CLASS OF 2014 GRADUATES
LEARNING | LEADING | SERVING

Students have found the new Whitfield Center for Christian Leadership a great place to meet and hang out.

On the cover:
Kristin Kelleher enters the North Charleston Coliseum on commencement day to receive her master of science in criminal justice degree. Kelleher is from Springfield, Va., earned a BS in criminal justice from CSU in 2012 and was a member of the softball team. Photo by Christi Pearson.

Students have found the new Whitfield Center for Christian Leadership a great place to meet and hang out. Photo by Rhett Marley.
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Dear Friends,

We’ve had a year of success in the classroom, on the ball fields and in the service work our students, faculty and staff engage in each day. It’s a great time to be at Charleston Southern University, and everyone on campus is gearing up for the university’s 50th anniversary in 2014-2015. We invite you to join us during the coming year as we celebrate.

As you will read in these pages, our academic programs continue to garner acclaim such as the national recognition received by the School of Education, the U.S. News & World Report ranking for the College of Adult and Professional Studies' online programs, local and national recognition for our computer science program and more.

Our business students are receiving specialized training from the Executives in Residence program in the School of Business. Eleven professionals with decades of experience are bringing their life lessons right into the classroom as they lecture, mentor and guide students through business scenarios designed to make textbooks come to life.

Our students are active with global initiatives such as Operation Christmas Child, the End It Movement, and A21 Campaign. This generation is passionate about serving, and we are proud to bring you stories about some of the wonderful work our students do.

As the 50th Anniversary approaches, I encourage you to make plans to visit the campus and also to send your stories, memories and photos to our university relations team at 50@csuniv.edu. The stories and photos you share with us will be used on a special 50th Anniversary Website which will go live this fall. In order to bring you a commemorative 50th Anniversary issue, we are planning to publish two issues of CSU Magazine this year instead of our usual three. The commemorative issue will be a double issue covering all 50 years of life at BCC/CSU.

We appreciate all our alumni and friends who have been faithful in supporting CSU over the years in so many ways. We look forward to seeing you on campus during the celebration!

Sincerely,

Jairy C. Hunter, Jr.
President
Correction:

In the fall issue of CSU Magazine, Mallorie Davis was incorrectly identified as Mallory Davis. We apologize for the error.
Charleston Southern University conferred degrees upon almost 600 graduates May 3 at North Charleston Coliseum. The Class of 2014 included the first graduates of the master of science in organizational management and the bachelor of arts in music and worship leadership.
Harvey L. Galloway, executive director of the Blue Cross Blue Shield of South Carolina Foundation, was the guest speaker. He also received an honorary doctor of public service from the university. Galloway has 43 years of experience with Blue Cross Blue Shield of S.C., and its owned companies. His work to improve healthcare in South Carolina was recognized in 2008 with the Palmetto Patriot award.

In his address to the graduates, Galloway said, “I hope you will begin to think of your life as writing your very own story. You need to remember that your time is limited, don’t waste it living someone else’s life. Don’t be trapped by living with the results of other people’s thinking. Don’t let the noise of others’ opinions drown out your own inner voice, and most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition each moment of your life, adding to your story.”

Trenton Green, a bachelor of arts graduate who served as vice president of the Student Government Association, delivered the senior class statement and challenged his fellow graduates to stand firm in their faith and their actions and to be courageous as they seek success.

Todd Heldreth, DVM, associate professor of biology, was awarded the Excellence in Teaching award.

Other awards and winners were:
- Myrtle E. Hamrick Award: Maggie Ann Murphy, mathematics education major and a member of the volleyball team, from Marion, Iowa
- John A. Barry Scholar Award: April Rose McGarrity, early childhood education major and an Honors Program graduate, from Fort Mill, S.C.
- The Hunter Cup: John Alexander Tomasovich, a business administration major and a member of the baseball team, from Tega Cay, S.C.
- Carolyn Killen Hunter Outstanding Christian Teacher Endowed Scholarship & Award: Marlee Elizabeth Tollison, a junior majoring in early childhood education, from Easley, S.C.
University Junior Turns Sweet 16

By Jan Joslin

When Amber Williams arrived on campus for class one day this spring, she had no idea she was about to become the center of attention. Amber, a junior, is on the Dean’s List and is majoring in psychology and minoring in French and considering adding another minor. And she just turned 16 – halfway through her junior year.

Psi Chi, the psychology honor society, surprised Amber with a Sweet 16 cake and cards, and university president, Jairy Hunter, arrived with balloons and birthday wishes.

Charleston Southern has been named to America’s 100 Best College Buys® for the ninth consecutive year. The list identifies outstanding colleges offering high quality educations at the lowest possible costs.

The survey results of more than 1,000 colleges nationwide showed a national average cost of attendance based on the regular cost for private institutions and out-of-state cost for public institutions for 2013-2014 of $37,382. Charleston Southern’s 2013-2014 cost is $30,700. In South Carolina, four public universities and two private universities were named to this year’s list.

In addition, Charleston Southern has been named to America’s Best Christian Colleges® for the 15t consecutive year for providing a quality education in a Christian environment. The annual America’s Best Christian Colleges® list recognizes school affiliated with a recognized Christian denomination or an interdenominational institution incorporating basic Christian principles and beliefs into the instructional curriculum and/or social environment.

Victory Media, the premier media entity for military personnel transitioning into civilian life, has named Charleston Southern University to the Military Friendly Schools® list.

The 2014 Military Friendly Schools® list honors the top 20 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools in the country that are doing the most to embrace America’s military service members, veterans and spouses as students and ensure their success on campus.

Rebekah Davis, CSU veterans services coordinator, said, “Our military and veterans population has really grown over the last several years. In the spring of 2011, we had 175 students using VA benefits, and we are now working with more than 320 in the veterans services office. The fact that we have been designated a Military Friendly School and participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program draws students to Charleston Southern.”
The 2014 Charleston Regional Business Journal’s 40 Under 40 list includes Charleston Southern University professor, Dr. Valerie Sessions. The annual 40 Under 40 awards recognize 40 Lowcountry professionals under the age of 40 for success in their profession and community involvement.

Sessions is an associate professor of computer science and has taught at Charleston Southern since 2007. She is also a part-time computer scientist at SPAWAR.

“Dr Sessions was just recognized for her excellence in teaching by being granted tenure by the Board of Trustees,” said Dr. Jackie Fish, vice president for academic affairs. “Her commitment to the CSU mission of promoting academic excellence in a Christian environment is evident in every class she teaches, every interaction she has with students, and every goal she attains in her professional and personal life. Valerie is a role model for our new professors and a leader in her church and community. CSU is extremely proud of Valerie’s selection for the 40 under 40 list, and we commend her for the achievements that led to her recognition!”

CSU students know Sessions as an encouraging professor who keeps opportunities to enter professional contests and internships constantly before them. Her students have been successful in local and national computer competitions.

“Dr. Sessions is a truly exceptional faculty member. She is an avid researcher and an engaging teacher. She lectures in an interactive style that draws students into the material and creates a lively classroom environment. The College of Science and Mathematics is extremely fortunate to have faculty like Dr. Sessions,” said Dr. Jeryl Johnson, dean of the College of Science and Mathematics.

Sessions holds a BS from the College of Charleston, an MS from the University of Charleston and a PhD from the University of South Carolina.
By Jan Joslin

The School of Education recently received notification that the master of education in administration and supervision program and the bachelor of science in elementary education program were awarded national recognition status from their respective accrediting bodies based on meeting professional association standards.

“This recognition notes that our programs have met rigorous national standards,” said Dr. George Metz, dean of the School of Education. “CSU is continuing to position itself as an exciting, exceptional place. The performance of our candidates, graduates and our faculty allows us to receive these accolades.

“The School of Education is a uniquely value driven and transformative experience for everyone, faculty staff and students,” said Metz. “In a world where mediocrity is ok, not only do we strive for excellence but we attain it. We have exceptional students who are transforming lives.”

Dr. Kari Siko, assistant professor of English education and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education coordinator, said, “Knowing that the program has been reviewed by a group of peer educators and has been found to meet all of the requirements and standards brings great confidence to the professors and students in the program. Not all programs receive national recognition – so this acknowledgement of the high caliber of programs that we have here in the School of Education is crucial to being known as a high quality educator preparation program,” said Siko.

Although schools must meet the same standards, the qualities that make each school distinctive are where they are able to shine and showcase their uniqueness. CSU is preparing educators from the perspective of a Christian worldview. “When Christ is the center, what else is there? We are training educators in a Christ centered environment, that means the golden rule, teach the most unteachable, love the most unlovable, there are no throwaways,” said Metz.

No one denies that education is an increasingly difficult field. Metz is sure his graduates are up to the challenge. “Our candidates tend to be first choice applicants,” he said. “These are the future leaders who are transforming South Carolina schools.”

Siko said, “Candidates who graduate from our programs know that they are studying at one of the best programs in not only the Lowcountry but in the entire United States.”

Each School of Ed program has its own national accreditation process which looks at candidate performance on: content knowledge, content pedagogy, clinical practice experience, lesson planning, impact on student learning and professionalism. The other programs will receive notification from their professional bodies in late summer.
New Brain Book Hits Shelves

Dr. Linda Karges-Bone, professor of education, has published a new book, *Brain Tips: Simple Yet Sensational Brain-Friendly Strategies for Improving Teaching, Learning and Parenting*. The book helps teachers maintain critical thinking and creativity, reduce stress and accommodate different learning styles and abilities in their classrooms. Parents will learn about choices they can make at home to increase the brain’s ability to reorganize neural connections as their children learn new things.

Compositions Chosen for Performance

Several of Dr. Richard Pressley’s compositions have been performed in the U.S. and internationally. Pressley is an assistant professor of music.

