

Play by Play Varsity athletics gets a shakeup **PAGE 26**

Bye Bye Blueno The biggest, baddest, bluest bear **PAGE 72**

Klan in the Family Facing a legacy of horror **PAGE 36**

Brown

Brown Alumni Magazine
November-December 2020

Who's Watching Big Tech?

David Cicilline '83 and his antitrust investigation into Amazon, Google, Facebook, and Apple.

PAGE 18



THE BROWN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CASH REWARDS VISA SIGNATURE® CREDIT CARD FROM BANK OF AMERICA

Carry the only card that helps support the Brown Alumni Association.

Earn cash back for all of your purchases.

- Choose 3% cash back in one of six categories
- No expiration on rewards
- Chip technology for greater security at chip-enabled terminals

To apply for a Brown Alumni Association Cash Rewards credit card, visit your local Bank of America® financial center or go to bofa.com/brown.

Brought to you by:
Bank of America

Residents of the US and its territories only. See full disclosure for details.

For information about the rates, fees, other costs and benefits associated with the use of this Rewards card, or to apply, visit your local Bank of America® financial center, go to the website listed above or write to P.O. Box 15020, Wilmington, DE 19850. By opening and/or using this product from Bank of America, you'll be providing valuable financial support to the Brown Alumni Association. This credit card program is issued and administered by Bank of America, N.A. Visa and Visa Signature are registered trademarks of Visa International Service Association, and are used by the issuer pursuant to license from Visa U.S.A. Inc. Bank of America and the Bank of America logo are registered trademarks of Bank of America Corporation.

©2020 Bank of America Corporation



- 3%** back in the category of your choice
- 2%** cash back at grocery stores and wholesale clubs
- 1%** cash back on all other purchases

Earn 3% and 2% cash back on the first \$2,500 in combined choice category/grocery store/wholesale club purchases each quarter



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcoming Dr. Ashish Jha

Earlier this year we were proud to announce a fantastic addition to Brown in the appointment of accomplished physician and leading health policy researcher Dr. Ashish K. Jha as the next dean of our School of Public Health.

Dr. Jha has an impressive background. He comes to Brown from the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health, where he served as the Director of the Harvard Global Health Institute. In fact, his is a name you may already well recognize as a frequent contributor on national news programs in which he is called upon to analyze some of today's most pressing public health problems.

He has extensively researched improving the quality and reducing the cost of healthcare systems with a focus on how national policies, such as value-based payments and health information technology, impact patient outcomes. He has worked to understand racial disparities in healthcare and what can be done to narrow this unjust gap.

Of course, none of us knew at the

time of his announcement how the COVID-19 pandemic would unfold and what extraordinary challenges would follow. In the ensuing months, Dr. Jha has emerged as a policy leader, publicly evaluating how the pandemic has disproportionately impacted communities of color and helping us to understand why other countries have fared so much better than the U.S. He was among the first U.S. public health experts to call for a national quarantine. Deservedly, he has become a trusted voice of reason.

In a recent interview with the *Boston Globe*, Dr. Jha said seeing the crisis unfold made him even more excited about the opportunity to lead Brown's School of Public Health. He noted that what attracted him to Brown was the University's position as a leader across not just one or two subject areas, but a diverse set of disciplines that are relevant to understanding our greatest challenges.

"This isn't just a historic crisis, it is also a pivotal moment for public health, and we need the best public health researchers and practitioners to work with economists, political scientists, and other experts to study and overcome the challenges to our pandemic response that weren't anticipated," Dr. Jha said.

What Dr. Jha describes is, of course, integral to Brown's mission of exceptional interdisciplinary research, teaching and service. The School of Public Health, born in and built for the health challenges of the 21st century, is well-positioned to continue to build national influence in impacting urgent health challenges and improving equity in healthcare through its research and teaching. The school's commitment to these goals is driven by a mindfulness of the critical challenges we face as a society, the potential to make impactful change, and a responsibility to address known disparities.

