NCAA women's basketball championship appearances; an appearance in the NCAA men's golf regional; three Southland Conference soccer titles and an NCAA soccer championship appearance; six SLC cross-country titles, including the past four men's championships; and two women's track and field titles and one men's track and field title.

*Diplocardia
hebi specimen,
collected
Dec. 16, 2015
(actual size)*



BURIED TREASURE



*Diplocardia
deborahae
specimen,
collected
April 13, 1971
(actual size)*

ALUMNUS, FACULTY MEMBER DISCOVERS NEW EARTHWORM SPECIES

STORY BY SARAH FULLER '08 & '13
PHOTOS BY HARDY MEREDITH '81





*Damoff explains that an acre of pastureland with good soil could be home to one million earthworms of varying species. Left, Damoff reveals an earthworm found on the forest floor of SFA's Tucker Woods. / Right, Damoff holds a specimen of *Diplocardia fusca*, a species of earthworm native to Texas he preserved for future reference, as Dr. Kenneth Farrish looks on.*

DWELLING BENEATH THE soil's surface are intricate communities of organisms whose very existence is vital to ecological health and well-being. While it is widely understood that these creatures are important, little is known about their direct relationship with plant communities, and far less is known about the sheer number of species that may exist. Dr. George Damoff's life passion is to change that.

"In a square meter or yard, you can have hundreds of earthworms," said Damoff '80, '87 & '08, an SFA Division of Environmental Science adjunct faculty member. "In a typical acre of pastureland with good soil, you can have a million earthworms per acre."

In the past year alone, Damoff has described and published information about two entirely new species — *Diplocardia deborahae* and *Diplocardia hebi*. And with the backlog of specimens awaiting dissection in his Dallas-based home lab, that number is likely to dramatically increase.

"This is a species from Oklahoma that is new to science," Damoff said, holding up a vial containing an earthworm in SFA's forest soils lab. "In Oklahoma and Texas, I have found nearly two dozen new, unnamed species."

Although Damoff has discovered a number of other new species, they will not be officially recognized until his descriptions have been peer-reviewed and published in *Megadrilogica*, a scientific journal solely dedicated to the study of earthworms.

One of the new species now under review was collected on the banks of the Colorado River east of Austin and will be named in honor of Dr. Kenneth Farrish, director of SFA's Division of Environmental Science and Hiram and Gloria Arnold Distinguished Professor. It was Farrish who introduced Damoff to megadrilogology, also known as the study of earthworms.

"Earthworms are terribly important to how soils function," Farrish said. "Our food depends on soil, our fiber products depend on soil, and it is not a renewable resource. I like to say that once you find out about earthworms, they're not so lowly."

Additionally, more than 150 miles west of Austin on the south bank of the Colorado River, Damoff discovered yet another new species, *Diplocardia jamesi*, named in honor of Dr. Sam James, a renowned researcher who mentored Damoff in earthworm identification.

"I think it's neat that these two very important men who helped get me started will be featured in the same publication," Damoff said. ➔



“There are very few people who work with *Diplocardia* because in order to correctly identify the earthworms you have to go inside them, and many of them are 1 to 2 millimeters in diameter.”

DR. GEORGE
DAMOFF '80, '87 & '08

SFA Division of Environmental
Science adjunct faculty member



Following peer review, these two species, like *Diplocardia hebi*, will be prepared as type specimens and housed in the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington D.C.

“Sam James has collected and named a large number of species from around the world,” Damoff said. “When I got started, he told me I was going to find a lot of new species in Texas, but I don’t think he realized just how many.”

When listening to Damoff talk about earthworms, it’s difficult to imagine these organisms have not always been his singular passion.

He received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in biology at SFA. As a graduate student, he focused on limnology, the biological study of lakes, rivers and other bodies of fresh water. It wasn’t until Damoff returned to SFA a decade later to pursue a doctoral degree in forestry that he discovered his calling while sitting in a forest soils science class taught by Farrish.

Damoff recalled that during one lecture, Farrish spent a seemingly inordinate amount of time focused on the importance of earthworms, as well as how very little is known about them.

“I sat off to the side of the class listening to him go on and on, and it was literally one of those situations when a light bulb went on over my head,” Damoff said. “I’m thinking, ‘I’m a biologist, and forestry has a need to know more about this biological organism.’”

Following this epiphany, Damoff waited two weeks before approaching Farrish to express his interest in conducting earthworm-related research.

“The first thing I said to him was, ‘My name is George. The name George means worker of the soil, and I should be working in soil,’” Damoff said.

Damoff explained the name George has Greek origins that translate to “farmer” or “worker of the Earth” — a fitting moniker for a megadrilologist.

To learn earthworm identification techniques, Damoff contacted James, then serving as associate professor at the Maharishi University of Management in Fairfield, Iowa.

“The best way I can describe those three days in the lab with Sam is when you go to the Big Sky Country, look up at night, see all those stars and you just marvel,” Damoff said. “The same thing happened to me microscopically when I studied the inside of an earthworm. I just marveled at everything that was there.”

In addition to conducting surveys across Texas and Oklahoma, Damoff also works with researchers and agencies from across the continent to dissect and identify vial upon vial of earthworms.

Diplocardia deborahae, one of his most recent discoveries, sat on a shelf at the Canadian Museum of Nature in Ottawa, Ontario, for nearly 50 years after being collected in Eastern Tennessee by fellow megadrilologist Dr. John Reynolds.

Damoff met Reynolds in the early 2000s, and when Reynolds realized Damoff was skilled in *Diplocardia* identification, he asked Damoff if he would be interested in identifying the more than 900 vials of earthworms collected during his decades of research.

Damoff jumped at the opportunity and spent a week at the museum processing the worms for shipment to his lab in Dallas.

“There are very few people who work with *Diplocardia* because in order to correctly identify the earthworms you have to go inside them, and many of them are 1 to 2 millimeters in diameter,” Damoff said. “People don’t have patience for that or are just not interested, but I never grow tired of it.”

In addition to Damoff’s search for new species, he also is greatly interested in exploring and quantifying the effect of non-native earthworms on different ecosystems.

“Invasive species are a pretty big problem,” Damoff said. “I suspect there are some pretty strong effects on hydrology and changes in plant communities, especially in lower areas.”

Damoff said that in the Northern U.S., non-native earthworms, often inadvertently introduced through imported plants and agricultural materials, are completely altering the forest floor and, subsequently, the broader forest ecosystem.

“In forests up North, you have a duff layer that’s a foot or more deep,” Damoff said. “These invasive species can actually obliterate it to the point where it’s just exposed mineral soil.”

Damoff explained that this leads to erosion and germination failure in plant species that depend on the thick layer of organic material.

“There’s actual data from a study conducted in the northern U.S. showing that these invasive earthworms impacted the browse to a point that it reduced the white-tailed deer population,” Damoff said.

As he moves forward with his pioneering research, Damoff can’t help but look back on the humble beginnings of his life’s work with a smile. As a child in Columbus, Ohio, Damoff and his two older brothers, coffee can and flashlight in hand, frequently scoured their backyard after dinner in search of earthworms to use as fishing bait.

“That was really the beginning,” he said. “I’ve wondered why it took so long for me to discover earthworms as my passion, but I’m not going to complain — I’ve certainly been enjoying it.” ★

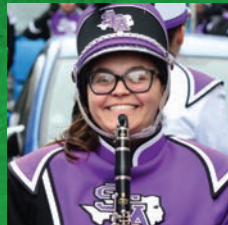




MEMBERS OF THE
LUMBERJACK MARCHING BAND
SPENT SPRING BREAK
TOURING IRELAND,
WHERE THEY PARTICIPATED
IN THE DUBLIN
ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE.



Rock of Cashel Cathedral
County Tipperary



The shamrocks on the banner honor the memory of five SFA students and members of the Lumberjack Marching Band who passed away during 2017-18. Those members include Caleb Gibbs, Gage Hollingsworth, Kevin Kelley, Yessenia Ramirez and Erin Valenta.