Composition performances:
- “Psalm 119:41-48” (for English horn solo) September 2013 at London New Wind Festival
- “ankáthi” (flute, cello, bass) in October 2013 at the 48th Dimitria Festival in Thessaloniki, Greece
- “Christ the King” (choir and organ) commissioned for 50th anniversary of Christ the King Lutheran Church, Columbia, S.C., December 2013
- “Patina” (glockenspiel) at the Campbelltown Arts Centre Numero Uno Concert in New South Wales, Australia, December 2013
- “Patina” (glockenspiel) at the Peninsula Summer Music Festival in Victoria, Australia, December 2013
- “the flattery of fire” (4 variable performers) at the Southeastern Composers League Forum February 2014 at the University of Tennessee Chattanooga
- “Patina” (glockenspiel) at Society of Composers National Conference March 2014 at Ball State University

Also Arcomis Arts Commissioning in Wales has published “Psalm 119:41-48” for solo horn and “Psalm 119:41-48” for solo trumpet.

Math on the Mind

By Dr. Linda Karges-Bone

School of Education students presented a Family Math and Literacy Night at Westview Primary School in Berkeley County this spring. Fifteen interactive centers providing children and parents with opportunities for mathematical thinking, problem solving, creativity and iPad engagement were set up at the site.

Dr. Robin Franklin said, “iPads improve a student’s ability to analyze both digital media and academic content in a highly engaging way. It is an important tool for teachers, parents and students to use to enhance critical thinking and promote 21st century skills.”

“Early learning and engagement with math is essential for young children. We want them to see mathematics as a natural part of the world around them,” said Dr. Karen Fonkert.
Online Program Ranked as One of BEST

U.S. News & World Report’s recent release of their 2014 Best Online Programs list includes Charleston Southern University’s online bachelor’s degree at number 56 out of the more than 200 schools ranked. Brian Kelly, editor and chief content officer for U.S. News & World Report said, “Online education is becoming a popular option for both students completing an undergraduate degree and working adults seeking career advancement. Much like we’ve done with traditional brick-and-mortar colleges, we’re collecting and analyzing data to help students identify programs that support their education and career goals.”

According to U.S. News & World Report, the methodology used to determine the rankings included student engagement, faculty credentials and training, peer reputation and student services and technology.

Sophomore Grady Duncan, a computer science student, accomplished a great feat recently, capturing fourth place in the Social Media Recon Challenge.

It is necessary to note that the three schools that placed above CSU were Boston University, Georgia Tech and Princeton University. Charleston Southern finished in excellent company.

The competition was built around a concept called Social Engineering. The participants had to creatively engineer ways to find people or links to where the flag they had to capture was hidden. Essentially, the students participated in – hacking.

Duncan praised the help of his professors, saying, “If I did not have the ability to pick the brains of my professors I would have given up a week into the game.” He gave most of the credit to the professors for being so “encouraging and informative.”

When Duncan was asked about how it felt to finish among some of the top schools in the country, he said, “A school is a school, but it is the teachers encouraging the students that shows what the school is made of.”

Duncan and other computer science students competed in a similar competition beginning in April named the Palmetto Cyber Defense Competition, which involves handling and managing a chaotic business network.

The Social Media Recon Challenge, sponsored by Georgia Tech, lasted from Thanksgiving until Jan. 31.
By Jan Joslin; photos by Rhett Marley

Student nurses and area medical professionals joined the university Oct. 11 to dedicate a 16,100-square-foot expansion to the nursing building, designed to accommodate the growth of the College of Nursing.
Roper St. Francis President and CEO, David Dunlap, said, “We know that whenever a CSU nursing graduate walks through our doors and joins our team, we’re not simply hiring a well-educated nurse, but gaining a young person of exemplary character prepared to carry out our mission of healing all people with compassion, faith, and excellence. The bond between Roper St. Francis and Charleston Southern is so strong that, in fact, we employ more CSU graduates than any other healthcare institution in our community. We are proud to be associated with the Nursing Demonstration Lab in this beautiful new building that will serve as a symbol of medical excellence and learning for future generations.”

Todd Gallati, president and CEO of Trident Health System, praised the values that Charleston Southern nurses bring to their patients in addition to their competency in nursing. “I had a sneak peek in the skills lab Trident Health System sponsored, and I would be a little intimidated if I was a student in there. But it’s the kind of pressure students need to have to enter the workforce.”

May graduate Stephanie Daniels is a nurse in surgical intensive care at Roper Hospital. She said, “I learned from some amazing professors and had a strong foundation for my nursing career.”

The CSU nursing program has tripled enrollment in response to a nationwide nursing shortage and a national call for 80 percent of the nation’s nurses to have a minimum of a bachelor of science in nursing by 2020. Only 30 percent of nurses in South Carolina currently hold a BSN.

Dean of the CSU College of Nursing, Dr. Tara Hulsey, said “BSN prepared nurses possess greater knowledge of health promotion, disease prevention and risk reduction as well as illness and disease management and are prepared to assist individual groups and communities to prevent disease and achieve optimum levels of wellness. A BSN degree is necessary for professional certification in specialty areas of nursing practice and leads to an expanded role as a provider, designer, manager and
The CSU nursing program provides a seamless program with Trident Technical College to educate ADN nurses at the BSN level. Muriel Horton, dean of nursing at Trident, said, “We are delighted that the graduates of our associate degree nursing program have a local barrier-free option for completing their BSNs. Thanks to Dr. Hulsey’s visionary leadership and her commitment to educating nurses, students who may not have otherwise obtained a BSN now have that opportunity.” CSU also offers a master of science in nursing program with a nurse educator track. “This has already proved to be a major benefit for us as we have had the privilege of hiring several of CSU’s graduates,” said Horton.

Tanya Lott, a 1999 CSU BSN alum, is the coordinator of Roper St. Francis’s magnet program. Only six percent of U.S. hospitals have achieved magnet status. Lott said, “CSU provided me with the education, nurturing and leadership development I needed to begin a career in nursing that has been filled with so many wonderful opportunities. I am so thankful that my nursing roots were formed here. The growth of the program means that there will be more CSU graduate nurses available to deliver exceptional care to the people of the Lowcountry and beyond.”

A touching end to the program was a Blessing of the Hands ceremony performed by the Baptist Nursing Fellowship, a Christian professional fellowship for nurses, healthcare professionals and nursing students. Sophomore nursing students, affectionately called “newbies,” participated in a litany of affirmation led by Becka Moore, BNF executive director for South Carolina. BNF members symbolically washed the student nurses’ hands and spoke a prayer over them.

The Charleston Southern bachelor of science in nursing program has a 95 percent seven-year average pass rate on the national exam required to receive a license to practice (NCLEX). Charleston Southern has the highest seven-year pass rate of all accredited BSN programs in the state of South Carolina.
A Blessing of the Hands

Blessed be these hands that have touched life.
Blessed be these hands that have felt pain.
Blessed be these hands that have embraced with compassion.
Blessed be these hands that have drawn blood and administered medicine.
Blessed be these hands that have cleaned beds and disposed of wastes.
Blessed be these hands that have comforted the dying and held the dead.
Blessed be these hands we hold the future in these hands.
Blessed be these hands for they are the work of Your hands, O Holy One. Amen

--Baptist Nursing Fellowship
Heldreth Wins 2014 EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

Dr. Todd Heldreth, associate professor of biology and coordinator of the anatomy and physiology course series at Charleston Southern, has received the 2014 South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities Excellence in Teaching Award. SCICU honors one professor from each independent college in the state each year. Professors are nominated by their institutions.

"Dr. Heldreth is a model teacher," said Dr. Jerry Johnson, dean of the College of Science and Mathematics. "His lectures and laboratory exercises in zoology, mammalogy, herpetology and wildlife biology are enlivened by his years of experience as a practicing veterinarian. Although his subject area is difficult, he is always available to students, and his approachable style puts students at ease in asking for extra instruction." Heldreth came to CSU in 2007 after a successful career as a veterinarian and surgeon.

"Dr. Heldreth is the winner of this year’s Excellence in Teaching Award because he epitomizes the CSU mission of promoting academic excellence in a Christian environment," said Dr. Jackie Fish, vice president for academic affairs. "He has a passion for sharing his knowledge and experiences with his students, and his desire to see them be successful in their academic studies permeates all aspects of the professor-student relationships. He has high expectations for his students – in the classroom and in the laboratory, and they strive to achieve those goals. His ability to transfer information and knowledge is extremely well-defined, and we are so very fortunate to have Dr. Heldreth teaching at CSU."

Heldreth holds a B.S. from Emory and Henry College and a DVM from Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University. He is active in the community and volunteers his services at the Animal Forest at Charles Towne Landing and is on the board of directors of the Dorchester County SPCA.

"He has high expectations for his students – in the classroom and in the laboratory, and they strive to achieve those goals. His ability to transfer information and knowledge is extremely well-defined, and we are so very fortunate to have Dr. Heldreth teaching at CSU."

— Dr. Jackie Fish, vice president for academic affairs
The School of Business launched an Executives in Residence program in January to bring experienced executives directly into the classroom.

Eleven executives with backgrounds in entrepreneurship, banking, finance, marketing, risk management, corporate governance, international business and more are teaching CSU business students how to lead from a Christian perspective.

Byron Davis, retired president of Fisher-Price, received mentoring even before graduating from high school, starting with his dad and including people from church and family friends. "Almost every boss I had was a mentor to me at Fisher-Price," said Davis.

Davis believes in passing along what he has learned. "Maybe today's students won't make the same mistakes," he said. He joined the executives in residence program because he likes to be around young people.

"They have creative thoughts," said Davis. "I hope to share some stories. Some of the things they read about in textbooks, such as theory, aren't so fun, but they can save your bacon when you're out in the real world. I hope to teach them how things work practically, not just theoretically."

Dr. John Duncan, dean of the School of Business, said, "The executives are helping us deliver real-world experience in their areas of expertise to our students." In addition to addressing specific classes, some of the executives will speak to the entire campus during the University's Chapel programs.

"We are asking the executives to incorporate the character qualities we already use from the Character First program as they speak to students. These character qualities add value in all areas and will build better employees as we send students out," said Duncan. "The executives discuss values and ethics from a Christian perspective and teach students how to apply their faith in business settings."