Initially a department of Brown's medical school, the school launched in 2013 and became fully accredited by the



Council on Education for Public Health in 2016. With more than 250 faculty and 400 undergraduate and graduate students, the school is home to 13 nationally renowned research centers and receives more than \$60 million in external research funding annually.

As dean, Dr. Jha will work to advance overall academic excellence and provide strategic direction for the school. He will develop and execute strategies to continue to expand sponsored research funding and elevate the school's profile locally and globally.

Issues of medicine and public health, racial injustice, and economic mobility deservedly have a strong grip on the public consciousness today. We couldn't be more fortunate to have an accomplished scholar, academic leader, and global health advocate representing Brown and leading the School of Public Health into the future.

Christina Paxson
President

"This is also a pivotal moment for public health. We need the best researchers and practitioners to overcome the challenges to our pandemic response."

—Dr. Ashish K. Jha

Farewell, Norman

Just a couple of years into his retirement, former BAM editor and publisher Norman Boucher passed away in September. We'll bring you more about him in the next issue, but for now, all of us at the BAM have been thinking about how grateful we are to Norman. In 24 years at the BAM, he never wavered in his commitment to making the magazine as good as it could be, stewarding BAM's distinctively smart and independent voice with an utter dedication to fairness, truth, great storytelling, and always—always—making a point of putting the reader first. He inspired complete loyalty in his staff, mentored many talented young writers, and could write the heck out of pretty much anything. I got to meet him just once. We had lunch at his favorite taco joint a few months after I settled into the job, and he charmed with tales of hiking exploits in the Southwest, ventures he hoped to continue even as he fought multiple myeloma. I wish he had had more time.

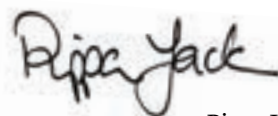
Norman always wanted to create an email version of the BAM, believing it was vital to give readers as many ways to engage with Brown and BAM as possible.

In 24 years at the BAM, he never wavered in his commitment to making the magazine as good as it could be, with an utter dedication to putting the reader first.

That dream is now a reality. After this print issue reaches you, we'll follow up with an email newsletter that will bring you some of the same stories, and some other stuff, too. As always, we'll be hoping to hear what you like, what you don't, and what you'd like to see us do differently.

One of the many traditions Norman stewarded was BAM's annual gift guide, which for decades brought readers a selection of Brown alumni-made gifts and services in each November/December issue. We are taking 2020 off from the guide. While we will still search for ways in which BAM can support Brown entrepreneurs, it didn't feel right this year to dedicate a big feature largely to consumer goods, even as so many people struggle with the economic crisis wrought by the pandemic. If you'd like it to return next year, let us know.

We received a number of letters reacting to last issue's story "Justice. Now." about the country's national reckoning over race, and we hope to continue to hear from you. BAM is committed to continuing to cover stories around these issues, and we're collaborating with others at the University who want to hear from alums, too. Brown's alumni team is collecting stories about what alumni are doing to address anti-Black and systemic racism in their communities. Share what you or a Brunonian you know are doing to help create a more just society at brown.edu/go/alumni-stories. As the initiative notes, it is, after all, at moments like these that the promise to pursue lives of "usefulness and reputation" is most needed.



Pippa Jack
Editor & Publisher

Brown Alumni Magazine

Editor & Publisher
Pippa Jack

Deputy Editor
Louise Sloan '88

Art Director
Lisa A. Sergi

Digital & Art Production Manager
Courtney Lewis Cheng

**Assistant Editor
Classes & Obituaries**
Sheila Dillon

Office Manager
Kerry Lachmann

Contributing Editors
Jack Brook '19, Stephanie Grace '87,
Tim Murphy '91, Bob Schwartz '70,
Leslie Weeden

Interns
Lauren Campbell '21, Alina Kulman '21,
Alicia Mies '21, David Onabanjo '22,
Peder Schaefer '22, Ivy Scott '21

Advertising/Print & Digital
Juli Anne Mahoney, (401) 863-9612,
juli_mahoney@brown.edu

**National Advertising Sales
Ivy League Magazine Network
www.ivymags.com**
Heather Wedlake, *Director of Operations*, (617) 319-0995,
heatherwedlake@ivymags.com;
New York, Colleen Finnegan, (908) 391-1612; *New England & Mid-Atlantic*,
Robert Fitta, (617) 496-6631; *West Coast, Southwest & Mountain States*,
Valerie Pippin, (650) 723-0460.

