

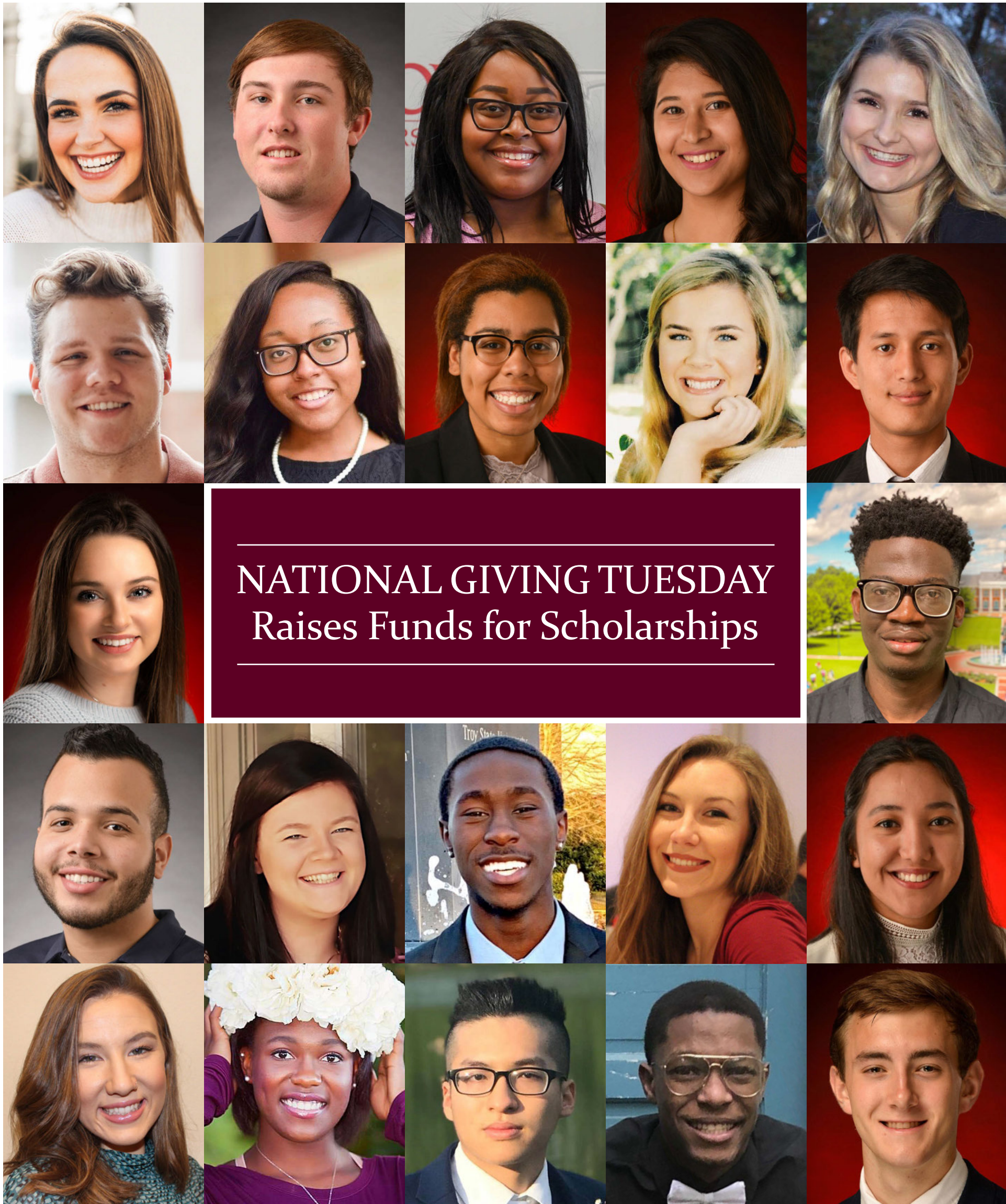


ADVANCING TROY

A NEWSLETTER FOR TROY UNIVERSITY DONORS & SUPPORTERS

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

SUMMER 2020



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A Message From Chancellor Hawkins



We are proud to let you know that the Trojan Spirit is on full display during this unprecedented time. My heartfelt thanks to everyone in the Troy University family for supporting our students, faculty, staff and alumni who are experiencing financial hardship. We are comforted by the notion that “this, too, shall pass” and soon we will return to regular University operations. In fact, we are planning diligently to welcome back students to campus for fall semester.

We, at Troy University, are committed to doing everything we can to keep our TROY family safe while continuing to meet the needs of our students, faculty, staff and alumni. To that end, during National Giving Tuesday in May, the University was able to raise critical funding for important University initiatives and for a COVID-19 Emergency Support Fund to help those in urgent need. As always, our Trojan family responded swiftly and generously.

In this issue of *Advancing TROY*, we are spotlighting some of our most recent generous donors whose philanthropy is helping us accomplish academic, scholarship and athletic goals through both outright gifts and legacy gifts; both of which are important in meeting the needs and priority initiatives of the University.

Please know we value and appreciate your dedication, generosity and loyalty to TROY. We know that together we will continue to meet the critical needs of our TROY family, ensure the safety of all of our campuses and continue our progress toward providing the best academic preparation, whether on campus or online, for all of our students. My pledge to you is that Troy University and our University community will emerge stronger than ever.

Warmest Regards,

Jack Hawkins, Jr., Ph.D.
Chancellor

TROY Supports Essential Workers with PPE

Demand is high for personal protective equipment, or PPE, across the nation, and Pike County is no different. Medical professionals and first responders are facing a shortage of masks, gloves and shields, which is why Troy University professors, students, community members and businesses are coming together to help address the PPE shortage during the coronavirus pandemic.

“It’s more of an initiative that was born out of the need and the demand for PPE equipment and the severe shortage that not only our nation is facing but the shortage our community is facing,” said Ed Noriega, Troy University Professor and Director of the Design Center.

Noriega and other volunteers are using 3-D printers to make PPE. It can be a time-consuming process, but Noriega says that every piece of equipment made is useful to essential workers on the frontline. Troy University has five 3-D printers, and the STEM Academy in Troy also has several that they are allowing their high school students to use. However, Noriega and his team quickly realized the demand was rapidly outweighing their capacity to produce supplies.