2014 Executives in Residence

- Garth Cook, director of leadership development and training, The Boeing Company
- Earnie Davenport, retired chairman and CEO, Eastman Chemical
- Byron Davis, retired president, Fisher-Price
- Larry Finney, founding partner, Green, Finney & Horton CPAs
- John Gross, regional manager, Havertys Furniture; chairman, The Barnabas Group, Charlotte
- Wayne Hall, president and CEO, First Federal; president and CEO, First Financial Holdings, Inc.
- Chris Niebuhr, president and COO, Thompson Industrial Services
- Marian Noronha, CEO, Turbocam International
- Mary Propes, CEO and founder, MVP Group International
- Henry "Hank" Taylor, vice president of global business development, Charleston Regional Development Alliance; retired brigadier general, U.S. Air Force
- Todd Tyler, executive vice president, Commonwealth/Brown and Brown Insurance
You have to have balance in your life, where you spend your time. Is your life out of balance? Where do you stand with career, finance, community, social life, family, personal, health and spirituality? You’ve got to take care of all of these and keep them in balance, or it goes wonky.

As humans, we are all in sales no matter what we do, so pay attention to details.

**Todd Tyler**

*Executive Vice President, Commonwealth/Brown and Brown Insurance*

It’s about people – connecting to people, the sharing of your faith, putting your faith on display. It’s about being grounded and confident enough to be able to accept huge leadership responsibilities, knowing that it’s going to be all right; you’re going to come out on the winning side.

I remember many days in the Pentagon, I actually had prayer sessions in the Pentagon. My days would start at 4:30 in the morning, and I would get home at 9 at night. I always tell people you can pray anywhere. You need to have that strength inside — that source to go to.

**Hank Taylor**

*Vice President of Global Business Development, Charleston Regional Development Alliance Brigadier General, USAF (Ret.)*
On Resolving Conflict

• Get at the heart of the matter – what is causing the tension and stress?
• View conflicts from all sides, all perspectives
• Find what you have in common
• Lead by asking questions, and keep the focus on the facts
• Actively listen to fully understand each perspective of the issue
• Don’t separate yourself from your people
• Start with what is achievable. Build on small wins
• Learn to forgive
• Ask yourself, how am I contributing to the conflict?

As a leader, when you see your folks struggling, give them a chance to see things from the other perspective.

Garth Cook

Director of Leadership Development and Training, The Boeing Company
Mary Propes
CEO and Founder, MVP Group International, Inc.

I always wanted to do more, and I always knew that meant employing people. If you are doing something you love, you are going to be good at it.

Find a problem and try to solve it. My love is agriculture. There are a lot of problems in the world, and I believe if people were well-fed they wouldn’t do a lot of the things they do. I work for free for agra business because I am passionate about it.

Wayne Hall
President & CEO, First Federal
President & CEO, First Financial Holdings, Inc.

I have found being able to apply the textbook to real-life situations actually made it more common-sense oriented to me. When the theoretical piece of it is actually applied in real-life business situations, not only do you learn from that but actually ultimately a light goes off – oh, now I see what I learned in the classroom.
50th Anniversary Calendar

2014

- September 3: First Chapel, Founder’s Day
- October 10: President’s Club Dinner – Blue & Gold Gala (invitation only)
- October 18: Homecoming (Football vs. PC)
- October 30-31, November 1-2: CSU Lyric Theatre: West Side Story
- November: 50th Anniversary CSU Magazine (commemorative double issue)
- December 1: Christmas Tree Lighting

2015

- January: Athletic Hall of Fame Reunion (invitation only)
- May 9: Commencement

Check out charlestonsouthern50.com this fall for events, stories and photos

Words from the Whitfield Center for Christian Leadership

“Christ is that light by which we can see our lives fully and in truth. The story of Christ allows us to know our own story, to put ourselves into God’s proper context. And so allows us to see ourselves as created beings of the Creator God Himself. We understand finally who we are.”
— Bret Lott, author, Arts Week

“We think of kindness as weakness or timidity rather than seeing it for what scripture says it is – the fruit of the spirit.”
— Dr. Russell Moore, president, Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, Values & Ethics Series

“How you know you have a disciple in your church is when they make a disciple.”
— D.J. Horton, SYNC Conference

“We must reenchant the next generation and respond to people freaked out by God references. In love, we have to say here are all the things that you love and want to aspire to; the positives in our culture are majorly a part of the story of our faith, the Hebrew and Christian tradition.”
— Dr. Gregory Thornbury, president, The King’s College, Staley Lecture Series

“Pointing out the flaws of culture doesn’t change things. We need to go into the world and change the culture.”
— Will Browning, SYNC Conference

“Lord, what is my purpose? Help me be content when I am not the next Billy Graham but when I shepherd the faithful few.”
— D.A. Horton, SYNC Conference

EVENT SCHEDULE: charlestonsouthern.edu/christianleadership/events
CHADWELL EARN COACHING HONORS

ot only did first-year head football coach, Jamey Chadwell, take home the Big South Coach of the Year award but also he was named Coach of the Year for Regional II, Football Championship Subdivision, by the American Football Coaches Association. The Bucs amassed a 10-3 record, a school record, and also set a Big South Conference record for six road wins. Their #12 national ranking during the season also set a school record.

A lighted field will be another first for the team when the Bucs take the field this fall.
The CSU Chick-fil-A Connection

By Rachelle Rea

The new Chick-fil-A Express on campus has a unique connection with Chick-fil-A – a local Chick-fil-A owner and a director, both CSU alums, are managing the brand on campus. Northwoods Mall franchise owner, Chad Burn ’02, serves as the Chick-fil-A licensee operator consultant for the campus location on behalf of the Chick-fil-A corporate office. And he serves as a mentor to Daniel Kulhanek ’13, a manager in the Northwoods store who is learning the business under Burn’s tutelage.

Burn and Kulhanek share another CSU connection – they are both married to CSU alumni: Burn to Christina Thompson Burn ’03 and Kulhanek to Kayla Jackson Kulhanek ’12.

What is your position with Chick-fil-A and what does your average day look like?

Daniel: I’m a director – read: manager. I don’t really have a typical day often; everyday has a different dynamic. For an early shift during the weekday the mall is quiet, so from outside the restaurant we look calm. But in the back of the house we are hard at work organizing catering orders for many schools in the area, pharmaceutical reps and whoever else utilizes us for their events. Lunchtime is typically busy, and by this time our larger catering orders are finished, so we are at full strength to serve guests.

My director-specific role is ordering supplies for the store to function, twice a week. Things like paper products, waffle potato fries and of course chicken! I order based on sales for the following week.

Chad: I am the Owner/Operator of the Chick-fil-A in Northwoods Mall. The one thing that I love most about my position is that my daily schedule is never the same. I usually start off most days by having daily huddles with my directors to talk about daily catering orders, field trips to the restaurant, staffing needs, mall events and any miscellaneous needs.

I usually review my business results by listening to what my customers are saying. Customers can provide feedback by doing an online survey or filling out a comment card in the restaurant. After reviewing business results, I try to personally deliver as many catering orders as possible. Delivering catering orders is a great way for me to network in the community and to personally thank each customer for their business. How often does the owner of a business personally deliver their product to you? Never! I really want to go the

above: The traditional First Bite Ceremony at CSU’s Chick-fil-A Express.

above right: Daniel Kulhanek, Bucky, Chick-fil-A Cow, Chad Burn

photos by Jan Joslin
extra mile for my customers and let them know that I really appreciate their business.

I love to spend time in my lobby talking and serving my guests. Without my guests, I wouldn’t have a business. I want each guest’s experience to be like no other experience they have ever had at a quick service restaurant. After lunch, I focus on my top priority as a business owner, the people that work for me. I truly realize that the success of my business is centered around the people that I have. I spend time meeting with the directors on my High Performance Leadership Team. I give all of my directors true ownership in our business. My job is to make sure I provide them with the proper resources to be successful and to help them continue growing as leaders.

**What is your role with the Chick-fil-A Express on CSU’s campus? (which is a big hit with students like me, by the way)**

**Daniel:** The Chick-fil-A Express is FANTASTIC! My role hasn’t been formally established, but I hope in the near future to help with quality control evaluations and make sure things are held to Chick-fil-A standards, which are quite high! I did help train some of the staff, and I helped in more of a director role during the Grand Opening and the following day to make sure everyone knew exactly what is to be expected from this location.

**Chad:** I’m the Licensee Operator Consultant which means that Chick-fil-A Corporate selected me to partner with CSU and Aramark to make sure that all the high standards of Chick-fil-A are being executed properly. My main role is to support Aramark’s food service director, Adam Blake, and Chick-fil-A’s location manager, Jana Gilmore.

**Your major was kinesiology (Daniel) and business administration (Chad). How did you become interested in owning your own business?**

**Daniel:** Kinesiology was my major, and I was planning on either becoming a personal trainer or a physical therapist’s assistant. I had worked at Chick-fil-A about a year in high school and another year in college prior to being hired at Chad’s store in Northwoods Mall. It was honestly just a paycheck until 2012 when everything started to fall into place. God put great leaders into my life like Chad, Brett and Zach. They were willing to show me what Chick-fil-A stood for and what is to be expected from the company. I took their knowledge and ran. I really started to become passionate about what I could do for my community and how much opportunity there is with such a great company.

**Chad:** I was actually a criminal justice major my freshman year. I always had a dream of being an FBI Agent. I loved the thought of being able to solve crimes and help people. After working at Chick-fil-A as a manager for three years, I really fell in love with the company and what they represented. I started to work closely with the owner/operator of my franchise and learned what being a franchise owner/operator of a Chick-fil-A really looked like. It was so much more than just food. It was all about Chick-fil-A’s Corporate Purpose: “To Glorify God by being a faithful steward of all that is entrusted to us, and to have a positive influence on all who come in contact with Chick-fil-A.” I think it was at that point that I realized that being a Chick-fil-A operator was something I could really see myself doing as a career. I inquired more about what it would take to pursue a career as an operator. I learned that 70 percent of all operators started off as a Chick-fil-A employee; Chick-fil-A only selects about 80 new operators each year, and that it was a very long process to become an operator. That is when I decided that I was going to switch my major to business administration to learn as much as possible about running a business. It was the best decision I ever made. After graduating and working at Chick-fil-A for nine years, I was selected to become a Chick-fil-A operator in Columbia, S.C.