Board of Editors
Dana Cowin '82 (Chair), Casey Caplowe '03, Morgan Clendaniel '04, Chip Giller '93, Glenn Kessler '81, Kristen Mulvihill '91, George Musser '88, Galen V. Henderson '93 MD, Sara Leppo Savage '90, Eric Schurenberg '75, Andrew B. Shaindlin '86

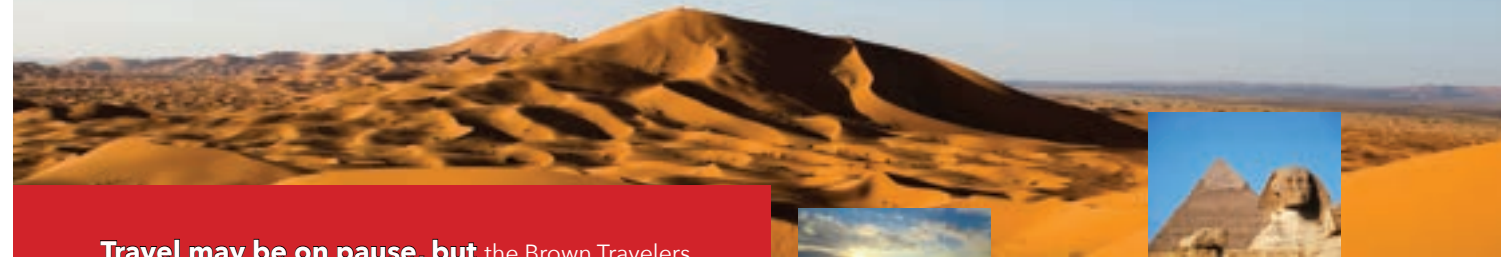
©2020 Brown Alumni Magazine
VOL. 121, ISSUE 2

Brown Alumni Magazine (ISSN 1520-863x) is published five times a year in January, April, June, September, and November by Brown University, 350 Eddy St., Providence, R.I. 02903. Periodicals postage paid at Providence, R.I., and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: send address changes to P.O. Box 1908, Providence, R.I. 02912; (401) 863-2307; alumni_records@brown.edu. Send editorial correspondence to Box 1854, Providence, R.I. 02912.

General inquiries: (401) 863-2873; alumni_magazine@brown.edu; www.brownalumnimagazine.com.

PRINTED IN THE U.S.A.

AROUND THE WORLD *with the* BROWN TRAVELERS



Travel may be on pause, but the Brown Travelers program looks forward to the time when we can once again take our alumni, parents and friends to the world's most fascinating places.

With this thought in mind, we are busy preparing a robust schedule of trips for 2021. We are excited about the possibilities of the future and eagerly anticipate traveling with you again.

Following is a list of trips we hope to offer in 2021. Please visit our website at brown.edu/go/travelers-trips for more information or contact us at **401-863-6322** or Brown_Travelers@alumni.brown.edu with any questions.