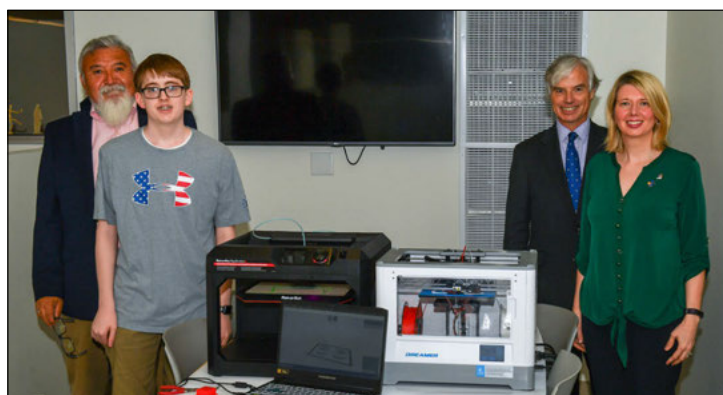
“With the need increasing, we would like to ramp up our printing capacity by purchasing four additional 3-D printers so that we can produce more PPE,” said Noriega. “Once the crisis is over, we can then set the printers up in the TROY IDEA Bank and create a ‘Make-Center BOT Farm.’”



Troy Regional Medical Center
Maj. Gen. Walter Givhan; Amy Minor, Chief Clinical Officer; Ed Noriega, PPE Project Manager; and Rick Smith, CEO



Southeast Gas
Maj. Gen. Walter Givhan; Shannon Jackson, Director of Marketing and Communications; Greg Henderson, CEO & President Southeast Gas; and Ed Noriega, PPE Project Manager



Troy Rotary Club
Ed Noriega, PPE Project Manager; Andrew Powell, Goshen High School Volunteer; Maggie Hammond, Rotary President; and Maj. Gen. Walter Givhan

The “BOT Farm” will serve as a much-needed training center for students, professional development and technology retooling. It will be equipped to teach, train and establish sponsored external partnerships relevant to additive designing and manufacturing.

According to Noriega, “A ‘Make-Center BOT Farm’ situated in the center of downtown Troy in the TROY IDEA Bank would change the dynamic between the University and community. It would be seen as a transformational programmatic initiative and serve as an innovative approach to linking education with business while expanding the need for Pike County and Alabama’s economy.”

Because of the work of Noriega and his team, critical PPE supplies have been donated thus far to SARHA Clinic, Southeast Medical, Troy Health and Rehab, Troy Regional Medical Center, Enterprise Dental Associates and the Troy City Jail and Pike County Jail.

According to Becky Watson, Vice Chancellor for Development, the following generous donors contributed to the funding of four new 3-D printers for this initiative: Southeast Gas, Troy Regional Medical Center, Troy Rotary Club and Mr. Brad Turner. “We are proud of our faculty and community partners who recognized the need and responded so generously with their time and resources to help with this critical need in our community,” said Watson.

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Cover Photos: Scholarship Recipients (Top to Bottom, Left to Right): Abbie Stubblefield, Billy Weltlin, Alexis Locke, Biwaksha Shrestha, Chrislyn Walker, Joshua Stanbridge, Janae Jordan, Jalyn Hamilton, Dalice Adkinson, Suraj Thapa Magar, Lauren Cline, Caleb Oke, Nelson Ortiz, Savannah Allen, Marquis Devon Jackson, Macy Mathews, Angela Sharma, Peyton Mathews, Shamyia Edwards, Nam Dang, Marcus Boler, Tristan Black

National Giving Tuesday Surpasses Goal to Support TROY Initiatives

Trojans from 21 states and Canada came together to almost triple Troy University's Giving Tuesday goal—providing scholarships and emergency relief to students.

Loyal donors Joan and Mac McLendon immediately answered the call for support. "In these unusual times, we know how lost we have felt with the 'new normal,' and we know that our TROY students never could have planned for something like the pandemic and how it has turned their lives upside down," said the McLendons. "If we can make things a little easier for any student, we jump at the chance. Giving Tuesday gave us the opportunity to help the students at a time when they really needed it."

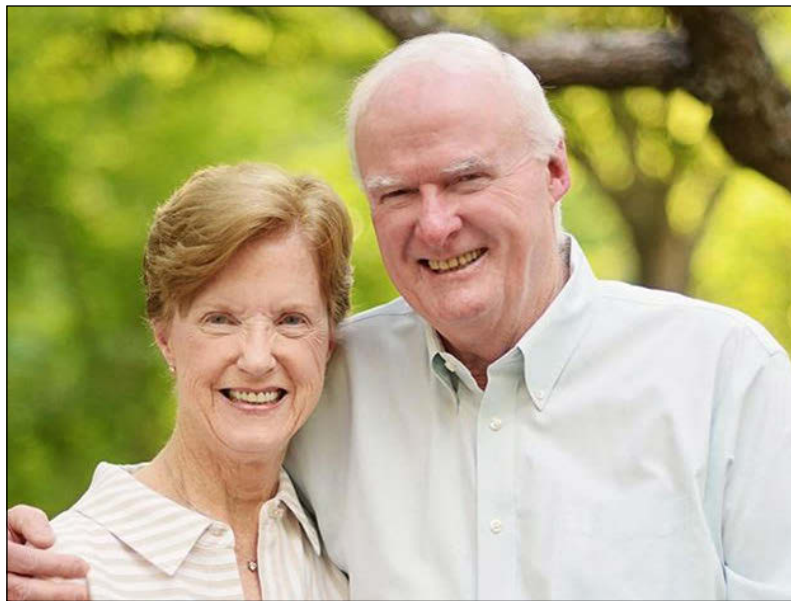
"The generosity of the Trojan Nation knows no limits, and time and again they rise and respond to the needs of the University and its members," said Major General Walter Givhan, Senior Vice Chancellor for Advancement and Economic Development. "It makes one proud to stand with all Trojans and give as we did on Giving Tuesday."

Giving Tuesday, celebrated this year on May 5, is a global day of giving celebrated by all nonprofits to encourage people to give back to organizations that have a special meaning to them. Troy University has participated in a Fall Giving Day program but never the Spring Giving Tuesday.

"It was a first-time event for our donors, and we had no idea what the reaction would be, but we know our TROY Trojans are loyal and want to help when there is a need," said Becky Watson, Associate Vice Chancellor for Development. She said they established a goal of raising \$25,000 in 24 hours, and the TROY community answered the call by giving generously. Some \$70,744 was given by 197 donors.

Watson also credited the availability of matching funds with helping generate increased participation on Giving Tuesday. "Knowing that our donors who gave \$100 could get their gifts matched was a real incentive and certainly encouraged our donors to respond generously," said Watson. "Also, the video messaging that was done by our students, coaches and administrative leaders to help promote Giving Tuesday was extremely important to the success we experienced."

Nick Cervera made a generous donation to Athletics on Giving Tuesday saying, "I am compelled to give back to TROY whenever I can because of the positive impact that TROY has made on my life. Giving



Joan and Mac McLendon



Nick and Carmen Cervera



Mike and Cindy Dodds

"It's important to us to support the students and Troy University and help whenever there is an opportunity like Giving Tuesday."