**Regarding owning a franchise, did you plan on becoming involved with Chick-fil-A?**

**Daniel:** Chick-fil-A is what got me interested in owning my own business! I can really develop my team as a leader at Chick-fil-A; the possibilities are endless if I’m making decisions as an owner/operator.

**Chad:** The way I came in contact with Chick-fil-A is like a story out of a fairytale book. I was a customer in the drive thru of my community Chick-fil-A getting my weekly fix of nuggets and lemonade. When I pulled up to the window to pay for my order, a really nice girl named Christina asked me if my name was Chad. Christina said that she was new to the area and thought she saw me at her high school. We quickly learned that we went to the same high school, but I was a year older. One day she invited me to go to Chick-fil-A after school. I learned at that time that her father was the owner of the local Chick-fil-A and that we could go eat for free. I thought this was the best thing ever.

Christina and I became good friends and began dating later that year. At that time I was working at Applebee’s, but Christina kept telling me that she thought I would really like working at Chick-fil-A. Christina’s parents were constantly talking about how great of a company Chick-fil-A was to work for and that I could have off every Sunday. Finally I got tired of working double shifts every Sunday at Applebee’s and made the switch to Chick-fil-A. I can honestly say that I believe God put me in that Chick-fil-A drive thru for a reason. All because I wanted some nuggets and lemonade, I was able to meet the love of my life and work for the best company in the world.

**If you could talk to students, what would you say?**

**Daniel:** I would tell students to be patient. Especially when they are first starting out, learning the business is far more tedious than I imagined. You have to have different thought processes for different situations, constantly be thinking about several different things (making sure your store operates smoothly, putting procedures into place to run more efficiently, keeping quality standards, growing your business, etc). The best advice I can give is: stay organized!

**Chad:** I would like to encourage all students to follow their dreams and not be scared of the unknown. Life is full of taking chances. Always believe in yourself and know that anything is possible. Keep God at the center of your life and know that he will never give you more than you can handle.
The first time Stephen Leopard visited CSU, he decided not to come to school here. Two years later, he returned and now he is a senior on the baseball team and the first appointed campus mobilizer with the North American Mission Board.

Leopard grew up in Aiken, South Carolina. “I visited CSU for the first time while I was in high school,” he says. “I loved the campus and Charleston. I was offered a baseball scholarship.”

But Leopard said no, deciding to attend Spartanburg Methodist College instead, a junior college closer to his family. “Spartanburg has been my second home my entire life,” he says. There he earned his associate degree and improved his game.

He couldn’t forget about CSU, though. “CSU never left the picture while I was at SMC. The fall of my sophomore year, my recruiting process with CSU began again. Growing up being a strong Gamecock fan, I remembered watching Coach Lake at USC and always thought it would be a great opportunity to play for him—and this was my chance. I believed the program was headed in a positive direction, and I wanted to be a part of it!”

Leopard knew what he would pursue: a degree in Christian studies with a Christian leadership minor. “I felt a calling in my life to pursue full-time ministry my junior year of high school. I could now play the game I loved and pursue the calling God had on my life.” That call includes his interest in missions and youth ministry. “Youth ministry had a large impact in my life, so I’ve always had a passion for middle/high school students. I use this passion to influence students any way I can. This could possibly lead to a future youth pastor position.”

For now, this passion has led to the opportunity God opened for Leopard this year. The North American Mission Board recently created a new initiative called Missionsend geared toward matching mission-minded college students with larger American cities.

During the first week of winter break, Leopard received a life-changing phone call from Jon Davis, campus minister, who offered Leopard the position of campus mobilizer with Missionsend.

Again, Leopard’s first response was to say no. “After trying to come up with every excuse not to lead this team,” Leopard explains, “God ignored all of them. This wasn’t a job I chased after, God dropped it in my lap, and I found myself saying yes to something that came with a vague description and small detail of what would be required of me and my team.”

He is in the process of assembling his team. “As a campus mobilizer, I’m responsible for recruiting 20 college students to live in Atlanta this summer for a 6-week mission project. This will involve serving in local churches, creating outreach ministries and teaming up with local partners to help meet the needs of the Atlanta people. These needs could include homelessness, abuse, prostitution or sex slavery, as well as plugging these people into a church or missions organization.”

Leopard’s focus is Christ-centered. “The most important goal is not providing for physical needs but spiritual needs. If we feed a homeless person and don’t share Jesus with them, we’ve failed.”

He says, “You’re here for one purpose and that is to display the glory of God. It’s all about Him. He’s gracious in allowing us to be a part of making much of Himself.”

What does a typical day look like for Leopard? He goes to class, to practice and fits in recruiting students and following up with others throughout the day. He looks forward to solidifying his team and planning the summer with them, including discovering each person’s strengths and passions. He will seek to “figure out how each individual can be utilized to the fullest and how we as a team can accomplish the goals we set for ourselves.”

He is humble about his new position. “To be the first appointee is an awesome privilege. Because this is the first year for Missionsend, we almost feel like guinea pigs. We’re given little instruction and asked not to fail, so it can be overwhelming. But it forces us to rely solely on God to accomplish the mission.”

That is a lesson Leopard has been learning since his first visit to CSU, when he originally said no.
Obeying God’s Call to Go
in the form of a shoebox

Operation Christmas Child intern, Alex Nsengimana, knows firsthand the difference a shoebox makes.
Already an orphan, 6-year-old Alex watched as his Tutsi grandmother and uncle, his caregivers, were killed in Rwanda by neighbors. “We thought our neighbors were good people, but they were militia who wanted to finish off the cockroaches, what they called Tutsis.”

Alex said there was no reason he and his brother should have lived through the Rwandan genocide, but they did. An aunt took them in, and when she became terminally ill, they ended up in an orphanage. Angry and bitter, Alex battled nightmares and hopelessness. Hope came to Alex in the form of an Operation Christmas Child shoebox in 1995. Though he didn’t know it at the time, receiving that shoebox was the beginning of his faith. OCC representatives explained the gifts had come from people who cared in America. Even more wonderful than the sights, smells and taste of things in the box, was the fact that Alex now had something to call his own.

While visiting Charleston Southern on behalf of Operation Christmas Child, Alex encouraged CSU students to pack boxes and told humorous stories of his encounter with his box. “I ate a candy cane for the first time. We could tell from the smell it was something to eat.” About halfway through the candy canes, the children realized they would be even better without the plastic wrappers. Alex and several of his friends also received rolls of Smarties candies. “We didn’t eat them, because we thought they were medicine and would make us sick,” he said. “Did you ever eat the Smarties?” the audience asked. Alex deadpanned, “Yes, I took the risk – and ate the Smarties.”

Alex said he began thinking there had to be a reason he was alive and wasn’t killed. Gradually, God revealed to Alex the things He had done to keep him safe. Alex came to understand who God is and the power of Christ. “If you are still faithful,” said Alex. “Rwanda and had the blessing of distributing shoeboxes in the orphanage where he had lived. Alex said, “Many in Rwanda are finding the Lord, though a few still want to spread tribal hate. “Some of the people are Christians, but they live in bitterness because they don’t want to forgive,” said Alex.

Alex found the path out of bitterness, and with the power of God went to the prison in Rwanda and forgave those who had killed his family and prayed for them. “Someone may hear this story and say ‘poor guy,’ but I want people to have this reaction – that is a powerful God. Life is tough, but God is still faithful,” said Alex.

When shoeboxes are distributed, Operation Christmas Child trains local churches to lead the older children through a 12-week discipleship program, based on The Greatest Journey, which is included in each box and presents the gospel. Once the gospel is shared, the children are challenged to tell nine other people. “One of the best things you can do when packing a shoebox is include a letter from your family and tell the child you are praying for him or her,” said Alex.

It’s never too early in the year to start packing shoeboxes. Alex offers these tips:

• School supplies are important because some kids can’t go to school because they don’t have supplies.
• T-shirts, shoes and sandals are great. Don’t worry if the size isn’t just right – an older or younger sibling or possibly an adult can benefit from the item.
• Include a stuffed animal in each box, even for the older children. Children who have been through traumatic circumstances will love something soft and comforting.
• For older girls and boys, include sewing kits, tools and measuring tapes. Some of the older children may be able to find work because they own something as simple as a measuring tape.

CSU STUDENTS PACK SHOEBOXES

Brianna McNeal and Nicholas Lee set out to pack 100 boxes – 50 each – for Operation Christmas Child and more than met their goal. In all, CSU students packed more than 1,400 boxes to send to Samaritan’s Purse.

McNeal said, “I am very passionate about this organization, because not only do they give each child a box but also they minister the love of Jesus Christ to each one on a level that each child can understand. McNeal and Lee started collecting items for the boxes early in 2013. “God laid it on both our hearts to help this organization, and [He] provided,” she said.

McNeal is a sophomore from Jacksonville, Fla., majoring in nursing. Lee is a junior psychology major from Lake City.

Campus Ministries hosted a packing party Nov. 21. Operation Christmas Child is a ministry of Samaritan’s Purse that has served more than 100 million children in 130 countries since 1993.
Standing in the Gap

Students Seek to End Human Trafficking

Ashlynn Harmon walks into the Brewer Center every Monday afternoon at 4. She does not go to work out or chat with friends about homework and movies. Instead, she joins other CSU students passionate about shining a light on human trafficking—and ending it.

Harmon and the others in the group know something a growing number of students are just now discovering: Every 30 seconds someone becomes a victim of human trafficking, according to the A21 campaign, an organization devoted to abolishing slavery in the 21st century.