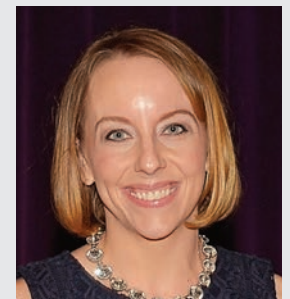
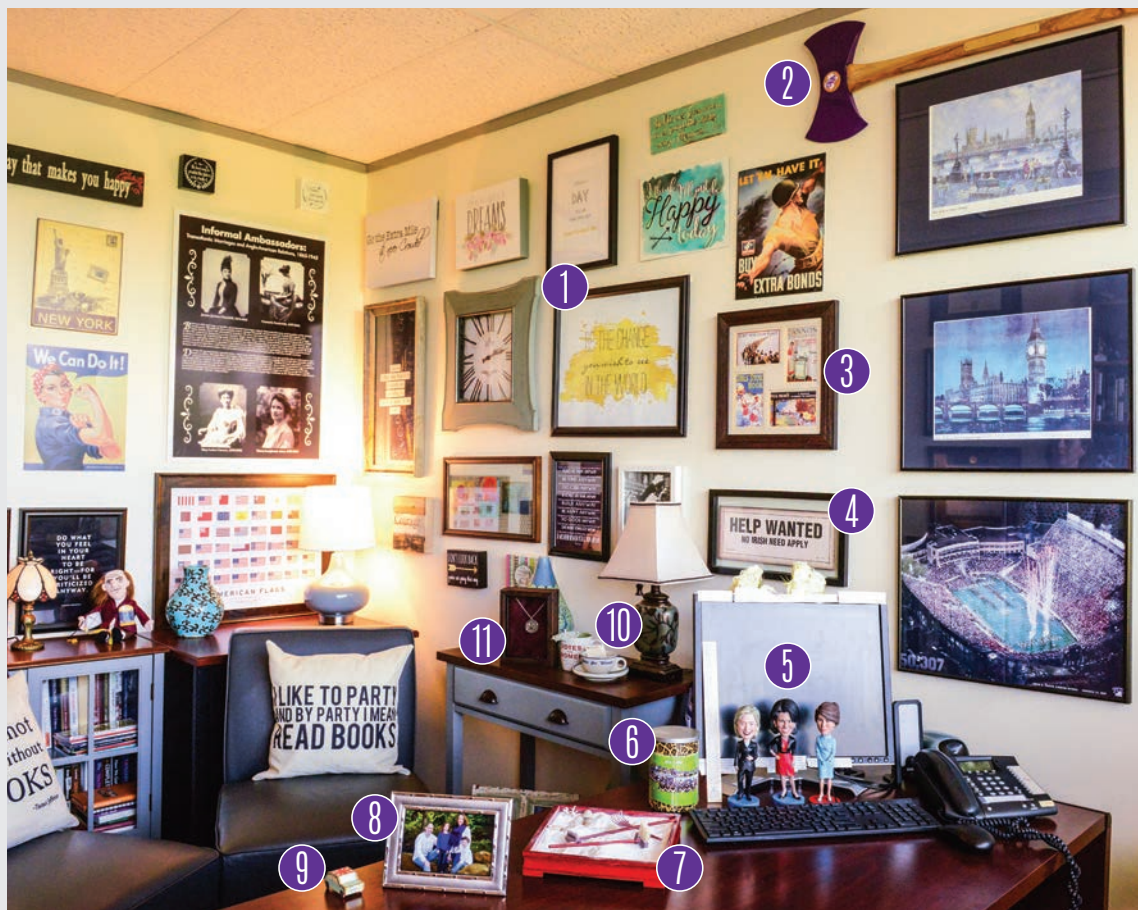


Trinity College, Dublin



Blarney Castle, Cork

Work Space / Inside Dr. Dana Cooper's Office



DR. DANA COOPER
Professor of History

- Cooper is a believer in motivational quotes, as evidenced by the collection displayed on her office walls. The framed and insightful assortment is the first thing most visitors notice. Cooper said the quotes inspire her and her students.
- The axe was presented to Cooper in 2016 when she was selected by the SFA Alumni Association as a Distinguished Professor. The award is among the highest honors an individual may receive at SFA.
- In lieu of souvenirs, Cooper often purchases pictures or postcards during her trans-Atlantic travels and frames them upon her return home. They serve as visual reminders of her trips abroad.
- Cooper's maiden name is Magill — an Irish surname. She bought this sign, which reads, "Help Wanted, No Irish Need Apply," in Boston during the summer of 2008 when she was a research fellow at the Massachusetts Historical Society.
- One of Cooper's favorite classes to teach is on the first ladies of the U.S. This trio of bobbleheads displayed in front of her computer monitor is an entertaining representation of an area of history Cooper enjoys sharing with her students.
- As a first-generation college student, Cooper has a strong connection to the Generation Jacks program, which provides support for SFA first-generation college students. This candle was a gift to Cooper from the incoming 2017 GenJacks class, and the container shares the message, "You light up our world."
- The Zen sand garden provides office visitors with the opportunity to "zone out" and relax while discussing tough topics.
- Cooper is married and the mother of two children, 9-year-old Amory and 7-year-old Christian. Her office showcases dozens of family photos, including this one that sits on the desk. One of Cooper's favorite quotes is by former first lady Jacqueline Kennedy and states, "If you bungle raising your children, I don't think whatever else you do matters very much."
- This Mini Cooper was a gift from a friend who teaches at another university and recently led a study abroad trip to London. The tiny toy car also reminds Cooper of her two children, who are often referred to as the "Mini Coopers."
- As a women's historian, Cooper could not resist purchasing several items, including these tea and coffee cups, from the Newport Mansions in Newport, Rhode Island, when she visited the estate a decade ago. The motto "Votes for Women," which is depicted on the cups, was used in 1909 at the famous suffrage rally at Marble House in Newport.
- A few years ago, Cooper led a sophomore-level history class through a unique experience: They planned, organized and hosted a conference celebrating the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812. Members of the local Daughters of the War of 1812 attended the conference and honored Cooper for her efforts by presenting her with this bicentennial medallion.

A few of our favorite purple things

Ultra violet purple is the 2018 Color of the Year, according to Pantone, a provider of color standards for the design industries. The chosen color is said to encompass "what's needed in the world today." According to representatives at Pantone, ultra violet purple "symbolizes experimentation and non-conformity, spurring individuals to imagine their unique mark on the world and push boundaries through creative outlets." It seems fitting that a shade of purple (similar to SFA's hue) will be highlighted in fashion, decorating and design trends throughout the year. The Pantone Color System originated in 1963 to simplify color matching in the printing industry and is the most important color-matching system in the world.

Find our favorite purple items on SFA's official [Pinterest page!](#)

 [SFAlumberjacks](#)



1. Purple Rock Candy Lollipops / 2. Purple Plaid Dog Collar / 3. Keurig K-Mini K15 Coffee Maker / 4. Nine-Piece Silicone Kitchen Utensil Set / 5. Fitbit Charge 2 Heart Rate + Fitness Wristband / 6. Purple Striped Paper Straws / 7. Ergonomic Purple Office Chair / 8. Canon PowerShot ELPH 360 Digital Camera / 9. Artisan Design 5-Quart KitchenAid Stand Mixer with Glass Bowl - Plumberry / 10. Fatboy Lamzac the Original Lounge Chair / 11. Door Mat

VIDEO VISIO

FINE ARTS GRADUATE
IS SEGMENT PRODUCER
FOR POPULAR
LIFESTYLE SHOW

STORY BY ROBBIE GOODRICH '82

DAYTIME EMMY-NOMINATED

producer Lauren Chamberlin '12 didn't always know she wanted to make a living in television.

As a child growing up in Klein, just north of Houston, she "bounced around from career idea to career idea."

"I wanted to be an astronaut, an engineer, a lawyer, a psychologist, a mortician ... I wanted to be all of them at once," she said.

As she started thinking about college and the future, Chamberlin began to look closer at the possibilities a career in television and filmmaking could present, and she began to realize she could experience all those careers from behind a camera or in a studio.

Now living in Reseda, California, Chamberlin is a segment producer for Hallmark Channel's "Home & Family." She works in Los Angeles, where the two-hour daily lifestyle show is recorded at the Universal Studios Backlot.