– Cindy and Mike Dodds

Tuesday made it easy for me to give and add some match funds to my gift!"

Donors were presented with the opportunity to donate to several critical University initiatives, including the COVID-19 Emergency Fund set up to assist members of the TROY family experiencing financial hardship due to unexpected expenses related to transitioning to online learning, tuition assistance, rent, utilities, food and other costs. Giving Tuesday supporters donated more than \$16,500 to the fund that, to date, has provided emergency assistance to 245 students, faculty, staff and alumni.

Another important initiative was to support 25 \$1,000 online tuition scholarships for the fall semester to help students struggling with paying online tuition. Sixteen scholarships were funded by Giving Tuesday donors, as well as additional gifts for general scholarship support, the Annual Fund, Athletics, Alumni and gifts to support academic programs within the units and colleges.

Dr. Steven Taylor, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, noted the importance of scholarship support in light of the unanticipated circumstances caused by COVID-19. "We could not be more pleased with the outpouring of support from Giving Tuesday for online tuition scholarships and general scholarships for our students," Taylor said. "Many students who will be receiving these scholarships would not have been able to continue their educational aspirations without this support."

Some of the first people to contribute on Giving Tuesday were faithful donors Cindy and Mike Dodds. "We are always happy to help out TROY students whenever possible because we love Troy University," said the Dodds. "Our students are the real meaning of TROY, which is why we love to support them. It's important to us to support the students and Troy University and help whenever there is an opportunity like Giving Tuesday."

"The donations we received on Giving Tuesday will begin changing lives today. This outpouring of support will help ease financial hardship for those hit hardest by the coronavirus, fund scholarships for students in need, support faculty and staff initiatives and so much more," Givhan said.

Former Alumni of the Year Randall Moore Supports TROY Athletics

As a dedicated supporter of TROY Athletics, Randall Moore jumped at the chance to lend a helping hand to the University with his donation to the Athletic Director's Discretionary Fund. Because of this gift, a room in the North End Zone of Veterans Memorial Stadium will now bear Moore's name, which he says brings him even closer to the school he once called home.

"Randall is a loyal and devoted fan of our Athletics programs, and we appreciate his unwavering support and involvement with our program," said Brent Jones, Senior Vice Chancellor for Athletics. "His belief and investment in our program will allow us to continue to compete at the highest level."

Moore graduated from TROY in 1978 with a bachelor's degree in accounting. During his time at the University, Moore says he thoroughly enjoyed participating in campus events, especially when it came to game days.

Along with enjoying the atmosphere of the campus, Moore says the landscaping and architecture of TROY stood out to him as unique and breathtaking. "TROY is one of the most attractive universities in the state, especially with its rolling hills and infrastructure," says Moore. "They went through great pains to keep the designs of the buildings consistent across campus, and it's paid off."

Moore says there were many aspects of college life that he enjoyed, but none more so than

the friends he met along the way. Truly taking the alma mater to heart, Moore says he met many lifelong friends in the halls of TROY, and to this day, they remain close.



Randall Moore

"I hope that in some way, my gift will help inspire others to join me to invest in TROY's future."

- Randall Moore

Today, Moore not only supports TROY as an active alumni donor, but he also sits on the Foundation Board, the Hall of Fame Board and the Business Advisory Board. Moore adds that he also had the honor of being named Alumni of the Year in 2010. "Randall Moore continues to take an active role in the life of Troy University, and we are certainly the better for it," said Chancellor Jack Hawkins, Jr. "We are pleased to recognize him by naming a room for him in the North End Zone in appreciation of his support for our Athletic Department."

Moore hopes to see TROY's football team take home a winning season this year, as well as one day progress to playing larger universities in the coming years.

Through his active involvement as a board member and as an alumnus, Moore says he's seen just how important it is to continue to give back to the school that gave so much to him. "I think TROY is in the position where the school can one day compete with some of the other schools like Alabama or Auburn," says Moore. "But in order to do that, you have to have the alumni on board, and they have to be willing to help support the school to make it get to that next level. I hope that in some way, my gift will help inspire others to join me to invest in TROY's future."

TROY COVID-19 Emergency Fund Helps Trojans in Need

Troy University launched an emergency fund to assist its students, faculty, staff and alumni who have been affected by the coronavirus, and the response from the TROY family and friends has been heartening.

The COVID-19 Emergency Fund was established to help students, faculty, staff and alumni who are facing extreme financial hardship due to the pandemic. The fund provides financial assistance of \$250 per applicant with TROY students being given priority in the awarding of the funds.

The one-time assistance can be used to help defray costs associated with unexpected early departures from campus; technology to support remote learning; and living expenses such as rent, utility bills, car payments, groceries, healthcare needs and other critical needs.

"The global TROY family is uniting to support our students, faculty, staff and alumni who have been affected by the coronavirus," said Chancellor Jack Hawkins, Jr. "During these times of crisis, it is important that we show our Trojan pride and come together as one great University to support Trojans in need, and I am grateful for the tremendous response we are getting."

Becky Watson, Associate Vice Chancellor of Development, said the University's Office of Development is raising money to support the fund through the Troy University Foundation. Some \$62,000 has been raised to date, with more expected, and already 245 students, faculty and staff have received assistance.

"I would like to thank the many donors who are contributing to this fund to help those individuals who are facing financial hardship during this uncertain time. These generous donations truly demonstrate our Trojan family's care for one another, and we are appreciative to all those who are supporting this important initiative," Watson said.

Herb Reeves, Dean of Student Services, noted that the fund has already been particularly helpful to TROY students who are experiencing unexpected financial hardships as a result of the pandemic.

"Many of our students need financial assistance to help them stay in school. For example, as we have gone online, many of our students are working from home and have a technology need to help them to continue with their school work. Others need help getting internet service set up, buying food, paying their utility bills or paying their rent," Reeves said. "These are just a few of the ways we are seeking to help our students during these challenging times, and the support provided by this fund is critical to fulfilling these needs."

Donations to the COVID-19 Emergency Fund can be made online at troy.edu/givenow by designating the Student Support/Emergency Fund with the notation "COVID-19." Also, donations can be made by check to the Troy University Foundation for the COVID-19 Fund and mailed to:

***Troy University Annual Fund
301 Adams Administration Bldg, Troy, AL 36082.***

Jim and Linda Weeks Clayton Give Back to TROY

Though they find themselves far away from TROY today, the memories made on campus by Jim and Linda Clayton remain crystal clear.

As proud TROY alumni, the Claytons agreed that giving back to the school was a high priority. Not only were they educated here, but TROY is also where they met and began their life together.

Before deciding on how they should give, the couple weighed numerous options. Ultimately, they decided to endow a \$100,000 scholarship to help provide an education to students in need of financial assistance.