“We are working on finding ways to make people aware of this issue,” Harmon says of the group that meets on Mondays. “As a society, we have been blinded to the reality, and we are convinced that it’s not actually impacting America.”

Harmon and her fellow students seek to battle that blindness with awareness. “People need to know what to look for when they see unusual behavior,” Harmon continues, “and they need to know how to properly respond. We have made it far too easy for abductors to comfortably go about this awful business for far too long, and it’s reached a point that we cannot allow it to go on any longer.”

By Rachelle Rea
photos by John Strubel
A Tiny Mustard Seed of Faith

Ninety-nine percent of human trafficking victims are never rescued, A21 reports. Harmon is intent on changing that—and so is Alexis Brantley.

Brantley, a biology and criminal justice major, also meets in the Brewer Center every Monday afternoon. She is equally passionate about exposing an issue some Americans struggle to believe exists in their own backyard.

Not only does human trafficking exist, it is rampant. An estimated 27 million men, women and children are forced into manual and sexual labor worldwide, according to A21. That means there are more slaves today than at any other point in history.

Brantley says, “These girls are my sisters in Christ whether I know them personally or not. I thought, ‘Well, here is my chance to help these young girls. I can stand in the gap for them, even if they have given up.’ I figure maybe my help from afar could be their tiny mustard seed of faith.”

I Had No Clue

The average age of trafficking victims worldwide is 12 years old. The National Human Trafficking Resource Center estimates that annually there are 100,000 children in the sex trade in the United States.

Harmon, Brantley and the other students who meet on Mondays are not the first to become passionate about bringing awareness to sex trafficking. Clark Carter, dean of students, former campus minister, took a group of CSU students on a Fall Break mission trip to the Spartanburg, S.C./Asheville, N.C., area in 2010.

Carter says, “We spent most of our time partnering with a ministry that Biltmore Baptist Church works with occasionally. That really opened our eyes to the plight of human trafficking right here in the United States! We went to a truck stop off I-85 to hold up signs and give out literature to bring awareness to human trafficking. We were told that much of the human trafficking takes place at truck stops. I had no clue.”

Soon after that, the Passion Conference, an event well attended by CSU students in recent years, confirmed a focus on human trafficking and slavery. After that, Carter says, “We continued to build on that emphasis here at CSU. We thought that this cause would resonate with our students…many of whom are the same ages of the young people caught in slavery/trafficking.”

South Carolina’s first confirmed case of human trafficking occurred in 2007 and involved a 14-year-old girl. Five years later, Gov. Haley signed Bill 3757, which strengthened human trafficking laws in S.C. The National Human Trafficking Resource Center reports that the highest concentration of potential trafficking reports in South Carolina originate in the Myrtle Beach, Columbia and Charleston areas, respectively.

A Sea of Red Xs

CSU continues to be a catalyst that equips students to help put an end to sex trafficking and modern-day slavery. Julie Jongsma, service learning coordinator, is passionate about this issue and has encountered several kindred spirits at CSU. “I have seen a growing interest in students on campus that are interested and passionate about human trafficking.”

Jongsma says the Brewer Center group meets to pray and brainstorm ways to spread awareness on campus and throughout the community. They are planning a fundraising event to aid the cause. “In April, we will be hosting a yard sale in collaboration with Doors to Freedom, Charleston’s local—and South Carolina’s only—aftercare shelter for human trafficking survivors,” Jongsma says.

“Doors to Freedom,” Jongsma continues, “is a great faith-based organization that is seeking to build an aftercare transitional living home for girls who have come out of the sex trade. Once they have enough funds to purchase their building, I would love to see CSU partner with them on a regular basis.”

Jongsma says there is a disconnect between how human trafficking and modern-day slavery is viewed and the horrific reality. “Though the movement on CSU’s campus as well as in South Carolina seems to be increasing, there is still a long way to go as far as understanding and making change happen. Oftentimes, human trafficking is only seen as something that happens internationally; however, human trafficking just looks different here than it does overseas.”

February 27 was Shine a Light on Slavery Day on campus. Sponsored by the End It Movement, this event was designed to reveal the reality of human trafficking and modern-day slavery. Students like Brantley manned tables around the pond and in the dining hall to talk with others interested in learning more about human trafficking and slavery. They handed out markers and encouraged students to draw red Xs on their hands to serve as conversation starters so that awareness of this issue will spread.

Harmon says, “Americans say things such as ‘It might be an issue in Africa or in China, but it’s not really an issue here,’ which is completely incorrect.”

Human trafficking is an American issue, as well as an international one — an issue which many CSU students are passionate about ending.
Martin Luther King Jr. was responsible for helping set the foundation for our society as we know it today. He set an example that many can still learn from, even 40 years after his death. He had a dream and had the will and strength to act upon it. King’s drive and perseverance transcended culture and race, reached across aisles and has spanned time. He can be described as an activist, preacher and humanitarian, but he would be best described as a world changer.

The day after Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Charleston Southern hosted a special ceremony in Lightsey Chapel. The Black History Intercollegiate Consortium event was a celebration of the actions of King and a celebration of local heroes for their actions around Charleston. Students from Charleston Southern, Trident Tech, The Citadel and MUSC gave tributes to Dr. King in short, eloquent speeches.

DaLonzo Gibson of Trident Technical College said, “It was not easy in any shape or form to march down the streets with a leader teaching peace and justice. It took a firm action.”

Charleston Southern student, Xavier Miller, said, “He (King) saw life as we live it today. How you and I can interact with each other and the rest of the society, overlooking the race factor. Living in a society where blacks, whites, Hispanics, etc., can sit or stand side by side in the classroom.”

MUSC student, Robert D. Williams, took the stage and wowed the crowd with words Dr. King would’ve been proud of. “Today as we celebrate Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., please be mindful of what this day is truly about. Be mindful of the impact that he had on mankind. And let us all remember, that they may have killed the dreamer, but the dream will forever live on.”

Cadet Maryah Kingland from The Citadel said, “Martin Luther King Jr. is a universal role model for many individuals today and for generations to come. He encourages us to never settle for injustices and wrong deeds, no matter how many challenges or opposing challengers we may face.”

Humanitarian awards were given to four honorees:
• Dr. Louester Robinson, dean of the Palmer Campus, Trident Technical College
• Ms. Carrie Williams of Aramark Food Services, Charleston Southern
• Mr. Maurice Cannon, Principal of Burke High School
• Dr. B. DaNine Fleming of MUSC

Fleming said, “We cannot forget where we came from, but we need to forge ahead and continue in the work together.”

Cannon said, “I’m working and going in the right direction for this mission of having to improve the education and the lives of our young people in the Charleston area.”

Robinson said, “We all have dreams and we all have aspirations, just as Dr. King had. Just as Dr. Fleming, Ms. Williams and Mr. Cannon had. They had dreams to make our society a better place and have succeeded at doing so.

"I always dream, but I always want dreams to turn into reality. And for dreams to turn into reality, you have to take some action for that to happen.”

King said that he had a dream, and he worked to make that dream a reality.

“...I always dream, but I always want dreams to turn into reality. And for dreams to turn into reality, you have to take some action for that to happen.

– Louester Robinson

I ALWAYS DREAM, BUT I ALWAYS WANT DREAMS TO TURN INTO REALITY. AND FOR DREAMS TO TURN INTO REALITY, YOU HAVE TO TAKE SOME ACTION FOR THAT TO HAPPEN.

– Louester Robinson
Women’s Ministry Director

FINDS GOD at Work in Her Brokenness

By Jennifer Berry Hawes

Post and Courier

Nothing struck her as wrong, not until she was around 6 years old and wore shorts to a local Walmart. Another young girl, a stranger, asked: What’s wrong with you?

Betsy Bolick’s mother, a nurse, took her home and sat her down to explain – not what was wrong, but what had happened. Bolick had been born with sacral agenesis, a rare congenital spinal disorder. She was missing three parts of her lower spine, which left her feet paralyzed, her legs without calf muscles and her bladder uncontrollable.

As time passed, she underwent numerous surgeries. She wore diapers until she was 13. And she endured great pain – pain caused by her body, and the pain of feeling different, abnormal, somehow wrong.

A word darkened over her life, forming a seemingly permanent label: disabled.

For so long, too long, she heard people’s comments. And she believed them.

However, she also grew up in the small town of Boone, N.C., with good friends and a loving family, including a fraternal twin sister. Together, they instilled a strong Christian faith in her.

Bolick accepted Christ at 13. But even after, she struggled with creation, with the idea that God created her, that he molded her body. Because how could a perfect God make such an awful mistake?
**Stuck in a box**

When she was 13, a boy in class asked why she smelled like diapers, why when she walked by he could hear a diaper’s distinct swish-swoosh sound.

She went to bed that night to sob. And to pray. The next morning, she woke to a dry diaper. And a new ability, on most days, to control her bladder.

She accepted Christ that year. “The Lord knew how desperately I’d need him,” she said.

Because the rest continued. There was a guy who, around prom time, said, “I’d never go out with a deformed little girl.” And the constant comments like, “You’re short!” Or, “Are you a midget?”

“I felt like it was putting me in a box, defining me, like I’m just a short little girl,” she recalled.

Bolick credits the nurture of good friends and supportive family for showing she was more than that. They encouraged her to be a cheerleader, to go sledding, to be active in their Baptist church, to live her life as simply Betsy Bolick.

“They didn’t see sacral agenesis,” Bolick said. Her twin sister, Brittany, was a talented athlete who became a teacher and coach. Her older sister, Blair, was a bulldogged protector. Older brother Ben showed how Scripture could answer her questions. And provide answers.

None of them let her wallow. “It’s a pity party of one,” her mom would say. But it wasn’t enough.

“I was loved,” Bolick recalled. “I just couldn’t see it. People would say, ‘You’ve overcome!’ But inside, I was dying.”