**Crossroads of Cultures:
Cruise to the Canary Islands,
Morocco and Iberia**
April 10-23, 2021



**Alumni Campus Abroad
in Basque Country**
May 1-9, 2021



**Alumni Campus Abroad -
The Charm
of the Amalfi Coast**
June 9-17, 2021



**Cruise the Scottish Isles
and Norwegian Fjords**
June 13-21, 2021



**Paris, Featuring
the African-American
Experience**
June 19-27, 2021



**Discovering
Eastern Europe**
June 29 - July 14, 2021



Grand Danube Passage Cruise
July 9-23, 2021



**Cruise the Rhine and
Mosel Rivers**
July 18-26, 2021



**Alumni Campus Abroad
in Tuscany - Lucca, Carrara
and the Cinque Terre**
September 18-26, 2021



**Ancient Civilizations:
Cruise the Adriatic
and Aegean Seas**
September 27 -
October 5, 2021



Across Spain and Portugal
September 28 -
October 14, 2021



Egypt and the Eternal Nile
October 11-25, 2021



Moroccan Discovery
October 17-30, 2021



**Island Life:
Cruising Ancient Greece**
October 18-26, 2021



Journey to Southern Africa
October 26 -
November 10, 2021



**Singapore, Thailand and
Angkor Wat, Featuring the
Eastern and Oriental Express**
October 28 -
November 10, 2021



BROWN
Travelers

What Do You Think?

SPEAKING WÔPANÂAK

Nitana was a dance student of mine many, many years ago. I am so amazed at what she has accomplished—such important work (“A Language, Liberated,” Sept./Oct. ’20). Congratulations on the difference she is making in our world.

*Susan Mendoza Friedman
Cotuit, Mass.*

I am a Wampanoag Elder and I have a special place in my mind and heart for our language, and although I’m up in years I try to learn as much as I can. In reading this piece, several times it brought me to tears—tears of sadness and tears of joy. We have had and still have struggles as a people, but we also had and still have victories that no man can take away. *Kutaputush Manut* (thank you Creator) for giving us these people who have made the sacrifices and have been willing to push on to these victories, as our children revive our language, and as we Elders grab tightly hold of what we can of the language and never let it go again.

*Francie Dottin
Mashpee, Mass.*

THAT YEARBOOK PHOTO

The two unidentified women (“Pembroke Sisters,” Classes, Sept./Oct. ’20) were also sisters: Marjorie Filson ’60—roommate of Loretta Dates Shield ’60—and myself, Maryann Filson ’57, friend of Marva Dates Belt ’57. Marva

“We have had and still have struggles as a people, but we also had and still have victories that no man can take away.”

—Francie Dottin

and I teamed up to offer scholarships to Pembroke at Baltimore’s African American high schools. I recruited students for Brown until a few years ago.

*Maryann Filson Smith ’57
Bowen Island, B.C., Canada*

POLICING QUESTIONS

A truly excellent piece of writing, making the flaws in our justice system, or injustice system, so crystal clear (“Roten Culture,” Under the Elms, Sept./Oct. ’20). It’s also, unfortunately, very depressing. Will it ever get better?

*Lawrence Jurrist ’70
Hollywood, Fla.
jurristl@bellsouth.net*

Nicole Gonzalez Van Cleve claims, “It’s not just one bad apple, it’s the barrel.” There are 800,000 law enforcement officers in the U.S. Is she saying that all of them are “bad apples,” or is it just 400,000? Does she have proof that all police officers participate in the “code of silence” and “code of violence”? Twelve percent of America’s cops are Black; 17 percent are Hispanic; 1.5 percent are Asian. Is the professor saying that most of them are willing to turn a blind eye to racial oppression? A Gallup survey released in August found that 81 percent of Black Americans “want police to spend the same amount of or more time in their area.” God bless them and the police who protect them.

*Steve Maricic ’76
Spring Lake Heights, N.J.
smaricic@hotmail.com*

If Professor Van Cleve returned to her home to see a window or door jimmied open, she would call the police and an officer would arrive and enter her home, hand on firearm. Upon finding no culprit, the officer would help her file a theft report. After thanking the officer, she would realize that yes, there

Pulitzer-winner Ayad Akhtar ’93 shares a family revelation in *NYT*’s Modern Love.



are many good officers. Were she to experience a traffic accident or be assaulted, she would again conclude there are many good officers. I hope she may never experience these situations, yet she should realize that millions of Americans do and, more often than not, appreciate the assistance they receive. She has made a fine contribution to a better understanding of the implicit, and sometimes explicit, racism in the criminal justice system. Had she responded to the question of whether there are good officers by saying “yes”—rather than “yes, perhaps”—she would have made an even stronger contribution.