“We realize that even though TROY is affordable for a lot of people, that’s not always the case for everyone,” says Linda. “Some people are still in need of financial help, and we structured these scholarships to give priority to those who are.”

“It is through the generosity of alumni like the Claytons that TROY is able to attract students who might not have been able to attend college because of financial circumstances,” said Associate Vice Chancellor Becky Watson. “We are so grateful to both Jim and Linda for the scholarship that they have established, which will make it possible for students to have the same wonderful opportunities that TROY afforded them when they were students here.”

The couple said they have always appreciated the campus atmosphere that TROY offered. Along with that, they agreed that the size of the school was exactly right—not so big that you become just a number and not so small that you have no space to grow.

“The professors were always accessible to students, and that was not always the case for some of our friends who went to larger universities,” says Linda. “Having an approachable faculty environment is important.”

During Jim’s senior year and Linda’s junior year, the pair played a significant role in initiating the Greek system at TROY. Before Greek life, the Claytons remember many of the students returning home on the weekends, which left little happening on campus.

Once Greek life was introduced, the Claytons say it gave students more reason to stay on campus during the weekends, as well as to participate in local events. They say they are glad to see that the fraternity and sorority system has continued to enrich campus life.

The couple and their four daughters currently reside in Dallas, Texas, and they are sad to say that return trips to the University aren’t as frequent as they would like. But whether they can visit the campus or not, the couple agreed that finding a way to give back was important.

Alumni participation is important to any college, but Linda emphasizes how crucial it is to smaller colleges. To ensure the University can continue to grow and develop, Linda says those who have been there and have a vested interest need to be willing to lend a hand.

“We believe giving back to the University is a good way to help future generations, especially since we aren’t close enough to participate on a local level,” she says.

“It’s something long overdue,” says Jim. “We both enjoyed our time at TROY, and we are grateful to have the opportunity to give back and maybe help some other people.”

As someone who was the first in his family to go to college, Jim advises students to never give up, even when the situation doesn’t seem promising.

“It is definitely worth it,” says Jim. “A college education is a life-changer in so many ways. There are many people from different backgrounds with different experiences, and you are exposed to that. I highly recommend getting an education, even if you must work hard to get it. I am a firm believer that getting an education means moving a step up in life for yourself and your family.”

The Claytons hope to see TROY continue to grow in the coming years, and the pair says they are always happy to hear that their alma mater is thriving.

Jim adds that he has also been impressed with the worldwide

network TROY has created since his graduation in 1966 and Linda’s in 1967. As a Navy veteran, Jim has had numerous encounters with military personnel from all over the world who have also attended TROY. Jim says that even though they’d never met before and they were from different backgrounds, that common thread of TROY always united them.

“Taking pride in the schools where you graduated and schools that have been part of your past is important because they were also forming your future,” says Linda. “We hope our contribution will help ensure that the reputation and importance of TROY continues to grow.”



Jim and Linda Weeks Clayton

“We believe giving back to the University is a good way to help future generations...”

- Linda Clayton



Drive With Style And Purpose

A TROY Tag shows your Trojan Spirit and creates scholarships for students

TROY Trojans don’t just drive in style—they drive with purpose. For more than 20 years, TROY fans like you have supported students by purchasing TROY license plates at their local DMVs. By adding approximately \$50 worth of cardinal and TROY Spirit to the cost of your regular car or motorcycle tag, you’re giving \$48.75 of that amount to fund scholarships to help students reach their educational dreams. Fans can also support their Trojans by showing team spirit on the water with a TROY distinctive vessel identification sticker for their boats!

To learn more, visit troy.edu/tags or call the TROY Foundation at 334-670-3608.

TROY is a Family Affair for Judge Jack Weaver

For Judge Jack Weaver, attending Troy University truly is a family affair. Along with graduating from TROY in 1985 himself, 10 other members of his family also call themselves Trojans.

“Judge Weaver and his family epitomize the true Trojan Spirit of service, giving back and caring for the needs of others,” said Kathy Ninas, Regional Director of Development for Phenix City. “We are so appreciative of their generosity and love for Troy University.”

Weaver says this love for the University began with his parents, both of whom were educators and attendees of TROY. After his father passed away, Weaver and his wife, Marthe, searched for a way to honor his memory while also giving back to the school. The decision was made to partner with the University to create the Joseph Barnett Weaver, Jr. Endowed Scholarship with a gift of \$25,000.

“Being that my dad was a lifelong educator, we wanted to set up a scholarship in honor of his name so that some young deserving students would have an educational opportunity,” says Weaver. “My parents have preached that education opens the doors to so many worlds, and without education, those doors are closed.”

While Weaver says his father was the quiet and reserved type, he feels certain that having this scholarship named in his honor would, indeed, make him proud.

“He’d be honored that some young person was having an opportunity to get an education,” says Weaver. “You don’t have to be wealthy to get an education. You just have to work hard and be willing to do it. I’ve heard my parents say you can take away a lot of things in life, but you can’t take away someone’s salvation or their education.”

At his father’s wake, Weaver recalls numerous people telling him that without his father’s help, they never would have gotten an education.

Because of this drive and determination passed down from his father, Weaver and his wife started the Monroe County Chapter of the TROY Alumni Association. Since then, he and his wife have worked to help raise scholarship money for students in need.

Weaver says this scholarship was created with a particular type of student in mind, and it wasn’t necessarily the students with the highest academic marks.

“I’ve been to class nights where I see so many scholarships awarded to the valedictorian and salutatorian; that’s great, and they worked hard, and they deserve it, but they’re only going to accept one,” says Weaver. “There are other students that really have a need who are working as hard as they can, and they may be a C student. If they’re giving it their all and that’s what it is, they should be rewarded too, and they should be given a chance for an education as well.”

Because TROY opens doors for so many people to have an education and a career, the couple says alumni need to be willing to give back and assist fellow Trojans.

“It is extremely important that we give back to the things that have been given to us, and TROY is a wonderful University,” says Weaver. “You’re not just a number. You’re a person. They know you by name, and if you walk on campus, people still know who you are.”

To the students who receive this scholarship, Weaver encourages them to work hard at everything they do and always do their best because “the only one who can make you fail or succeed is yourself.”

“We are so fortunate to have devoted alumni and supporters, like Judge Weaver and his family, who love Troy University and want to make a college education at TROY available to all students who want the opportunity to attend,” said Chancellor Jack Hawkins, Jr. “Judge Weaver and his family represent all of the values that we hope to instill in our students, and we are grateful for everything that he and Marthe have done and continue to do to support TROY students and alumni.”

When looking to the future, Weaver says he hopes to see TROY’s alumni recruitment and alumni affairs activity grow. Weaver

currently serves on the National Alumni Board and says he would love to one day see an alumni center on campus, as this would give alumni a place where they could socialize and network while visiting.