**Turning point**

Then came senior year, that cusp of freedom and new adventures. Bolick was finishing a three-year series of surgeries to insert calf implants.

She was at a basketball game when one leg ripped open, blood flowing, the implant pushing out from an incision at the bend behind her knee. She was rushed to the emergency room. The ordeal left her with emotional and physical scars – and a new dent in one leg.

“My journey to look normal didn’t work,” she said.

After, she sat one day looking at all the things she saw wrong with herself. She called herself all of those names other people had called her. She prayed angrily, threatening: “If you don’t call me home, I will.” Looking back, she doubts she meant it. But it reflected the depth of her pain.

“It was a cry for help from a broken little girl,” she said.

Then the song “Beautiful” came on, and she opened her Bible to a passage about Jesus, through whose “stripes we are healed.” She looked at the stripes of her own scars, inside and out.

Something struck her. God had big plans, big work to do, a big message of hope to spread through her suffering.

“This is why!” she realized.

**New Adventure**

Now 26, Bolick has long dark hair, hazel eyes and a stunning smile that greets people warmly at CSU.

When asked about her favorite Scripture, she pulls out a pocket Bible, its leather cover worn, its pages adorned with every color of highlighter.

She arrived at the Christian school in August after praying for an adventure. She got a call from Jon Davis, campus pastor. Would she consider applying for the school’s director of women’s ministry post?

Davis had met Bolick through her twin sister, who had been a star soccer player and leader at CSU. Bolick had shared her story on campus before. Davis had seen her captivate a crowd of college students with her vision of how God works through people’s brokenness, including her own.

“A great speaker can move someone to applause. But a phenomenal speaker moves someone to tears,” Davis said. “That’s what she did.”

By then, Bolick had left the security of her small hometown to earn a women’s ministry degree at Liberty University and then a master’s in church leadership and ethics from John Brown University.

Then CSU leaders offered her their women’s ministry post.

Today, she works directly with Davis, organizing campus worship and missions, hosting Bible studies and mentoring students. Many are young women struggling with the demands of school, peers, dating and their own expectations.

“They often have no idea who they are,” Bolick said. Some feel alone, overwhelmed by their shortcomings or problems. Some are hurt over breakups, others by a lack of relationships. Bolick can relate. She, too, wants to marry and have children. She knows their loneliness.

“Let me tell you what God is going to do through your brokenness,” she tells them.

And they listen, Davis said.

“She’s showing them that you are defined by how much God is using you compared to how much you use God,” Davis said. “She has had more impact on the student body as an employee than anybody else in my tenure here. She draws a following because she refuses to be defined by what people see,” he said.

He knows it isn’t easy. He’s seen her feet bleed. He’s watched her struggle up the stairs. He’s seen people stare.

Indeed, she still struggles. Many days, her feet hurt. She’s often in pain. She still urinates on herself without warning.

And she still wallows at times. But then she transforms her thoughts to feel God working through her, working through her brokenness and imperfections.

“It’s a daily decision for me to choose joy,” she said. “This is who I am. I can’t change it, and I wouldn’t change it. I’ve seen the good outweigh the struggles.”

Now, she looks forward. Bolick wants to pursue a doctorate. And she’s building an already busy speaking schedule that takes her around the country to share her message, to show that she is more than a label or the pain and that God didn’t make any mistakes in creating her.

This article originally appeared in The Post and Courier and is reprinted with permission.
A few months ago, a freshman at Charleston Southern University learned that the state was cutting off her LIFE line.

Even though she qualified for the scholarship in high school and had acclimated to college just fine, South Carolina informed her she would not get her “LIFE” assistance from the Education Lottery.

And just like that, a quarter of her tuition was gone with the bureaucratic wind.

Although the young lady is a lifelong resident of South Carolina, and a U.S. citizen, the state says she doesn’t qualify for the scholarship because her parents are undocumented immigrants.

Now, it doesn’t matter that these folks have been living in the state long enough for their daughter to reach college age – a period in which they paid income, payroll and sales taxes (and probably, if they are like everyone else, bought lottery tickets). The issue here is that they are not in the country legally.

And beating up on “illegals” is good politics in South Carolina.

It looked like this hand-wringing over racial politics was going to threaten the future of one young woman who has done nothing wrong. But then the good folks at Charleston Southern University stepped in.

And, as usual, they showed everyone exactly how Christian charity really works.

‘The right thing’

Charleston Southern started out in the 1960s as Baptist College at Charleston, and it has always been a good neighbor.

The school has a nice campus, a cozy student body of about 3,000, many of whom choose to live and work right here in the Lowcountry after they graduate. It’s not surprising – at Charleston Southern, they find family, and who wants to move away from family?

It should be no surprise that Charleston Southern officials stepped up as soon as they found out about the plight of one of their newest students.

“We wanted to help the student, as we do all our students,” says Debbie Williamson, the university’s vice president of enrollment. “As a private university, we can be more flexible.”

Basically, the school found the girl some federal money (she is a U.S. citizen, remember) and then made up the difference with institution scholarship money. A lot of good people donate to the university to give folks a chance to get an education there.

It really does help.

Now the college just did this as a matter of course, out of habit. They didn’t crow about this in a press release. They simply did the right thing.

“We don’t think about it,” Williamson says. “It’s just what we do.”

How refreshing.

A good lesson

The state is likely to find itself in a bit of trouble over this sort of behavior with scholarship politics.

A federal judge has ordered the state of Florida to end such discriminatory practices, and the Southern Poverty Law Center is likely to bring the same sort of lawsuit here.

State officials say that illegal immigrants shouldn’t be given favored status over out-of-state folks, and that’s a fair argument to have. Free of racial politics, ideally.

But this woman is a lifelong resident of South Carolina, and she is being singled out because her parents don’t have “papers.” That’s a tad “Casablanca.”

Look, unless you are a Cherokee, Kiawah or Seminole, most folks out there have an illegal immigrant somewhere in the family tree. A good number of the Founding Fathers would be “undocumented” today, if you want to get technical.

The state Higher Education Commission is reviewing its policy, which is probably cheaper than defending it in a lawsuit. They’d better move fast because this isn’t an isolated problem. This Charleston Southern freshman has been spared the indignity of getting kicked out of school, but there are a lot of other South Carolina high school kids who won’t be lucky enough to find the kind of caring attention she got.

Charleston Southern touts itself as a Christian-based institution, and the folks there continue to show us exactly what that means every day. It’s a lesson a lot of people could stand to study.

This column originally appeared Jan. 24, 2014 in The Post and Courier and is reprinted with permission.
Class notes

1971

Carl Beckmann writes: “Greetings from the Edge of America! A short report on the Oyster Roast held at my house on Folly Beach March 22. The weather cooperated nicely, but although a bit warm, the oysters were a big hit. We had a grand time and sat around the fire pit and told some tales of our days at the Baptist College. It was very nice to reminisce and enjoy seeing one another again. For those that missed the outing, maybe next time, possibly in Columbia, but I have to bring the oysters! Attending the roast [hosted by Carl and Elizabeth Beckmann] were: Eddie ’72 and Harriett Edwards ’72, Rod ’71 and Carolyn Weader, Bubba ’95 and Judy Stafford, Louie ’70 and Imo ’70 Conder, Bill ’72 and Becky Early, Tony ’71 and Linda Lollis, Randy ’69 and Sarah ’70 Moody, Terry and Jan Sedalik and Jim Thomas ’71.

1979

Marc Embler was named USA Track and Field South Carolina Long Distance Runner of the Year in the master’s men’s division for the second consecutive year. He finished first in his age group in 14 S.C. events in 2013. He won the Cooper River Bridge Run in 1981. Embler is chair of the criminal justice department and CJ graduate director at Charleston Southern. His wife, Ruth Marie, was named the women’s master’s division runner for the second consecutive year also.

1982

Rodney E. Graham has received a master’s in secondary education from Grand Canyon University in Phoenix. He went on to receive his doctor of philosophy and doctor of science degrees from the University of AMA Studies in Centerville, Ind. He also holds an executive certificate in principles of business from the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind. He has been inducted into the Pi Lambda Theta International Education Honor Society, the Cambridge Worldwide Who’s Who Honor Society for Business Executives and Alpha Chi National College Honor Society. He is a champion 9th degree karate black belt, certified with The Alliance International Martial Arts Organization. He was inducted into the USA Martial Arts Hall of Fame in 2009 in Cocoa Beach, Fla. He is a member of the USA Martial Arts National Karate team, and he and his older brother founded the Christian Martial Arts Association. He is a minister of music in a Lowcountry Southern Baptist Church.

1985

Jeff Wright is the senior pastor at Red Bank Baptist Church in Lexington. He previously served at churches in Easley and Pickens. He and his wife, Donna ’84, MEd ’90, have four children.

1991

Kandie D. Smith has been elected to her third term on City Council in Greenville, N.C. She represents District One.

1993

Dr. Kirt Caton has been named medical director for Select Health of South Carolina. He was formerly a physician with Palmetto Primary Care Physicians and has been an adjunct professor at the Medical University of South Carolina.

1994

Debbie Hargrove, a 4th grade teacher at LaVerna Evans School, has received an Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award. Emerson, a St Louis, Mo., company, sponsors the awards for St. Louis-area teachers each year. Award recipients receive Tiffany crystal apples and are eligible to apply for grants from Emerson.

1995

Kimberly Marie Farfone and Gregory Stephen Borts were married Nov. 23, 2013, in Charleston. He serves as an officer with the Charleston County Aviation Authority Police Department, and they live in Charleston.

1997

1999

Andrena Nadine Ellison and Christopher Kenté King were married Oct. 12, 2013, in Elgin. He is a manager with Lowe’s of Columbia. They live in Columbia.

2000

Amy Britt Baldwin, a math teacher at Oakbrook Middle School in Summerville, has started an engineering and robotics program at the school. She and her husband, Carter Baldwin ’99, live in Charleston and have one son.