Still basking in the glow of "Home & Family's" recent Daytime Emmy Award nomination for Outstanding Lifetime Program, she recalls her time at SFA earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts in cinematography and how the many long hours and late nights as a filmmaking student helped prepare her for today's challenges in an industry she loves. She says School of Art faculty members William Arscott and Brad Maule can take some additional credit for that. But it was a "lucky number" that initially drew her to SFA.

"I decided to check out SFA because I had an odd obsession with my lucky number — 212 — and that happened to be the course number for the beginning film class at SFA," she said. "When I visited the campus, I met Professor Arscott, and he took the time to sit and talk with my parents and me one-on-one. I was absolutely enchanted by his knowledge and stories, and from that moment, I knew I had to be in his class. ➔

ONARY



“WE FIND INTERESTING STORIES FROM CELEBRITIES — HUMAN INTEREST STORIES CELEBRATING FASCINATING PEOPLE — AND WE WORK WITH VERY CREATIVE DO-IT-YOURSELFERS AND CHEFS



“Professors Arscott and Maule had such valuable insight into the industry and of how things work professionally that stepping into a new job just feels like I’m in school all over again,” Chamberlin said.

Recalling the camaraderie she experienced in the filmmaking program at SFA, she said the long hours of directing and producing movies and videos tend to create a family with the people around you.

“That didn’t change as I moved into the industry,” she said.

That’s a lot of what “Home & Family” is about. But before landing her current dream gig in LA three years ago, she dabbled in reality TV in the Dallas area after graduation.

“When I left SFA, I moved to Dallas where I had friends — people I met through SFA — to lean on for work,” she said. “I worked production and coordinating on a lot of reality television: ‘Storage Wars: Texas,’ ‘Redneck Vacation,’ ‘My Addiction,’ ‘Bullionaires,’ ‘Real Housewives of Dallas,’ ‘Demolition Ranch’ and so many more.

“Unfortunately, a lot of the things I worked on didn’t even get to air,” she said. “The best experiences were with passion projects with my friends. We continued to make movies that we believed in, even if they didn’t go anywhere.”

Perseverance and patience, coupled with showing respect to all the industry professionals she met and worked with during the next few years, eventually paid off.

“The only reason I am at ‘Home & Family’ is because of a recommendation from someone three jobs ago,” she said. “It’s been almost three years since I was hired for two days as a production assistant.

“So be respectful to everyone,” she advised. “You never know who is going to have your back some day.”

“Home & Family” is divided into segments between commercial breaks, and each segment producer writes his or her own segments.

“We find interesting stories from celebrities — human interest stories celebrating fascinating people — and we work with very creative do-it-yourselfers and chefs who can build and make the most clever things,” she said.

Each morning, segment producers, the executive producer and department representatives meet to talk about the day.

“We discuss with our director how we have planned for our stories to work, and we work with our prop team members to determine if they need to build or ‘beautify’ something,” she said. “After the meeting, we rehearse almost everything. This gives us a chance to work out any kinks before the show starts.”

Promptly at 1 p.m., taping begins and continues until 3 p.m. The show is recorded live to tape, which means there are no opportunities for “re-dos,” Chamberlin explained.

WHO CAN BUILD AND MAKE THE MOST CLEVER THINGS.”



“As a producer, I make sure my story gets all the support I can give it,” she said. “I ensure the talent knows what they’re going to say, what questions to ask and what answers to expect. I make sure there are photos and videos for the appropriate moments.”

“Once the segment starts, I hold and manipulate the questions and cue cards based on how much time we have left,” she said. “Once the show ends at 3 p.m., we start planning for tomorrow’s show.”

“All of our segments take weeks of planning to accomplish,” she said, “so in between all the other events, we are pre-interviewing upcoming guests, or working with our chefs, prop team and talent to come up with ideas and figure out everything needed to make them happen.”

When asked to recall her favorite and most challenging memories at SFA, Chamberlin said, “I can think of ‘tough’ ones that I’m sure were the most challenging to me at the time — late nights editing projects only to drop the hard drive and lose everything, movies that seemed good in concept, only for the execution to be subpar. But they were all just stepping stones.”

Upon learning this past spring that “Home & Family” had been nominated for a Daytime Emmy Award, Chamberlin said she felt “absolutely elated!” The 2018 honor went to NBC’s “Naturally, Danny Seo,” but the nomination confirmed to Chamberlin and her colleagues that their daily hard work is not only important, but also award-worthy.

“Every single person and department on our show deserves an award,” she said. “You get tired, the grind is real, and sometimes you forget that people see what you do. It was a reminder that people see our hard work, and they like it.”

Chamberlin and her coworkers spend anywhere from 12 to 15 hours together each day, so they are very much like a family.

“These are the people I still love to spend my time with. I’ve even helped a coworker plan his engagement.”

And each new day brings a new show and a new start.

“We learn from our previous segments, and we keep moving forward,” Chamberlin said. “As chaotic as things can get, they are over when the show ends, and we get to start again the next day.”

An astronaut, an engineer, a lawyer, a psychologist, a mortician ... they’re all within reach with every new segment.

“My dream is to continue learning and experiencing everything I can in the world.” ★

**SFA ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION OFFICERS**

David Madrid '02, Bossier City, Louisiana
president

Bob Francis '78, Bullard
president-elect

Mike Harbordt '63, Nacogdoches
past president

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD

Charlotte Ashcraft '80, Nacogdoches
Tony Both '98, Katy

Larry Brooks '01, Houston
Reuben Brown '07, Grand Prairie
Jeremy Cleverly '98, Mansfield

Brian Dawson '03, Conroe
James Drennan '73, Pittsburg
Doris Havard, Nacogdoches

Bruce Mayberry II '08, Arlington
Steve McCarty '65 & '70, Alto
Jaclyn Partin '08 & '14, Nacogdoches
Alex Ranc '11 & '13, Nacogdoches

Erika Tolar '02, Spring
Bob Williams '70, Dallas
Julie Woods '99, Longview

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION STAFF

Craig Turnage '00 & '05
executive director of alumni relations

Jennifer Sowell
assistant to the executive director

Heather Hawkins '00
assistant director of alumni relations

Samantha Mora '08
director of events and engagement

Alicia Roland Chatman '16
gifts and records specialist

Amie Ford '09 & '11
scholarship coordinator

Derek Snyder '01
communications and marketing
coordinator

Anne Scamardo
accounting assistant

CONTACT

Sawdust
P.O. Box 6096, SFA Station
Nacogdoches, TX 75962
(936) 468-3407 ★ (800) 765-1534
alumni@sfasu.edu ★ sfaalumni.com

THE SFA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

is a nonprofit organization
dedicated to engaging
SFA students, alumni and friends
to create an attitude
of continued loyalty and support.

From the Association

“We need volunteers in various regions
to work with our staff members to help
engage more SFA alumni.”



IN PREVIOUS

LETTERS, I focused on our hard-working alumni association staff members. We are fortunate to have such an amazing and dedicated group who go above and beyond to promote SFA. We also

have volunteers who have completed more than a decade of service to the alumni association. Their service also is integral to what we do. In ideal situations, alumni staff members manage the events with alumni volunteers, assisting in whatever capacity is needed.

Who are these volunteers, and what drives them?

These enthusiastic alumni volunteers bleed purple through and through. They seek out ways to volunteer for SFA. They care for student-athletes and serve on boards. They pursue meeting new Lumberjack alumni in their region. When it is time to cheer on the Lumberjacks and Ladyjacks, you can always count on seeing them at watch parties and games.

While SFA pride is almost always the foundation of their service, these alumni volunteers are professionals who bring vital skills that promote the alumni association's mission. Some serve on the alumni association board and share their management, networking, finance and legal talents. Some serve more regionally in a networking capacity. No matter where or how they serve, one thing is certain — when you bring together dedicated volunteers who bleed purple, have complementary skills and the desire to help our dynamic alumni association staff members in any way that is needed — the sky is the limit.

How can you get involved?