“As public funding gets cut more and more, we’re going to have to depend on our alumni and private community to supplement the lack of funding from the state,” says Weaver. “I want to see TROY succeed in every way. It’s a great University and a gem to this state. I would like to see it continue to grow. It’s a beautiful campus, and it just makes you proud to be an alumnus.”



Judge Jack and Marthe Weaver

**“I want to see TROY
succeed in every way.
It’s a great University
and a gem to this state.”**

- Judge Jack Weaver

Tax Benefits of the CARES Act

With the onset of COVID-19, new federal legislation was passed that can have a positive impact on charitable giving for both donors and the organizations they choose to support. “The new CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security) Act provides a few key tax provisions that will be of particular interest to many of our alumni, donors and friends as they contemplate their charitable giving goals,” said Winton Smith, Consultant and Estate Planning Attorney for Legacy Giving to Troy University. The following provisions are especially noteworthy:

- Required minimum distributions (RMD) are temporarily suspended for the 2020 tax year. However, if you are 70 ½ or older, you can still make a tax-free gift to TROY from your IRA and see your gift put to use today.
- You can take a charitable deduction of up to \$300 if you take the standard deduction.
- Cash contributions to qualified charities can be deducted up to 100% of your adjusted gross income for the 2020 calendar year for those who itemize.

“We want to keep our TROY family aware of all tax benefits that are available to them,” said Becky Watson, Associate Vice Chancellor for Development. “Because these new tax benefits are currently available, I hope our donors will keep them in mind when they are considering a gift to TROY.”

For further information or if you have any questions regarding the tax provisions of the CARES Act, please do not hesitate to contact Winton Smith at winton@wintonsmith.com or at 901-301-9275.

Dr. Kerry and Robyn Palmer Make a Significant Legacy Gift

Leadership and education are two foundational pillars for Dr. Kerry Palmer, and it was during his time at TROY that he was able to truly cultivate those interests.

To help TROY continue its goal of producing top-notch leaders, Dr. Palmer and his wife, Robyn, chose to donate to the University in the form of a generous TROY Shield Society legacy gift of over \$500,000.

As a student, Palmer played an active role in the Sound of the South marching band, serving as the drum major for three years. Palmer says his experiences in the Sound of the South under the mentorship of the late John M. Long proved to be turning points in his life, as they showed him his passion for the field of education and his ability to be a leader.

Today, Palmer serves as the Associate Dean of the College of Education for TROY, where he strives to make a difference in the lives of the students every day.

Among those students is his daughter, who recently finished her freshman year at TROY and also served as a member of the Sound of the South.

While at TROY, Palmer says he was blessed by the generosity of others in the form of scholarships, and he one day hoped to return the favor.

“Scholarships made my ability to attend college so much easier,” says Palmer. “You can’t take your money with you when you die, and I feel that one of the best ways you can say thank you is to pay it forward and make that possible for others.”

Palmer believes that these types of donations make an impactful difference in the lives of students, especially for first-generation students like him. As the first in his family to go to college, Palmer says he could not have chosen a better place because TROY goes above and beyond to care for its students and helps prepare them for college life.

“When it comes to getting an education and a foundation, I think we do it mind, body and spirit here at TROY,” says Palmer. “We go way beyond just the intellectual piece. It’s important to get that message out to our alumni that it’s more challenging today than ever before to fund higher education. Scholarship money is needed now more than ever.”

As a supporter of the leadership department, Palmer also believes that TROY has an excellent track record of training and developing future leaders before sending them out into the world.

When asked what advice he would pass along to students coming to TROY, he stressed the importance of making connections, as he believes TROY accomplishes this much better than larger universities.

“We have a unique opportunity for students to form quality mentor-like relationships on our campus,” says Palmer. “If they’re coming to a university like this, they should take advantage of that opportunity.”

Palmer says it has not yet been determined how the legacy gift will be spent, but he hopes it can be used in the form of a scholarship for future Trojans.

Palmer knows firsthand the value of education and how foundational it can be for students, which is why he stresses the importance of alumni involvement and giving back.

“If alumni are successful, you can bet it’s due in part to what they got when they were at TROY,” says Palmer. “I think it would be good of them to assist us in helping other students be successful as well.”

Palmer believes TROY has a bright future and they are seeing that in action with how the school is responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. Even with the campus having to change the way it operates, they are still delivering an education.

“We’ve shown that when there’s a challenge, we can not only rise to that challenge, but we can innovate and lead,” says Palmer. “I think TROY will continue to do that because we know who we are, we know who we serve, and we know where we’re going.”

“With this generous gift, Dr. Palmer is ultimately going to impact the lives of future TROY students just as he is doing so today, said Chancellor Jack Hawkins, Jr.