2001

Christy Dukes Hughes MEd, has been named Educator of the Year at Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College. She teaches English and is associate dean of arts and sciences. She is currently pursuing a doctorate in education in higher education leadership and management. She and her family live in Reevesville.

2002

Andre M. Dukes ’06 MEd has been named the 2014 S.C. Secondary Assistant Principal of the Year by the S.C. Association of School Administrators. He is assistant principal at West Ashley High School. Superintendent McGinley said, “Andre Dukes is a star in the making, and I know he will continue to make significant contributions to our community.” He has been a classroom teacher, instructional coach, assistant principal and associate principal for 11 years in Charleston and Berkeley County school districts. He has won numerous state and district awards and is involved in educational projects on the local, state and national levels. He is currently serving as a member of the CSU Alumni Board.

Heather Pipkin Gray has released a devotional for military couples, which she and her late husband, Major David Gray ’01, started writing together to help couples remain close during deployment. After he was killed in Afghanistan, Heather, the founder of Finish Strong Ministries, completed the devotional. Faith, Hope, Love & Deployment is available from Amazon at amazon.com.

2003

Veronica and Dwayne Boulden ’03 recently visited campus with their daughters, Norah, Avril and Adele. The Bouldens live in Waterbury, Conn.

2004

Dr. Travien Capers announces the birth of a daughter, Machiah La’el Capers, born May 5, 2013. Travien is associate campus dean and a religion/philosophy faculty member at Strayer University’s Greenville campus.

2005

Daniel Bryant is currently working with a Christian radio station in Columbia to create a radio show based on his Boys of Valor series.
2006

Kelli Flynn and her husband, Bryan, announce the arrival of their first child, Ethan Thomas Flynn, born July 17, 2013, in Mt. Pleasant. He weighed 8 lbs, 3 ozs and was 20.5 inches long. Kelli is an occupational therapist at East Cooper Medical Center, and the Flynns live in Summerville.

Margaret Todd Irick and Marshall Clark Truluck were married March 15 in Charleston. He is employed by Paul K. Moore and Associates, and they live in Charleston.

Stephen Schweickart is the founder of VScreen, an Internet video services provider within the real estate industry. He has worked for Holland America Cruise Line and has real estate investing and management experience.

2007

Stephanie Odom Crowder and her husband, Tim, announce the birth of a son, Jack Henry Crowder, born Aug. 26, 2013. He weighed 7 lbs, 9 ozs and was 21 inches long. Stephanie writes, “I am a former teacher in Dorchester 2 but am staying home this year to be with Jack. We couldn’t be happier!”

2008

David Richardson was recently profiled in the Summerville Journal Scene as a music teacher at Fort Dorchester High School. He was named South Carolina Music Educators Association’s Young Music Educator of the Year in 2013.

Jermaine Whirl, MBA, MEd, recently accepted the position of Dean of the School of Business and School of Art and Design at Gwinnett Technical College in Lawrenceville, Ga.

2009

Shena Laymon Frazier and LaVance Frazier welcomed their first child, daughter Maia Shaelyn Laymon Frazier on Aug. 12, 2013. She was 7 lbs and was born in Kingsland, Ga. Shena is employed at Florida State College in Jacksonville as a laboratory manager and health science professor and is pursuing her doctoral degree in public health and epidemiology. Richard is a first class petty officer culinary specialist in the U.S. Navy stationed in Kings Bay Submarine Base.

Antonio Gantt Sr. was featured in the Summerville Journal Scene recently for his work with the Summerville Police Department. He currently is assigned to the traffic division.

2010

Allison Singleton Darnell MBA and Justin Darnell MBA, announce the birth of a daughter, Sydney Darnell. Justin is currently deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Amanda Shaw Dukes MBA and her husband, Taylor Dukes, announce the birth of their first baby, a son, Ellis Bennett Dukes, born Oct. 10, 2013, in Nassawadox, Va. He weighed 8 lbs, 1 oz and was 20 ¼ inches long. Amanda works for New Ravenna Mosaics, and Taylor works for the Town of Exmore. They live in Belle Haven, Va.

Jeanell Marvin and Michael Marvin ’13 announce the birth of a daughter, Mya Reneé Marvin, born Dec. 28, 2012. Mya has an older sister, Jada, who is 6. Jeanell writes, “Mya loves to play in her ball pit and listen to her father sing.”
David Miles MBA was recently selected for a State Farm consulting services litigation team manager opening in Atlanta. He is responsible for managing complex auto insurance litigation. He joined State Farm in 1993. He has earned his Chartered Life Underwriter and Chartered Financial Consultant designations and is pursuing his Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter designation. He and his wife, Julie, have four daughters.

Bryan Miller MBA and his wife, Jennifer, announce the birth of their second son, Bennett DeWitt Miller, born Nov. 19, 2013. He weighed 7.14 pounds and was 19.5 inches long. Bryan is corporate sales manager for W.W. Grainger, Inc. and is a member of the CSU Board of Visitors.

Melissa Marie Smith and Joshua Elliott Gale ’11 were married Oct. 5, 2013, in Southport, N.C. Josh is currently serving as director of communications at Riverbluff Church in Charleston.

2012

Sean Austin Leonard, and his wife, Kelci, announce the birth of a daughter, Paige Austin Leonard, born Jan. 9. The Leonards live in Tuckasegee, N.C.

2013

Tammy Hammond and Jacob Cox ’09 were married Oct. 26, 2013, in Indian Land. She is a nurse at Agape Post-Acute Care Center, and he is a supervisor with Cummins Atlantic.

You don’t need a switchboard to keep in touch with us!

The way we communicate may change, but we always want to hear from you. Send us your news about family additions, job changes and memories from your time at CSU.

Send your photos too! Photos should be at least 1 MB in size. (If you send a professional photograph, please include permission to print from the photographer.)

Send Class Notes to: magazine@csuniv.edu or mail to: Class Notes  I  CSU University Relations PO Box 118087  I  Charleston, SC 29423-8087

Send address change to: advancement@csuniv.edu

Name change on your permanent record: register@csuniv.edu

Follow the Alumni Association on Social Media:

alumni_csu

alumni_csu
CALLING ALL BABY BUCS!

Submitting a Photo – Send a picture of your Baby Buc wearing the shirt to alumni@csuniv.edu. Pictures should be 1 MB in size or larger, jpg format.

1. Emily Faith Bryson, daughter of Perry L Bryson ’11 and Donovan Bryson
2. Sydney Darnell, daughter of Allison Singleton Darnell MBA ’10 and Justin Darnell MBA ’10
3. Jack Henry Crowder, son of Stephanie Odom Crowder ’07 and Tim Crowder
4. Ellis Bennett Dukes, son of Amanda Shaw Dukes MBA ’10 and Taylor Dukes
5. Camden Dean Christly, son of Katie Mixon Christly ’04 and Matthew Christly
7. Ethan Thomas Flynn, son of Kelli Flynn ’06 and Bryan Flynn
8. Paige Austin Leonard, daughter of Sean Austin Leonard ’12 and Kelci Paige Leonard
ORDERING A SHIRT

CSU graduates – if you have a child under the age of 2 or are expecting a child, let us know at alumni@csuniv.edu, and we will send a CSU creeper for your Baby Buc. The shirt is free of charge – all we ask in return is a photo of your Baby Buc for the magazine.

9. Lenscay Royster, daughter of Tracie Driscoll Royster '02
10. Mya Renée Marvin, daughter of Jeanell Marvin '10 and Michael Marvin '13
11. Bennett DeWitt Miller, son of Bryan Miller MBA '10 and Jennifer Miller
12. Jax Barrett Hartley, son of Travis Hartley '02 and Michelle Hartley
13. Jocelyn Rose Runkle, daughter of Jessica Mole Runkle '06 and Jacob Runkle
14. Brady Steven Snyder, son of Brian Snyder '97 and Holly Snyder
15. Nicole Taylor Vasquez, daughter of Julia Negro Vasquez '09 and Paul Vasquez
GIVING BACK

SCE&G Donation Adds Nursing Equipment & Technology

During a campus visit March 28, South Carolina Electric & Gas presented CSU with a gift of $100,000 in support of equipment and technology for use in the College of Nursing. With the gift, CSU announced the naming of the SCE&G Classroom in the 16,100-square-foot expansion of the nursing building. The SCE&G gift also will help purchase two defibrillators, video conferencing equipment and the Susie S2000, a state-of-the-art electronic simulator that is wirelessly controlled by nursing instructors to test nursing student’s skills by simulating a real patient with breathing, heart rate, blood pressure, dilating pupils, seizure capability, simulated blood in specific areas and streaming audio so Susie can communicate her complications (via the instructor).

“With the nation facing a critical nursing shortage, we are proud to partner with Charleston Southern to help with the training needed to prepare our future workforce,” said Danny Kassis, SCE&G vice president of customer relations and renewables. “SCE&G believes in giving back to the communities we serve, and education is just one key focus area of our efforts to support communities across the state.”

Approximately 92 percent of Charleston Southern’s nursing graduates remain in the Lowcountry to serve the needs of the community. The Charleston Southern College of Nursing tripled enrollment to allow graduates to meet the growing needs within the region and state for more graduates with a bachelor of science in nursing degree.

Dr. Tara Hulsey, dean of the CSU College of Nursing, says, “BSN prepared nurses possess greater knowledge of health promotion, disease prevention and risk reduction as well as illness and disease management and are prepared to assist individual groups and communities to prevent disease and achieve optimum levels of wellness. A BSN degree is necessary for professional certification in specialty areas of nursing practice and leads to an expanded role as a provider, designer, manager and coordinator of patient care. It also provides the foundation for graduate and doctoral education.”

The Charleston Southern BSN degree program has a 95 percent seven-year average pass rate on the national exam required to receive a license to practice (NCLEX). Charleston Southern has the highest seven-year pass rate of all accredited BSN programs in the state of South Carolina.

SCE&G is a regulated public utility engaged in the generation, transmission, distribution and sale of electricity to approximately 675,000 customers in South Carolina. The company also provides natural gas service to approximately 325,000 customers throughout the state and is committed to supporting local communities through efforts to protect the environment, strengthen educational resources and encourage business and community development.