We need volunteers in various regions to work with our staff members to help engage more SFA alumni. For the past several months, we have been working on ways to not only locate and nominate alumni volunteers within our own circles of influence but also find alumni volunteer prospects outside our circles. We have developed an application form and shared it on social media and the alumni association's website. We will continue to broadcast this message in an attempt to recruit more volunteers. We need you!

If you are interested, there are ways for you to help at every commitment level. Whether you are a master of social media or someone who could commit to our regional efforts in your hometown, we are ready to get you involved! Call or email the alumni association, and we will find a way to put your skills to great use. ★

Axe 'em, Jacks!

David Madrid '02 – Bossier City, Louisiana
President, SFA Alumni Association

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI AWARDS

THE SFA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUALLY BESTOWS ITS HIGHEST HONORS ON INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE MADE OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THEIR PROFESSIONS AND COMMUNITY, COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO ADVANCING THE VALUES AND GOALS OF SFA, AND ENSURED A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

The Distinguished Alumni Award was established in 1966.



CAPT. LARRY W. BAILEY '62



DR. MARLA D. MURPHY '73
WILLIAM A. MURPHY '73



MICHAEL S. TAFF '84

OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNI

The Outstanding Young Alumni Award was established in 1989.



KRYSTAL RICHARDSON
LUCERO '05



BLAKE WILCOX '02

LUMBERJACK PRIDE

The Lumberjack Pride Award was established in 2015.



ERIKA BAZALDUA '14

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR

The Distinguished Professor Award was established in 1966.



DR. CHRISTOPHER E. COMER

AWARDS CEREMONY / FRIDAY, SEPT. 7

RECEPTION: 6 P.M. / DINNER: 7 P.M.

THE FREDONIA HOTEL / LIMITED SEATING

TICKETS: (936) 468-3407 OR MORTONAE@SFASU.EDU

\$60 PER TICKET / \$600 FOR A TABLE OF 10

SFA
95
YRS

HOMECOMING EVENTS

Visit sfaalumni.com/homecoming
for the most up-to-date list of events.

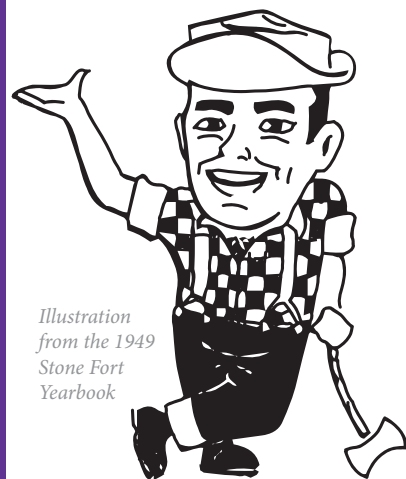


Illustration
from the 1949
Stone Fort
Yearbook

THURSDAY, OCT. 18

HOMECOMING KICKOFF CELEBRATION (NEW)

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. / Pearman Alumni Center
Cash bar; Life Members receive two drink tickets

Join the SFA Alumni Association and fellow Lumberjacks as we kick off Homecoming and recognize our sponsors' support with complimentary Lumberjack-themed appetizers, adult beverages, live music and, most anticipated, the start of our Homecoming online auction. Free for everyone to attend.

HOMECOMING ONLINE AUCTION BEGINS

Begins: 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 18 / Ends: 9 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 28

Visit biddingforgood.com/sfahomecoming to bid on your favorite items and help raise money for SFA alumni programming and scholarships.

THURSDAY, OCT. 25

NINTH ANNUAL LUMBERJACK HOMECOMING 5K

Begins: 6 p.m. / Start location: TBD

Enjoy a run around the SFA campus and beautiful Nacogdoches. The first 100 participants are guaranteed a T-shirt. Prizes will be awarded to best overall male and female times and the top three males and females in each age group. Proceeds benefit the Dr. Raymond Lee Worsham Scholarship.

FRIDAY, OCT. 26

SFA HOMECOMING GOLF TOURNAMENT

Cost: \$150 individual; \$600 team

Registration: 9:30 a.m. / Begins: 11 a.m.

Piney Woods Country Club, 3001 U.S. Highway 59

Four-player scramble. Players may enter as a single or recruit their own team. Entry fee includes tournament play, golf cart, refreshments, boxed lunch and post-tournament hors d'oeuvres. Tee gifts to all contestants, great prizes for all gross and net winners, and closest-to-hole prizes also will be awarded.

"BACK IN NAC" SOCIAL

4 to 7 p.m. / Nine Flags Bar, The Fredonia Hotel, 200 N. Fredonia St.

To kick off the weekend, join fellow alumni for the happiest of all happy hours at the "Back in Nac" Social. Enjoy purple beer (for purchase), awesome appetizer specials, live music, a photo booth and more. Be sure to go by after the bonfire festivities for late-night specials, too.

SFA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP MEETING

4:30 to 5 p.m. / The Fredonia Hotel, 200 N. Fredonia St.

HOMECOMING JACK TRACK BUS SHUTTLE

6:30 to 11 p.m.

Free shuttle service between the bonfire, coliseum and The Fredonia Hotel.

JACK MADNESS

Time: TBD

Johnson Coliseum / SFA campus / Free admission

Cheer on your SFA Lumberjack and Ladyjack basketball teams! Tons of prizes will be given away, and a dunk contest will add to the excitement.

ALUMNI NIGHT: SFA SOCCER VS. SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

7 p.m. / SFA Soccer Field

Cheer the Ladyjacks on to victory against the Bearkats. Free SFA swag for alumni association members.

TORCHLIGHT PARADE AND BONFIRE

Torchlight Parade: 8:30 p.m. at the SFA Ag Pond

Bonfire: 9 p.m. at the Intramural Fields

Show your school spirit as SFA alumni, students and members of the Nacogdoches community gather to cheer on the SFA football team, cheerleaders, dance team and band. The SFA Alumni Association will be on hand distributing free 3D fireworks glasses (while supplies last), so be sure to stop by our purple tartan tent. Fireworks and a special performance will conclude the night's festivities.

SATURDAY, OCT. 27

HOMECOMING FLAP "JACK" BREAKFAST

8 to 10 a.m. / The Fredonia Hotel, 200 N. Fredonia St.

Cost: \$10; free for Life Members (and one guest)

Enjoy breakfast like a Lumberjack with flap "jacks." Decorate your meal with purple goodies, grab a Lumberjack coloring sheet, take photos with the SFA Lumberjack, Ladyjack and spirit teams (8 to 9 a.m.), and listen to live music.

HOMECOMING PARADE

10 a.m. / Downtown Nacogdoches

Celebrate SFA and enjoy themed floats, music and pageantry. The parade is free for all to attend. This year's theme is "Decades."

COFFEE WITH BOB SITTON AND BETTY FORD (NEW)

11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Pearman Alumni Center

Stop by and reminisce about the good ol' days with former Alumni Relations Executive Director Bob Sitton and former Assistant to the Director Betty Ford. Check out the online auction items while you are there!

ALUMNI CORNER

Noon at the corner of Raguet and Hayter streets

Join the SFA Alumni Association for delicious decades-themed tailgate food, the Suddenlink viewing lounge, SFA swag, photo booth, games and live music. Alumni Corner is free for SFA Alumni Association members; \$15 for non-members; \$5 for children ages 6 to 10 (with adult); and free for children 5 and younger (with adult).

ALUMNI FALL FEST

Noon at the corner of Raguet and Hayter streets

Enjoy the family friendly fall fest with petting zoo, bounce houses, Kona premium tropical shaved ice, balloon animals, decades-themed crafts, games and giveaways. The event is free and fun for children of all ages. The first 100 children receive a free "Future Alum" T-shirt.

HOMECOMING FOOTBALL GAME

3 p.m. at Homer Bryce Stadium

Cheer on the Lumberjacks as they face Lamar University. Visit sfajacks.com to purchase game tickets, or call (936) 468-JACK (5225).

FREDONIA FEST (NEW)

2 to 10 p.m.

Fredonia Brewery

Join Fredonia Brewery for live entertainment, German food and Märzen Fredonia Fest beer.