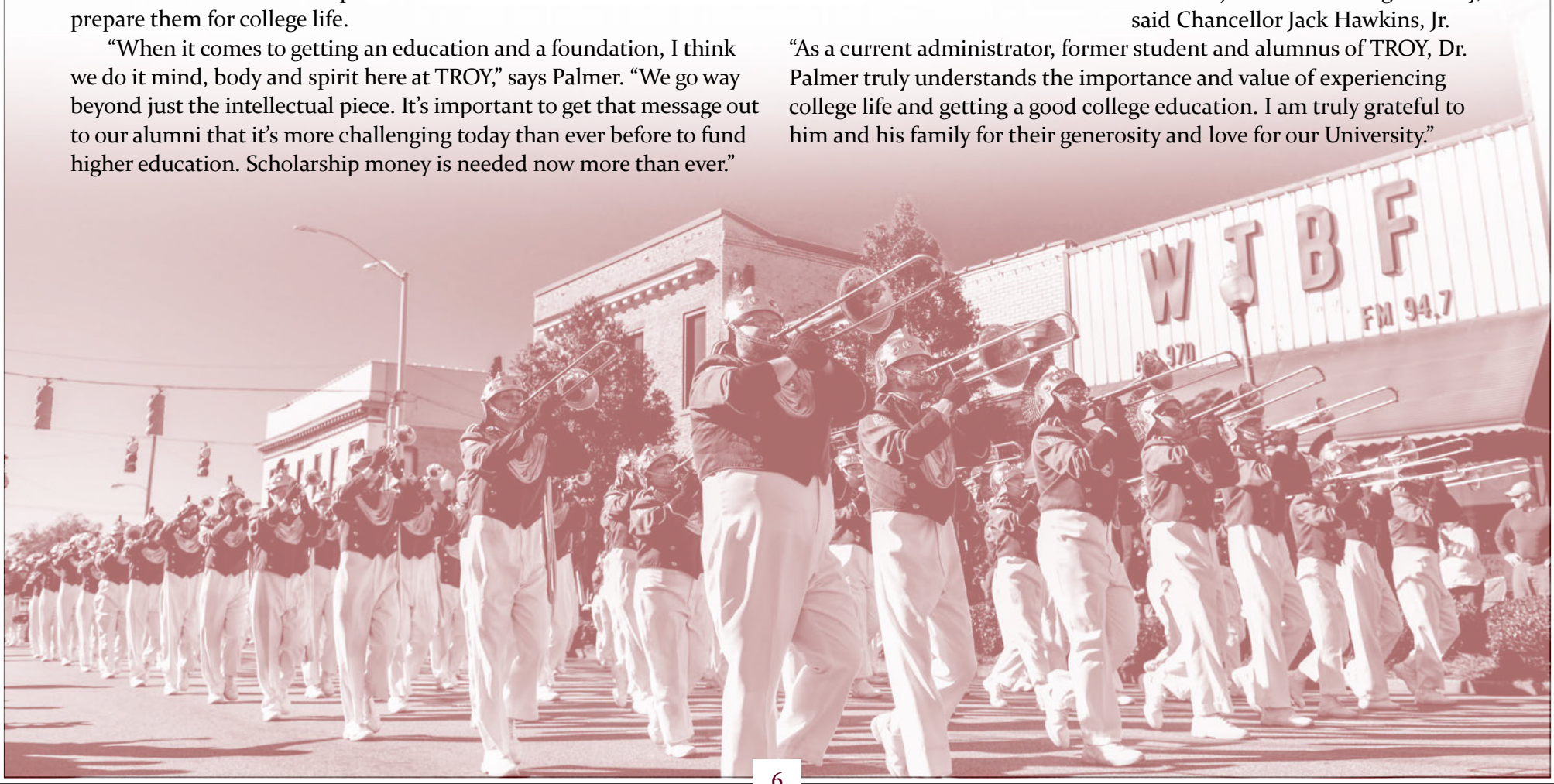
“As a current administrator, former student and alumnus of TROY, Dr. Palmer truly understands the importance and value of experiencing college life and getting a good college education. I am truly grateful to him and his family for their generosity and love for our University.”



Dr. Kerry and Robyn Palmer

“Scholarship money is needed now more than ever, and you can provide that by simply remembering TROY in your will.”

- Dr. Kerry Palmer



Glenda and Don Armstrong Leave a Lasting Legacy at TROY

Glenda and Don Armstrong both know the difference scholarships can make for students pursuing their college education. The couple benefitted from scholarships during their college careers, Don receiving an Air Force scholarship as an undergraduate and Glenda receiving an assistantship as she pursued a master's degree.

Now, through a TROY Shield Society legacy gift of \$200,000 to Troy University, the Armstrongs are seeking to ensure future college students receive that same kind of helping hand. The gift will create the Glenda Fay (Hood) Armstrong Legacy Endowed Scholarship, which will benefit deserving College of Education students on the Troy Campus.

"My father was a superintendent of schools, and, until I was in the seventh grade, my mother taught school. I come from an education background," Don said. "Then fast forward to being a college boy, I was able for my last two years to get an Air Force scholarship. I can tell you that a scholarship like that makes all the difference in the world. It is nice to be able to support TROY's scholarship program, and it is gratifying to be able to support students who need the help a scholarship can provide."

For Glenda, who received her bachelor's degree in Human Resource Management from TROY in 1993, it was the instruction she received and the impact her professors had on her that spurred her desire to give back to TROY. "It is just something I felt I wanted to do," she said. "I did half of my undergraduate at TROY Montgomery. I had so many wonderful instructors. They were more than just teachers. They truly cared about the students."

Two professors, in particular, stood out to Glenda during her time at TROY—Herb Sloane and Wayne DeLoach. "Herb Sloane taught law in Montgomery at the time. When he came to teach class, he was always in a suit, a vest and a tie," she said. "He had been a pilot in the Army Air Corps and was actually an investigator at the Nuremberg trials. He was a fascinating man. Everything to do with law that I could take to help me graduate, I took from Colonel Sloane. The other one was Wayne DeLoach, who basically mentored me through graduation. He taught English and the history of the English language, which really interested me."

The couple still remains in touch with DeLoach, annually sending him Christmas cards and birthday greetings. Colonel Sloane passed away in 2013 at the age of 98 and was still piloting his own plane in the months leading up to his passing.

"Glenda and Don Armstrong make me proud of what we do every day at TROY, and that is to foster a love of learning and service to others," said Chancellor Jack Hawkins, Jr. "Both Glenda and Don have certainly exemplified these ideals throughout their lives, and now their gift to TROY will help others do the same."

Glenda said offering support to students in the College of Education was important to her. "I have a real concern for education," she said. "I hope, through this scholarship, we can help students complete their degrees and go out and make a difference in education in Alabama."

Major General Walter Givhan, Senior Vice Chancellor for Advancement and Economic Development, said the Armstrongs' generosity comes as no surprise. "Don and Glenda Armstrong have demonstrated their love for Troy University through their gifts and support of our athletics and alumni events, and now through this legacy gift," Givhan said. "We are profoundly grateful for their continued support of our University and our students. From their own experience, they understand the tremendous impact scholarships can have, and, through the establishment of the Glenda Fay (Hood) Armstrong Legacy Endowed Scholarship, they are making a difference in the lives of future TROY students for generations to come."

Don retired from the Air Force as a Lieutenant Colonel in September of 1992, while Glenda retired after 42 years as a Department of Defense employee, first as a library technician and later as a bibliographer. In retirement, the couple enjoy their home near Prattville, as well as traveling around the world, being active in church and their community, and supporting Troy University.

Don, who is not a TROY alumnus, has even served a stint as president of TROY's Autauga County Alumni Chapter. The couple regularly attends chapter events, and as members of the Trojan Warrior Fund, they attend all TROY home football games.

The Armstrongs are also members of the Alabama World Affairs Council, where Don serves as a board member. The Council sponsors lectures and programs on current and recent events of national and international interest throughout the year with the aim to increase individuals' knowledge of world affairs and how they impact the United States. The Council is a partner with Troy University, with all of its events being held at TROY's Montgomery Campus.



Glenda and Don Armstrong

"I hope, through this scholarship, we can help students complete their degrees and go out and make a difference in education in Alabama."

- Glenda Armstrong



Max and Arlene Davis Support TROY Athletics and TROY's Future

Spend any time talking to Arlene and Max Davis, and you will quickly realize the love they share for Troy University, the city of Troy and the Wiregrass region. These lifelong TROY Trojans have a passion to see the University and community they love flourish on all fronts.