Pictured: Bill Turner and Danny Kassis from SCE&G, President Jairy Hunter and Summerville Mayor Bill Collins. Photo by Christi Pearson
James R. Metts, sheriff of Lexington County, presented the university with a check for $25,000 after the 10th annual Sheriff James R. Metts Golf Tournament. Money raised at the annual golf tournament funds the James R. Metts Endowed Scholarship. The golf tournament has generated more than $200,000 since 2004.

Metts relied on scholarship money when he attended college and understands the need to help students fund their education. Eight CSU students are currently benefitting from the Metts scholarship.

Metts is a member of the CSU Board of Visitors and has been an adjunct criminal justice professor.

Select Health of South Carolina donated $5,000 to fully fund the purchase of a refurbished Philips PageWriter Touch Electrocardiogram machine, providing students with hands-on experience measuring the electrical activity of the heart.

Pictured: Christina Morgan and Alanna Mayernik, nursing students; President Jairy Hunter, Dr. Tara Hubsey, dean, College of Nursing; Angela Glyder, regional clinical director, AmeriHealth Caritas/Select Health; Cindy Helling, executive director, Select Health; and Dr. Kirt Caton ’93, medical director, Select Health. Photo by Select Health
Alumni Capture Azalea Awards

Four alumni were featured in the winter 2013-2014 issue of Azalea Magazine’s first Azalea Awards, The Local Best. Will Rizzo, editor in chief of Azalea Magazine, said, “From arts and education to humanitarians and craftsmen, this year’s winners have gone above and beyond the status quo and proven that there is a whole lot of goodness coming out of our little slice of the grand ole South.” The magazine plans to make the awards an annual event.

Amanda Hobson ’07 and Priscilla Johnson ’06 were named Educators of the Year for their work with the South Carolina chapter of StudentsFirst, an organization working to transform public education. Hobson works for Charleston County School District, and Johnson was recently named Teacher of the Year at Windsor Hill Arts Infused Elementary.

Visionary of the Year is John Osborne ’02. Osborne is the founder of Fundingcharleston.com and a cofounder of The Harbor Accelerator. He is passionate about finding funding for small businesses and mentoring business launches.

And the Dish of the Year, the Frank Cuda at Perfectly Franks in Summerville, is named for Frank Cuda ’74.

Homecoming 2013 Festivities

2013-2014 Alumni Board
Executive Council and Board

Rex Divine ’85, President
Lectis Moorer ’00, Vice President
David Weiss ’03, Secretary
Ron Jaicks ’93, Treasurer
Anne Turner ’86, ’89, Past President

Scot Carnell ’91
Hope S. Hartson ’88
Thomas Cannistra ’02
Meg Barton Hinson ’04
Andre Dukes ’01, ’06
Cynthia Tillman ’89
Carl Beckmann ’71
Kris Head ’05

Homecoming 2013 featured the annual Alumni meeting and a Horton School of Music choral reunion.
Memorials

Edward Charles Arms Jr. ’94, age 65, died Nov. 24, 2013, in Mt. Pleasant. He was retired from MeadWestvaco and had served in the U.S. Navy.

Evelyn “Dell” Cuttino, age 87, died Dec. 12, 2013. She was the wife of the late Dr. David Cuttino, former chair of the music department, and frequently traveled with Dr. Cuttino and the CSU Choir. Memorials may be made in Dell’s name to Charleston Southern University’s Horton School of Music, CSU Advancement Office, PO Box 118087, Charleston, SC 29423-8087.

Thelma Louise Elkins, age 87, died Jan. 13 in Fort Worth, Texas. She was the director of the CSU Library from 1969 to 1983. Prior to her retirement she was a librarian at Southern Methodist University in Texas.

Martin Greenlee Gipe Sr. ’73, age 93, died Oct. 4, 2013, in Charleston. He was a retired chief warrant officer with the U.S. Navy, was a World War II veteran and had survived Pearl Harbor.

Carol Key Hinson ’70 died Sept. 8, 2013, in Walterboro. She was retired from the South Carolina Department of Social Services.

Thomas Jefferson Warwick, age 81, died Sept. 29, 2013, in Greenville. He was retired from Prudential Insurance and was a member of the CSU Board of Visitors 1991-2005.

Buccaneer Bucket List

The campus and the surrounding area have changed dramatically in 50 years. Even the school’s name changed. But we all share the Blue & Gold, memories around the Reflection Pond, mud sliding during rain storms, Convocation/Chapel, skipping class to go to the beach …

What would you include on a Bucket List for CSU/BCC students and alumni? What should students make sure they do before graduation? Email your list to magazine@csuniv.edu. We’ll compile a list based on your submissions.

Teacher Grads Making the Grade

Each year the university is excited to learn about education graduates who have been named Teacher or Rookie of the Year. If we missed the announcement about your recognition, email us at magazine@csuniv.edu.

Berkeley County School District

Teachers of the Year:
- Melinda Miller MEd ’10, Berkeley Intermediate
- Jessica White ’12, College Park Elementary
- Jami Garrard ‘00, Howe Hall AIMS
- Charity Gwen Carpenter ’10, St. Stephen Middle
- Lance J. Parrish ’07, Berkeley County Middle College

Rookie Teachers of the Year:
- Faith Nix ’13, Joseph R. Pye Elementary
- Ashlyn Reeves ’13, Joseph R. Pye Elementary
- Kelly Wilson ’13, Knightsville Elementary
- Hannah Davis ’13, Summerville Elementary
- Alisha Bailey ’13, Windsor Hill Arts Infused Elementary

Dorchester School District

Teachers of the Year:
- Kimberly Freeman ’03, Givhans Alternative Program
- Brooke Matthews ’14 MEd, Gregg Middle
- Priscilla Johnson ’06, current MEd student, Windsor Hill Arts Infused Elementary

Rookie Teachers of the Year:
- Faith Nix ’13, Joseph R. Pye Elementary
- Ashlyn Reeves ’13, Joseph R. Pye Elementary
- Kelly Wilson ’13, Knightsville Elementary
- Hannah Davis ’13, Summerville Elementary
- Alisha Bailey ’13, Windsor Hill Arts Infused Elementary

CSU Players and Lyric Theatre present

Leonard Bernstein’s “West Side Story”

Oct. 30-31 and Nov. 1-2, 2014
Lightsey Chapel

For tickets call 843-863-5500

In celebration of CSU’s 50th Anniversary and Lyric Theatre’s 10th Anniversary, CSU Players and Lyric Theatre present “West Side Story.” Codirected by Thomas Keating and Jennifer Luiken, this timeless musical addresses ideas of racial prejudice and a love that transcends it. Filled with unforgettable music, dance, action and drama, this production is sure to delight audiences of all ages. Come join us for an exciting weekend.
Tell Us Your Story

We’re kicking off the celebration of the university’s 50th anniversary this fall. We are collecting stories of how the university impacted you while you attended and how it has impacted your life.

Email your story and any photos to 50@csuniv.edu by August 1, 2014. The alumni office will select one person who has submitted a story to receive a limited-edition CSU Tervis tumbler. Congrats to Rona Duncan ’90, the winner from last issue.

Your Will Will Work Wonders!

Developing a will is the single most critical component when it comes to protecting your assets and securing your family’s future. Call it comparable to seeking medical care if you were stricken with a serious disease that could be cured with minimal treatment—a treatment that works for you. Likewise, when you create your will, you want one that works for you and one that works from a legal standpoint.

Begin With the Basics
Start by getting organized: Outline your objectives, determine the value of your property, inventory your major assets, estimate outstanding debts, and prepare a list of family members and other beneficiaries. There are a number of questions you should ask yourself, such as:

- Do I need to make special provisions for any of my loved ones?
- How can I pass on my property in the most tax-efficient manner?
- Would a trust best provide for my spouse and/or children?

Guardians and Executors
Among the most important items in any will are naming a guardian for loved ones under your care and choosing an executor.

The most common reason to name a guardian is to care for minor children. But, if you have a disabled adult child, parent or spouse who is your dependent, you must also think of who will care for them when you are gone. Talk to the guardian ahead of time about what you are asking, and understand that if you don’t name a guardian, a judge may end up doing it for you.

Your executor undertakes responsibilities that include paying your creditors and outstanding taxes, notifying all interested parties and agencies of your death, and distributing your assets according to your will. Again, if you don’t have a will, or if you draw up a will that doesn’t name an executor, the courts will appoint one.

Other Considerations
To ensure that your plans truly reflect your intentions, you may also want to consider:

- A living will. You need to indicate if you want your life prolonged using heroic measures when close to death or permanently unconscious.
- A health care power of attorney. Use this form to authorize someone to make more routine medical and health care decisions on your behalf when you are no longer capable to make them.

The Best Advice Is Legal Advice
Ultimately, seeking legal advice from an attorney who specializes in estate planning is the best way to guarantee that all of your estate planning goals will be realized, and that your will will work wonders for you.

For additional information regarding Planned Giving contact:

David Baggs
Vice President for Advancement
843-863-7002

charlestonsouthern.edu/legacy
BUY a BRICK

Personalizing a brick is a great way to celebrate your time at Charleston Southern, to commemorate friendships and memories made, to honor your favorite faculty or staff member or to memorialize a loved one.

Please join us in building a tradition! The cost of $100 per brick includes engraving, plus a gift to the Charleston Southern Fund to support student scholarships.

The annual Charleston Southern Fund provides unrestricted scholarship support for students. Every gift to the Fund goes directly to help students.

Providing access for students to attend CSU and become the next generation of Christian leaders has always been the University’s top priority, and your support for the Charleston Southern Fund helps make that experience possible.

Order your brick or make your gift to support our students by using the envelope in the magazine, go to charlestonsouthern.edu/buyabrick or contact the alumni office at 843-863-7516.

www.charlestonsouthern.edu/buyabrick
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