SUNDAY, OCT. 28

HOMECOMING ONLINE AUCTION ENDS

Ends: 9 p.m.

Last chance to visit biddingforgood.com/sfahomecoming to bid on your favorite items and help raise money for SFA alumni programming and scholarships.



Alumni Calendar /

Visit sfaalumni.com/events for the most recent information.
Times and dates are subject to change.

SEPTEMBER

- 1**
SFA Football Tailgate Party at Mississippi State University
3:30 to 5:30 p.m. / Starkville, Mississippi
SFA Football vs. Mississippi State University
6:30 p.m. / Starkville, Mississippi
- 5**
Part-Time Job, Volunteer and Internship Career Expo
11 a.m. to 2 p.m. / Baker Pattillo Student Center, Twilight Ballroom / Nacogdoches
- 7**
Alumni Awards
Cocktail Reception: 6 p.m. / Dinner: 7 p.m.
The Fredonia Hotel / Nacogdoches
- 8**
The Lumberjack Marching Band and Twirl-O-Jacks Reunion
Nacogdoches
Alumni Corner Tailgate
3 p.m. / Corner of Hayter and Raguet streets
Nacogdoches
SFA Football vs. Tarleton State University
6 p.m. / Homer Bryce Stadium
Nacogdoches
- 18**
Kickoff Celebration of SFA's 95th Birthday
11 a.m. / Baker Pattillo Student Center Plaza
- 19**
Accounting Career Expo
1 to 3 p.m. / Baker Pattillo Student Center
Twilight Ballroom / Nacogdoches
Margaritas and Mentors - The Woodlands
5:30 to 7:30 p.m. / Pappasito's Cantina
18101 Interstate 45 N / Shenandoah
- 20**
Margaritas and Mentors - Houston
5:30 to 7:30 p.m. / Pappasito's Cantina
6445 Richmond / Houston
- 22**
Parents Day
Jacks of Honor Reception at Alumni Corner
3 p.m. / Corner of Hayter and Raguet streets
Nacogdoches
- Alumni Corner Tailgate**
3 p.m. / Corner of Hayter and Raguet streets
Nacogdoches
Jacks of Honor Induction
6 p.m. during the football halftime show
Homer Bryce Stadium / Nacogdoches
SFA Football vs. Abilene Christian University
6 p.m. / Homer Bryce Stadium
Nacogdoches

- 26**
National Lumberjack Appreciation Day
Margaritas and Mentors - Fort Worth
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Meso Maya Comida & Copas
3050 S. Hulen St., Suite A / Fort Worth

- 27**
Margaritas and Mentors - Dallas
5:30 to 7:30 p.m. / El Fenix
1601 McKinney Ave. / Dallas

OCTOBER

- 1-3**
SFA Ring Week
Pearman Alumni Center / Nacogdoches
- 5**
STEM Career and Internship Expo
9 to 11:30 a.m. / Baker Pattillo Student Center
Twilight Ballroom / Nacogdoches
Battle of the Piney Woods Kickoff Lunch
11:30 a.m. / Champions Golf Club
NRG Stadium / \$50 per person
- 6**
Battle of the Piney Woods Tailgate
Begins at 9 a.m. / NRG Stadium / Houston
Battle of the Piney Woods Game
1 p.m. / NRG Stadium / Houston
**The SFA Alumni Association is taking a fan bus from Nacogdoches to Houston. To learn more, call (936) 468-3407.*
- 12**
Fall Teacher Job Fair
9:30 a.m. to noon / HPE Complex
Shelton Gym / Nacogdoches
- 13**
Golden Jacks 50-Year Reunion
SFA campus / Nacogdoches
- Alumni Corner Tailgate**
Noon / Corner of Hayter and Raguet streets
Nacogdoches
Alumni Day at the SFA Football Game SFA Football vs. University of Central Arkansas
3 p.m. / Homer Bryce Stadium
Nacogdoches
- 18**
Homecoming Kickoff Celebration
5:30 to 7:30 p.m. / Pearman Alumni Center
- 22-28**
SFA Homecoming Storefront Decorating Competition in Nacogdoches
- 24**
Fall Career and Internship Expo
1 to 4 p.m. / HPE Complex
Shelton Gym / Nacogdoches
- 25**
Ninth Annual Lumberjack Homecoming 5K
Begins: 6 p.m. / Start location: TBD
- 26**
Alumni Night: SFA Soccer vs. Sam Houston State University
7 p.m. / SFA Soccer Field / Nacogdoches
Free SFA swag for alumni association members.
- 26-28**
Homecoming Weekend
See Pages 36 to 37 for more information.
- 27**
Alumni Corner Tailgate
Noon / Corner of Hayter and Raguet streets
Nacogdoches
SFA Football vs. Lamar University
3 p.m. / Homer Bryce Stadium
Nacogdoches

NOVEMBER

- 1**
Alumni Day: SFA Volleyball vs. Sam Houston State University
6:30 p.m. / HPE Complex, Shelton Gym
Nacogdoches / Free T-shirts for alumni association members.

Scholarships



Justin Taylor Lenderman Memorial Scholarship

JUSTIN TAYLOR LENDERMAN was born in Nacogdoches, March 11, 1994, and passed away in Jacksonville, Feb. 12, 2016, from injuries suffered in an all-terrain vehicle accident. Lenderman attended Angelina College and later followed in the footsteps of his mother, Stacy Scott Lindsey; grandmother, Kathryn Applewhite Scott; and aunt, Shana Scott, by enrolling at SFA.

At the time of his death, Lenderman was just six months from graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in

criminal justice. His family accepted Lenderman's SFA diploma during the May 2016 graduation ceremony. Lenderman loved God, his family and friends, and he was an avid outdoorsman. His dream was to become a Texas game warden.

While at SFA, Lenderman worked for procurement and property services, where he made many new friends. He also was a member of the Kappa Alpha fraternity and enjoyed the camaraderie of his fraternity brothers. ★

Scholarships Help Make Dreams Come True

HOW TO ENDOW A SCHOLARSHIP:

A minimum of \$20,000 is required to endow a scholarship, which may be accomplished during a five-year period.

Scholarships are endowed by cash, gifts, corporate matching gifts, gifts of stock, bonds, life insurance, memorial contributions and wills.

Your gift to support SFA students secures educational opportunities for generations of future Lumberjacks.

Contact us to create your legacy today.

❶ Make the decision to help. Future SFA alumni need your financial assistance. Plan your contribution.

❷ Name your scholarship. You may name your scholarship after yourself or in memory or honor of someone.

❸ Determine eligibility criteria. You may include college major or GPA or restrict the scholarship to certain types of recipients.

SFASU Foundation Inc.
P.O. Box 6092, SFA Station
Nacogdoches, Texas 75962

Phone: (936) 468-5406 / Toll Free: (800) 319-9517

Email: givetosfa@sfasu.edu / Website: sfasu.edu/giving

Life Members

The SFA Alumni Association thanks the following alumni who recently became life members.

- 8255. Marc H. Goldberg '70, Arad, Israel
- 8256. Harry James "Shawn" Daily Jr. '73 & '74, Natchitoches
- 8257. Douglas Leigh Martin '06, Houston
- 8258. Lawrence "Mac" Moore '18, Heath
- 8259. Stephanie D. Gray '18, Waxahachie
- 8260. Jeremy Thomas, Friend, Nacogdoches
- 8261. Donna J. McCune '03, Nacogdoches
- 8262. Tamara B. Wood '14 & '17, Huntington
- 8263. Zachary S. Taylor '11, Huntington
- 8267. Kara L. Sewell '05, Dallas
- 8268. Henry B. Chica '13 & '16, Carrollton
- 8270. Ashleigh D. Block '17, Argyle
- 8271. Cadey R. Widacki '17, Lufkin
- 8272. Kyle P. Locke '07, Nacogdoches
- 8273. Kellie N. Locke '03, Nacogdoches
- 8274. Taylor R. Duree '18, Houston
- 8275. Christopher M. Wicker '18, Texarkana
- 8276. Heather B. Howell '17, Nacogdoches
- 8277. Trina B. Menefee '99 & '17, Nacogdoches

In Memoriam

LONNIE BEASLEY JR.