The couple's recent \$25,000 gift is in support of the TROY Athletics Leadership Society. The TROY Athletics Leadership Society was responsible for developing a long-range strategic plan that helps determine the allocation of resources to all programs and teams within TROY Athletics. With this plan, the couple is anticipating greater things to come for their home team, their hometown and their University.

"Within Athletics, each program has its own plan, but the Leadership Society is looking at Athletics as a whole," Max said. "We believe this plan is going to take all TROY athletic programs to another level. We have some great athletic programs, and we have great coaches who we have been able to bring to TROY, and this plan will help us do more for every sport."

Max, a 1968 Business graduate, also serves as a member of the Sorrell College of Business Executive Advisory Council. His experience on this council has been helpful to him in understanding how strategic planning for all academic programs has helped TROY continue to bolster its academic reputation and offerings to students. He said this is one of the reasons he was excited to learn more about the TROY Athletics Leadership Society and its mission to help grow and guide the direction of all of the University's athletic programs.

"Supporting the TROY Athletics Leadership Society and their goals and direction for Athletics was the right thing for us to do for the University at this point in time," he said. "With the formation of the Leadership Society, you've got athletics, like academics, following strategic plans relating to the allocation of resources, which, I believe, helps the University as a whole."

"We are so appreciative to Max and Arlene for the confidence and generosity they have shown to TROY both with their service and financial support for both our athletic and academic programs," said Brent Jones, Senior Vice Chancellor for Athletics. "They want to see our University thrive and succeed in all of our endeavors, and they

are certainly committed to helping us achieve that success now and ensuring that success in the future."

Arlene, who has served on TROY's Athletic Advisory Committee for approximately 15 years, said she is inspired to see the efforts the University takes in ensuring its student-athletes have the time and

resources they need to succeed both in their chosen sports and in the classroom. "I think that the University is trying to really focus on the student-athlete in helping them to grow," she said. "So, when they graduate and get out into the world, they can know that they've had a solid background and preparation for whatever future careers they may pursue."

The couple said their love for TROY is a family affair and they share their desire to support TROY Athletics and student-athletes with their son, Chris, and his wife, Tracey ('98).

Arlene said she and her family have been blessed to host international student-athletes during various holidays. "We have learned so much from these students and the differences between our cultures," she said. "It's been good for us to have the interaction with the international community at TROY. We try our best to make all students feel like they are a part of this community."

After 52 years of marriage, the couple said they know what it's like to live in communities with and without the rich presence of a university. For that reason, they are passionate about contributing to TROY and continuing to support the University and community growth.

"When I was in school, someone was supporting the University—now, it's our time to help," Max said. "We believe this is an excellent time for the Leadership Society to be involved and really promote itself moving forward. What I hope we see out of TROY Athletics is that we continue to grow—that we literally build on our success, and that we continue being one of the leading schools in our conference. I hope our gift will encourage other alumni and TROY supporters to continue to support it as well."

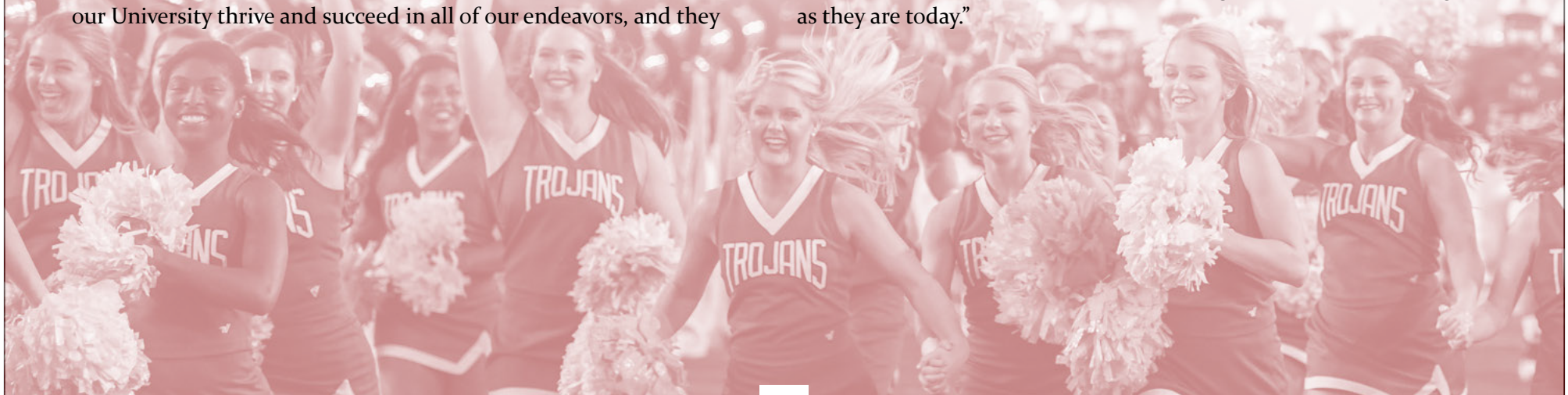
"We are deeply grateful to the Davis family for their active involvement and participation at TROY and in the community," said Gary Wilbert, Associate Athletics Director of Development. "Without the love and dedication of our alumni, like Max and Arlene and their family, Troy University and our athletic programs would not be as great as they are today."



Arlene and Max Davis

"Supporting the Troy Athletics Leadership Society and their goals and direction for Athletics was the right thing for us to do for Troy University at this point in time."

- Max Davis



Cecile and John McNeill Honor Lifelong Friendships and the Teaching Profession

When Cecile and John McNeill consider their recently established \$25,000 endowed scholarship within TROY's College of Education, they see a gift that honors lifelong friendships and the teaching profession. While creating the Cecile Billy and Katherine Pennington College of Education Endowed Scholarship, John McNeill said it was important for him to honor the friendships, teachers and character-building atmosphere that has helped shape the love of his life into the person he fell completely in love with 50 years ago.

"Cecile is a dedicated teacher," he said. "I wanted to do an endowment, and I asked her if she would mind if we established one at TROY. She is a 1968 graduate of TROY's elementary education program, and she has always been proud to say she graduated from Troy University. She was thrilled with the idea. Cecile is so proud of the fact that she was a teacher and that she took that as her vocation."

"Devoted TROY College of Education graduates, like Cecile Billy McNeill and her close friend, Katherine Pennington Ignacio, make me extremely proud of our teachers and educators in this state," said Dean of the College of Education, Dionne Rosser-Mims. "I am humbled by the establishment of this endowed scholarship by Cecile and John, which will help us attract dedicated students, like Cecile, who want to enter the teaching profession and impact future generations."

John and Cecile's love story began 50 years ago when the couple met on a blind double date in Columbus, Georgia. John, a Pennsylvania native who had just returned home from serving in the Army in Vietnam, was enamored by Cecile's green eyes and Montgomery, Alabama, charm. John soon learned that Cecile was in her second year of teaching third grade. In less than a year, the couple were married and began building a beautiful life together. Within five years, the McNeills welcomed two sons and a daughter into their family. Jason, their second born, is also a proud 1997 TROY graduate.

While John pursued a career within the Army, Cecile stepped away from the classroom to bring her teaching skills into the couple's home as she helped raise and teach their three children. Later, she returned to the classroom once their youngest was in first grade. Today, John and Cecile are retired and living in Fairfax Station, Virginia.

"Cecile is the most wonderful person I've ever known," John said. "God made Cecile to be a mother. It's been a totally joyous life."

Looking back over their life together and the people and places that helped shape them into who they are today, John said it made perfect sense for him and his wife to provide new opportunities for students at TROY. "At TROY, you're trained academically, but you also learn character development and a sense of responsibility to others," he said.

"Teachers are responsible for our most precious possession—children. Commitment loyalty and giving are all traits teachers have, and outside of the basic elements of teaching, TROY teaches those things."

Cecile said her desire to become a teacher began when she was a high school student. Through living and attending classes at the Troy Campus, she met lifelong friends such as Katherine Pennington Ignacio ('68) in her elementary education classes. It didn't take long for Cecile and Katherine to become roommates during their junior and senior years.

John said it was relevant for him to honor his wife's experience at TROY through the naming of the endowed scholarship. "I wanted to include Kathey in the name as well to honor Cecile and Kathey's long-term friendship as well as the commitment to service they developed at TROY." John also said it was important to name the endowment using the friends' maiden names by which they were known during their time at TROY.

"Hopefully, in some small way, it will help students who are dedicated and want to become teachers to fulfill their dreams. There are some truly superlative teachers and people who have come out of TROY. Most people take teachers for granted, but all of us remember at least one teacher in our lifetime and the impact they had on us. It's such an unsung profession, but I believe it's the noblest profession there is."

"The TROY College of Education is fortunate to have loyal supporters, like the McNeills, who want to help the College continue to graduate educators

who will significantly influence the lives of those they teach," said Becky Watson, Associate Vice Chancellor for Development. "Cecile and John's love story, love of education and love of TROY will be remembered by those whose lives they will impact by their generosity and the scholarship they have established. We are truly grateful to both of them."

Even with the endowment established, John said he and Cecile have plans to continue to contribute to the scholarship to build on the foundation that has been laid.



Cecile and John McNeill

“Hopefully, in some small way, it will help students who are dedicated and want to become teachers to fulfill their dreams.”

- John McNeill



Troy University Foundation Names Three New Members to Board of Directors



Mr. Joseph W. "Billy" Jones, Jr.



Dr. Martha Wingard Tack



Mr. Jeff Kervin

The Troy University Foundation has announced the addition of three new members to its Board of Directors.

The new members are Joseph W. "Billy" Jones, Jr. of Monroeville, Jeffrey D. Kervin of Troy, and Dr. Martha Wingard Tack of Eclectic.

"We are pleased to welcome Mr. Jones, Mr. Kervin and Dr. Tack as members of the Troy University Foundation Board," said Chancellor Jack Hawkins, Jr. "All three are TROY alumni who have achieved great success within their chosen fields and have demonstrated a strong commitment to community service. We are grateful for their willingness to serve, and we know their expertise will be of tremendous benefit to our Foundation Board and the future of Troy University."

Jones is President of Crowne Management, LLC, which operates 16 nursing homes in Alabama, and President and Chairman of the Board of Gericare Medical Supply, Inc. He also serves as President of Progressive Therapy, Inc.; General Partner and Chairman of Restore Therapy Services, Ltd.; General Partner and Chair of Comfort Care Hospice and Home Health; Chairman of the Board of Alabama Long Term Care Insurance; owner of JWJ Investment Properties, LLC; and owner of ExecuFlight LLC.

Jones is a four-time president of the Alabama Nursing Home Association Board of Directors and a past member of the Monroeville Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

"It is truly an honor to be chosen to serve on the Troy University Foundation Board," Jones said. "It is one of the biggest honors I have received. I will do my very best to make a difference while serving, and I appreciate the opportunity."

Kervin, a 1985 Troy University graduate, has 35 years of experience in the banking industry. He has served as President and CEO of Troy Bank and Trust since 2010. He previously served as the bank's executive Vice President and Chief Lending Officer.

Kervin is President of the Board of Directors for the Pioneer Museum of Alabama, a past President and board member of the Pike County United Way, a member of the Boy Scouts of America Alabama Florida Council Executive Committee, a board member of the Alabama Bankers Association, a board member of the Central Alabama Title Insurance Agency, and a member of TROY's Sorrell College of Business Alumni Advisory Board. He also is a Lay Leader at Oak Grove United Methodist Church.

"I am honored to be serving on the University Foundation Board," Kervin said. "I look forward to working with the other members of the Foundation Board and the University staff to help support and promote its growth. This is an exciting time for our University. TROY is a well-respected university, and with the financial support that the

Foundation can provide, there is no doubt our best years are ahead."

Tack, a 1968 Troy University graduate, has 38 years of experience in higher education and is a recognized author and researcher on educational leadership. She retired in 2011 from Eastern Michigan University as Professor Emeritus of educational leadership after serving as a professor at the institution since 2000. At the time of her retirement, Tack served as Senior Executive for Presidential Initiatives and Headquarters Administrator for the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities. She also previously served EMU as Interim Vice President for Advancement and Executive Director of the EMU Foundation, Interim Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Associate Dean of the University's College of Education.

Tack also served as the head of the EMU Department of Leadership and Counseling within the College of Education and established

the University's first doctoral program, the Ed.D. in Educational Leadership. Her career in higher education also has included positions at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Bowling Green State University and the University of Alabama.

"My four years as an undergraduate student at TROY molded me into the person I am today, and I am delighted to do anything I can to support our fine institution," Tack said. "Serving as a member of the Troy University Foundation Board is a signal honor, and I am very grateful to have been given the opportunity to work with my alma mater in this way."

Established in 1968, the Troy University Foundation is a nonprofit, charitable 501(c)(3) organization created to attract private support for Troy University. The purposes of the Foundation are to promote, support and carry out broader educational opportunities and provide services to the faculty, students and alumni of Troy University.

The Foundation seeks to gain meaningful financial support from private sources as an essential supplement to legislative funds, students' fees and federal grants. It is committed to an active program to attract contributions from foundations, corporations and individuals.

"All three are TROY alumni who have achieved great success within their chosen fields and have demonstrated a strong commitment to community service."

- Chancellor Jack Hawkins, Jr.

For more information on how to make a gift to Troy University, please contact Becky Watson at 334-670-3608.



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Walter Givhan

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