Lonnie Beasley Jr., retired Army colonel from Killeen, passed away Feb. 22. Beasley graduated from SFA in 1963 and entered the U.S. Army. He was a master Army aviator, qualifying to fly numerous helicopters.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star with oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal with "V" Device for valor, 36 Air Medals, Army Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters, three Meritorious Unit Awards, Vietnam Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal and several Vietnam unit gallantry awards.

Beasley was assigned to Vietnam from 1966-67 with the 335th Assault Helicopter Company, where he received the Distinguished Flying Cross. After returning from Vietnam, he was stationed at Hunter Army Air Field in Savannah, Georgia. He was a helicopter instructor pilot and instrument examiner. Beasley returned to Vietnam in 1970 with the 227th Aviation Unit, where he served as a commander. He later returned to the states, where he eventually served at Fort Sam Houston as the assistant president of the Physical Disabilities Board.

DR. SARAH C. CANTERBERRY



Dr. Sarah C. Canterbury, an associate professor of biology at SFA, passed away May 4. Canterbury was born in Nacogdoches and received her doctoral degree in genetics from Texas A&M University.

Canterberry began teaching at SFA in 2008. In spring 2018, she received the SFA Teaching Excellence Award for the College of Sciences and Mathematics.

A black belt in Yoseikan Budo, Canterbury served as the faculty advisor for the SFA Yoseikan Budo Club, as well as for the Tri-Beta Biological Honors Society and Women in STEM. She also served as the president of the Texas Genetics Society.

THOMAS C. MITCHELL



Thomas C. Mitchell of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, passed away April 27. Mitchell graduated from SFA with a degree in biology in 1941. He taught briefly before World War II started, and he enlisted in the Army Air Corps.

Mitchell shipped out and later arrived in New Guinea on the B25 Medium Bomber Squadron as an instrument specialist. In November 1944, he was on a transportation ship in Leyte Gulf when a kamikaze attacked. Mitchell was injured in the attack and awarded a Purple Heart. During his time in the war, he participated in the Battle for New

Guinea, Battle of Leyte Gulf, Battle of Bismarck, Battle of Archipelago and Battle of Southern Philippines. As a result, he was awarded a Good Conduct Ribbon, American Theater Ribbon and Asiatic-Pacific Theater Ribbon with three battle stars. He was discharged from the military in 1946. Mitchell went on to have a successful career with Dun & Bradstreet as a credit analyst.

DR. ALAN W. NIELSEN



SFA Professor Emeritus of Theatre Dr. Alan W. Nielsen passed away March 26. After earning his doctoral degree from City University of New York, Nielsen began his teaching career at SFA in 1990.

Nielsen taught and directed 25 productions at SFA. He also performed in several shows and created a traveling musical troupe, The Original Cast. He composed and produced its shows until his SFA retirement in 2011. Nielsen's work as a teacher, advisor, mentor, director, actor, composer and puppeteer was unparalleled, and he inspired many young artists to go forward into their careers, spreading the love of theatre that he instilled in them.

DR. DWANE RUSSELL



Dr. Dwane Russell, former director of continuing education at SFA, passed away Jan. 15. Russell served in the U.S. Navy and began his employment at SFA in 1966 as head of a cooperative endeavor involving SFA and area school districts. In 1969, he was appointed director of the newly created Division of Continuing Education. He served in this capacity until his retirement in 1982.

LEON J. SCHULTZ



Leon J. Schultz, former SFA coach and professor, passed away Feb. 5. Schultz was born in Niagara Falls, New York. At age 16, he won the New York State Championship in archery.

Schultz joined the Air Force in 1961. He flew missions out of Yokota Air Base, Japan, and Da Nang Air Base, Vietnam. Before his voluntary transition from military duty in 1967 to pursue an academic career, he was awarded numerous citations, including the Air Medal and Distinguished Flying Cross. He completed his doctoral degree in 1977 and came to SFA in 1978 to teach all levels of English literature and poetry, specializing in Native American literature and poetry. After retiring from SFA, Schultz spent his final years exploring the works of familiar and new artists in music and poetry.

In Memoriam

Charles F. Ackerman '74 of Dallas, March 17
Martha Ruth Anderson '75 of Caldwell, May 12
Sam E. Bahou '03 of Nacogdoches, May 15
Daniel Williard Bay '64 of Nacogdoches, Dec. 22
Jesse Raymond Bell of Nacogdoches, former SFA employee, June 21
Anne H. Benbow '54 & '55 of Texarkana, April 30
Michael W. Benefield '74 of Rockwall, March 11
James N. Biggar '87 of Nacogdoches, March 28
Tim B. Boyd '37 of Fort Worth, April 18
Orville C. Bridges '51 of Waco, Feb. 3
Susan Perry Bryan '42 of Tyler, April 19
James K. Byrd of Nacogdoches, friend of SFA, Jan. 29
Zack Byrd '62 of Port Neches, March 6
Richard B. Call '95 of Burley, Idaho, Feb. 10
Roy Carroway Sr. '57 & '66 of Lufkin, April 8
Richard E. Cartwright '79 of Tyler, March 12
Jay S. Casada '92 of Mexia, Jan. 1
Larry W. Coker '63 of Jacksonville, Feb. 16
W. A. Cox '57 of Colorado Springs, Colorado, Jan. 29
Robert D. Crider Jr. '66 of Austin, May 2
James A. Davidson '81 & '82 of Neches, May 9
Glenda Faye Demaree '75 & '01 of Huntington, May 8
Raymond E. Dittmar '81 of Houston, March 11
Kittie B. Dobbs '82 of Nacogdoches, April 30
Pam Fetzner '79 of Idaho Falls, Idaho, Oct. 25
Patricia Fitch '76 of Nacogdoches, May 10
Forrest B. Fitzgerald '68 of Tyler, Feb. 27
Lisa R. Frazier '85 of Kerrville, April 3
Robin D. Goodale '81 & '84 of Pittsburg, April 23
Jacqueline H. Goodroe '64 of Nacogdoches, April 9
Carroll R. Grimm '70 of Cypress, March 11
Richard Grubbs '65 of Tyler, Feb. 11
Robert Paul Guill '73 of Baytown, March 24
Wilfred H. Harris '63 of Timpson, Feb. 13
Hubie A. Hilz '74 of Vidor, March 17
Philip David Hobson '13 of Rosenberg, Dec. 21
Stephen D. Holloway of Nacogdoches, former SFA employee, April 27
J.R. Honea '83 of Nacogdoches, May 13
Connie L. Hugo '79 of Brenham, March 23
Jack T. James '57 & '72 of Waco, April 6

Norma Jennings '69 of Carthage, March 27
Sidney F. Lister '61 of San Augustine, March 3
Billie Mahler '51 of San Angelo, May 5, 2017
George D. McElree III '86 of Houston, March 4
Melba Katherine (Roddy) McKnight '41 of Tyler, Feb. 28
Dorothy S. Miller '71 of Liberty, Feb. 8
Jerry Stroud Moorner '61 of Huntsville, Feb. 6
Cheryl L. Nelson '72 of Arlington, March 10
Hazel J. Pearman '50 of Alto, May 18
Algray L. Pettus '87 of Stillwater, Oklahoma, Feb. 1
Raymond D. Prince '83 of Longview, April 23
Vernon Redd '52 of Tyler, March 11
Danny V. Rhea '74 of San Angelo, Jan. 19
Tom B. Roberts '52 & '57 of Houston, Feb. 19
Mitchell W. Robuck '15 of Lewisville, April 29
Diego Rodriguez '15 of Palestine, Feb. 4
DeIvory L. Sampson '75 of Dallas, Feb. 11
Carolyn N. Scurlock '49 of Houston, March 31
Virginia N. Sellers '76 of Marshall, Jan. 20
William Owen Siebert '84 of Adel, June 16, 2017
James "Jim" Simmons '55 of Trinity, Jan. 2
Arthur A. Simon Jr. '62 & '64 of League City, May 1
Lincoln Skillern '50 of Austin, April 25
G. Dean Soape Sr. '54 of Carthage, Jan. 25
Daniel Spinks '10 of Nacogdoches, former SFA adjunct faculty member,
March 27
Benny L. Stubbs '60 of Nacogdoches, May 1
Pamela Walker '69 & '80 of Tenaha, May 3
Bob E. Waters '49 of Bryan, March 17
Brian A. Wesneske '96 of Cypress, March 28
Jimmy West '92 of Broadus, Feb. 6
Guy Whitaker '51 & '54 of Henderson, April 19
Dennis F. Wright '70 of Gilmer, April 30



SFA student

Shelton O. Portee of Houston, April 25

Class Notes

1960s

Kay Hill-Delgado '64 of Houston celebrated her 50th anniversary working at Bayshore Medical Center.

Bob Browning '69 of Marshall was selected to serve as interim superintendent of the Panola Charter Schools System in Carthage.



← **Patricia Taylor Wells '77** of Tyler published "Mademoiselle Renoir a Paris," a book about her time in Paris during 1968.

Jeanetta Stripling '78 of Houston retired after 39 years with Shell Pipeline Company.

Cynthia Sadler '79 of Fort Worth founded Signature Cuffs, a French cuff accessory company.

1970s



← **Jimmy R. Lazenby '70 & '72** of Woodville donated a collection of antique American hymnals to the Pitts Theology Library at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. Pictured, from left, Lazenby is holding a centennial edition of the 1911 "Original Sacred Harp"

hymnal; Dr. Richard "Bo" Adams, library director, is holding a 1817 edition of "The Easy Instructor;" and Jesse Karlsberg, library senior digital scholarship strategist, is holding an 1868 edition of "Mountain Echo."



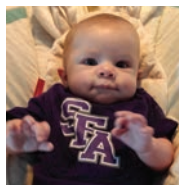
← **Dr. Willie Trotty '70 & '72** of Houston was named professor emeritus of education for his 40 years of outstanding service as a professor and administrator at Prairie View A&M University.

→ **Dr. David Hyink '71 & '72** and his

wife, **Stephanie '72**, met two SFA faculty members during a cruise of the Antarctic Peninsula, Falkland Islands and ports in Argentina and Uruguay. Pictured, from left, are Dr. Lynda Martin, professor and director of the School of Human Sciences; Dr. Mary Olle, assistant professor of human sciences; and the Hyinks.



→ **Gordon Clark '74** and Mark Hartig announced the Nov. 14 birth of their son, Grayson.



Diana Peacock '74 of Austin retired as chief financial officer of the Texas Department of Agriculture.

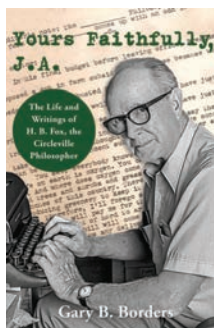
The Texarkana Independent School District named **U.S. Rep. Marvin L. Abney '75** as 2018 Distinguished Alumni. Abney lives in Newport, Rhode Island, and represents the 73rd District.



← The Texas Radio Hall of Fame inducted **Bill Davis '75** of Bellingham, Washington, as a member.

Ed Driskill '76 of Houston retired after 18 years with the Pearland Independent School District.

→ **Gary Borders '77** of Longview published "Yours Faithfully, J.A.: The Life and Writings of H.B. Fox, the Circleville Philosopher."



1980s

Paulette Carson '81 of Apple Springs oversees a nonprofit organization called Beautiful Gate Translations, which translates Bible studies for women in countries around the world.

Mark Micheletti '82 of Humble was named to the board of the San Jacinto River Authority.



← **Alton Frailey '83 & '85** and a member of SFA's Board of Regents was named interim superintendent of the Nacogdoches Independent School District.

Pam Kehoe '85 of Houston is the associate athletics director for marketing and fan engagement at the University of Houston.

Tress Kurzym '86 of Edwardsville, Illinois, opened StagePlay Learning, which offers drama classes for children in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade, provides in-school performances and workshops to area schools, and offers staff development and training for local businesses.

William C. Lipps '86 of Columbia, Maryland, was honored with the Max Hecht Award from ASTM International's committee on water. Lipps is environmental and geochemical marketing manager for Shimadzu Scientific Instruments.

Michael Stair '89 & '93 of Cumberland Center, Maine, was appointed president of Care & Comfort, a behavioral, health and home care assistance company.

1990s



← **Jay Carr '90** of Sugar Land won the grand prize in Nissan's Master the Drive sweepstakes. He received a new truck and a trip for four to the Hollywood premiere of "Star Wars: The Last Jedi."

John McCullough '91 was appointed by the Paris Independent School District Board of Trustees to serve as director of career and technical education and director of secondary education. Previously the North Lamar ISD superintendent, McCullough has more than 25 years of education experience, having worked various positions in Jacksonville, Sulphur Springs, Sulphur Bluff and North Lamar ISDs.

Class Notes

Tim Lambert '92 of Avinger was selected to represent the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals as Region VIII Outstanding Middle School Principal of the Year. He is principal of Texas Middle School.

Doug Ashmore '93 of Missouri City became a partner at MRE Consulting, an information technology service management company. He joined MRE in 2010, and his expertise in business development and delivery assurance has driven the company's regional expansion.

Leslie Goudarzi '93 & '95 was named to the board of directors of Longview-based Refuge International, a nonprofit organization providing clean water, health care and education to the people of Guatemala.



← **Prestonwood Christian Academy's North Campus named Greg Wright '94** of Prosper as middle/upper school principal.

→ **Dr. Angie Brooks Applegate '97, '99 & '01** was appointed assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction at Coppell Independent School District.



Dr. Jonathan Campbell '97 & '07 was named principal of Forney High School.

Clint Zander '97 is athletic director and head football coach at Bosqueville High School in Waco.

→ **Sereniah Breland '99** was hired as city manager by the Pflugerville City Council.



Brad Schweppe '99, '01 & '02 of Reinbeck, Iowa, was named principal at South Tama Elementary School.

2000s

Will Skelton '00 of The Colony was appointed principal of Marcus High School in the Lewisville Independent School District.



← **William Houff '01** was hired as principal of Chapel Hill High School. Formerly, he served as principal of Judson Middle School in the Longview Independent School District.

Dr. Donny Lee '02, superintendent of schools at Oakwood Independent School District, was presented with the 2017 Texas Association of Secondary School Principals' Outstanding Texas Principal Award in June.

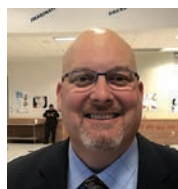
Playwright **Matt Lyle '02** of Dallas had one of his plays, "Big Scary Animals," featured in the Florida Studio Theatre's 36th annual Burdick New Play Reading Series.



← **Darla Nolen '03 & '04** of Hideaway was named director of business services and finance for Corsicana Independent School District.

Jody Sanders '03 & '04 was hired in June as director of the East Texas Advanced Manufacturing Academy in Longview. Sanders spent 13 years with Kilgore Independent School District as a teacher and later as principal at the junior high campus.

U.S. Army Maj. James Attaway III '04 of Quitman is serving as professor of military science at SFA.



← **James Baker '04** was hired by Hays Consolidated Independent School District as chief human resource officer.

Matt Clifton '04 of Lufkin is a loan officer at Heritage Land Bank.

Jessica DeWitt '04 & '06 of Nacogdoches passed the Educational Facilities Professional credentialing exam. DeWitt is manager of physical plant projects at SFA.

Dustin McLemore '05 of Austin earned a doctoral degree in organizational change and leadership from the University of Southern California.

Dr. Cade Brumley '07 of Stonewall, Louisiana, was named superintendent of the Jefferson Parish Public School System.



← **Ted Smith '07** is a State Farm Insurance and Financial Services agent in Nacogdoches.

→ **Noel Tovar '08** and **Estrella Tovar '09** of Lewisville welcomed their second child, Joy Maria, in May.



← **Amie Ford '09 & '11** and her husband, Stephen, announced the birth of their son, William Sawyer Ford, in October.

2010s

Justin Arnold '10 was appointed by the Overton Independent School District to serve as athletic director, head football coach and dean of students.

Daniel Gambill '10 & '11 directed Crandall Independent School District's production of "The Book of Everything," which won the 2017-18 high school one-act play state championship for 4-A schools.



Class Notes

Saville Harris '10 & '13 of Nacogdoches was elected to the National Association for Campus Activities board of directors.

➔ **Laurel Kuepker '10** of Lewisville was selected as a social studies Transatlantic Outreach Program Fellow.



← **Kiersten A. Gray Tapia '10** of Houston was married in a unique ceremony held at Houston Methodist Hospital. After her mother, Tamara Gray, was diagnosed with stage four lung cancer, Kiersten and her fiancé, Gabriel, decided to marry in the hospital's chapel

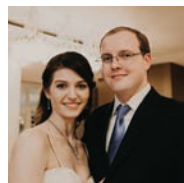


so her mother could be present. Kiersten is grateful she was able to celebrate her special day with her mother nearby before her mom's passing shortly thereafter.



← **Rebecca Newman '12** of San Antonio was named the Rising Star Recipient by the National Association for Catering and Events Alamo Chapter at the President's Gala in November.

➔ **Caitlin Dodson '14** is the parks planner for the City of Waco.



← **Annelise Williams '14** of Vicksburg, Mississippi, married Arthur B. Clark in March in Nacogdoches.

Laura Yuja '14 was named Teacher of the Year by Lufkin Independent School District's Burley Primary.

Shelby Garza '15 of Pearland is a trauma nurse at Ben Taub Hospital and a cheerleader for the Houston Astros' Shooting Stars.

Leila Luquis '17 of Lakeway was selected to attend the U.S. Navy's Officer Candidate School.



MIKE KARNS '86, right, founder and chief creative officer of Firebird Restaurant Group, which comprises El Fenix, Snuffer's Restaurant & Bar, Village Burger Bar, Meso Maya, Taqueria La Ventana, TorTaco and Sunrise Mexican Foods, watches as Alfred Martinez, the 93-year-old son of the founders of El Fenix restaurant in Dallas, throws the ceremonial first pitch before the Los Angeles Angels vs. the Texas Rangers baseball game on April 10 at Globe Life Park in Arlington. Photo courtesy of Louis DeLuca '78

Emily Payne '17 of Winnie was hired as curator of education for the Museum of East Texas.

Whitney Scarborough '17 joined the accounting solutions team as staff associate at Henry and Peters, a full-service accounting firm in Tyler.

Share your Lumberjack story!

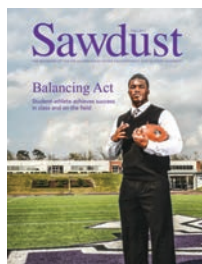
Visit sfasu.edu/sawdust to send your class notes and wedding or birth announcements to the SFA Alumni Association.

sfasu.edu/sawdust

Tell us what you think.

As part of our continuous effort to improve Sawdust, we are conducting an online survey to gain information about reader preferences.

sfasu.edu/sawdust/survey





SNUFFER'S
RESTAURANT & BAR



TEXAS' LEADING RESTAURANTEUR

Mike Karns owns and operates Firebird Restaurant Group, a distinctive collection of popular restaurant concepts, from El Fenix Mexican Restaurant celebrating 100 years, Snuffer's Restaurant & Bar celebrating 40 years and Village Burger Bar, to original creations Meso Maya, Taqueria La Ventana and TorTaco. With more than 50 locations, Firebird likewise owns and manages Sunrise Mexican Foods, which produces high-quality Mexican food products for retail and food service operators coast-to-coast.

Firebirdrg.com

**Mike Karns Founder and Chief Creative Officer
Class of '86 - Axe 'em, Jacks!**



LUMBERJACK
PRIDE

PANDORA®

THE MUSTARD SEED
FAITH & INSPIRATIONAL BOOKS & GIFTS

1330 N. University Drive
Nacogdoches, TX 75961
936.569.7794

SFASU CHARM ONLY AVAILABLE AT THE MUSTARD SEED • PROUD SFASU ALUMNI

the
Fredonia
Hotel

SFA
ALUMNI OWNED &
OPERATED

thefredonia.com

f i t p

936.564.1234

THE OFFICIAL HOTEL OF THE STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

SFA'S COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS PRESENTS

The 2018-2019 UNIVERSITY SERIES

All shows at 7:30 p.m.
W.M. Turner
Auditorium

**Reduced
Shakespeare
Company**

Sept. 11

A fast-paced romp through Shakespeare's works
that leaves audiences helpless with laughter

PG-13 - Pretty Good If You're 13
Viewer discretion is advised

Step Afrika!

Jan 25

One of the the top 10 African-American
dance companies in the U.S.

Sponsored in part by
Nacogdoches Medical Center

SYBARITES

Oct. 18

Classical music's most dynamic
new string ensemble

Sponsored in part by
Cataract, Glaucoma, Cornea
& Retina Consultants of East Texas

**Villalobos
Brothers**

May 9

A contemporary high-octane Mexican musical fiesta

Sponsored in part by
BancorpSouth

**Dailey
& Vincent:**
A Springer Mountain Farms
Christmas

Dec. 11

Five-time Grammy Award winners
perform holiday favorites

Sponsored in part by
Commercial Bank of Texas

**INCORE
VENT**

**Branford
Marsalis**

Oct. 10

**The
Purple
Xperience**

Nov. 30

Sponsored in part by

Elliott Electric Supply

Lehmann Eye Center

Special thanks to our media partners, The Daily Sentinel & KTRE9



STEPHEN F. AUSTIN
STATE UNIVERSITY
NACOGDOCHES, TEXAS

936.468.6407

finearts.sfasu.edu

888.240.ARTS

AT LIBERTY MUTUAL, WE ARE
PROUD TO BE PARTNERING
WITH THE STEPHEN F. AUSTIN
STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION



To learn more about Liberty Mutual and our auto and home
insurance, please contact us at 888-389-3727, or visit us
at libertymutual.com/sfaalumni



Coverage provided and underwritten by Liberty Mutual Insurance and its affiliates, 175 Berkeley Street, Boston, MA 02116. ©2018 Liberty Mutual Insurance AFF 20202 2015/05

**Strong families enrich
our lives.**



We're proud to support them through
the SFA Alumni Association.

**www.TheAIP.com/sfajacks
or call 1-800-922-1245**

The **Alumni**
Insurance
Program®

Life
Health
Dental

An Official Program of the:



8P4



#HireLumberjacks

As a member of the SFA family, you know of the quality education and leadership skills Lumberjacks take with them into the workforce.

Why not put those proficiencies to work for you and your company, literally?

SFA's Center for Career and Professional Development can help you hire Lumberjacks by offering:

- participation in SFA's career fairs
- access to post your job openings and internship opportunities on Handshake, our online job-posting website
- reserving on-campus interview rooms
- and so much more!

Let us help you build your business with proud SFA Lumberjacks like you! Visit sfasuedu/ccpd, call (936) 468-3305 or email ccpd@sfasuedu to learn more.

FOLLOW US
@SFACCPD



LUMBERJACKS MAKE GREAT BREWERS



SFA ALUMNI OWNED & OPERATED

WWW.FREDONIABREWERY.COM



KOVAR CAPITAL

PROVIDING UNIQUE FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS FOR FAMILIES, FOUNDATIONS,
AND INSTITUTIONS VIA STOCKS, REAL ESTATE, ENERGY, AND PRIVATE BUSINESS



LUMBERJACK OWNED



NAMED ONE OF THE **TOP 100** MOST INFLUENTIAL
ADVISORS IN THE UNITED STATES



WORKS WITH CLIENTS ACROSS THE GLOBE

REDEFINING THE WEALTH MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

844.568.2747 | KOVARCAPITAL.COM



STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY

Alumni Association
P.O. Box 6096, SFA Station
Nacogdoches, Texas 75962

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Stephen F. Austin
State University

**BATTLE OF THE
PINEY WOODS**

SFA **SH**

PRESENTED BY
H-E-B
HOUSTON, TEXAS

October 6th

For tickets call 936-468-JACK
or visit **SFATickets.com**