*Alan Balboni ’73 PhD
Las Vegas
alan.balboni@csn.edu*

Missing from the anti-police invective is any insight on hiring “better” officers. Andre McGregor ’04 said police



BROWN
Pre-College Programs

A Distinctively Brown University Experience

Attending Brown’s Pre-College programs offers the truly unique Brown University experience. Through rigorous academics reflecting the Open Curriculum and a student-centered approach to learning, high school students nurture their diverse interests, take intellectual risks and gain exposure to Brown University’s distinctive approach to education.

CONTACT US

precollege@brown.edu

VISIT US
precollege.brown.edu/bam



should “maintain hiring practices similar to that of the FBI, where they are selecting top talent.” How should we do that? While enticing top talent might be easy for the FBI with its six-figure salaries, U.S. police departments do not have such largesse. When I was in the police academy 15 years ago, my family missed qualifying for reduced-price school lunches by just \$1,500.

Why would anyone want to be a police officer? My agency likely will be unable to find the 60 suitable candidates desired for an upcoming academy class—“suitable,” not “top talent.” This is not from lack of trying. It’s a lack of interest from twentysomethings in taking on a job with miserable hours, grueling schedules, mediocre to poor pay, the regular risk of physical confrontation and—as evidenced in this edition of BAM—animosity from large segments of society.

Jonathan Bastian '89
Lexington, Ky.
jfbastian67@gmail.com

This entire issue is about racism? We can target two things: the social chaos in poor neighborhoods, and drug lords who now control many areas and draft our youths as troops to maintain and

Andrew Yang '96's work to highlight wealth inequality won a social-justice prize.

Vilcek Foundation
@Vilcek · Sep 8

#Announcement: Meet the recipients of the 2021 Vilcek Foundation Prizes. Awarded annually, the Vilcek Foundation Prizes celebrate outstanding #immigrant artists and scientists, and individuals who are champions of immigrant causes in the United States.

Announcing the 2021 Vilcek Foundation Prizewinners - Vilcek Foundation
The 2021 Vilcek Foundation Prizes celebrate the outstanding career achievements of immigrant leaders in filmmaking, biomed...
vilcek.org

extend their control. Every neighborhood needs basic infrastructure, supposedly supplied by local government: utilities, clean streets, street lights, public transit, and police protection. Without police protection, the other five cannot be provided.

JW Lane '71 PhD
Tallahasee, Fla.
benlon@yahoo.com

LEARNING IN AFRICA

I am a testimony to what Rebecca Mano and Education Matters Africa are doing in Zimbabwe through United Student Achievers Program. God bless their work. (“College Prep,” Beyond the Gates, June-August '20).

Peter Tizoro
Marondera, Zimbabwe
peter.tiz2001@gmail.com

CLASS OF 2020

Jeannette Gonzales Wright is defined by the title of this article (“Nevertheless, They Persisted,” June-August '20). She represents a brave model for thousands of people with disabilities, a symbol of persistence, conviction, hard work, and courage. I gratefully congratulate the students who graduated in these challenging circumstances. The important thing is the knowledge they acquired, because knowledge is always needed.

Patrice Assiongbon Sowanou
Garden Valley, Tex.
kaocensowa@gmail.com

COACH GORTON

In 1948, “Ronnie” Gorton (as she was known to her friends) and I entered Pembroke College as “city girls” (“Women’s Warrior,” April/May '20). As commuters, we had much in common, including spending time at the Gate for snacks and playing bridge while we waited for softball or basketball practice. In our senior year, she was named president of girls athletics and I was chair of the softball team. Arlene was one of my best friends at Pembroke. Her passion for sports for women carried through her entire career, benefiting many students. Thanks Ronnie, for all my great memories and for all the great memories for the women of Brown.

Beverly Calderwood Hart '52
Seekonk, Mass.
russellhart@comcast.net

COACH COURT

I arrived at Brown the same year as Debbi Fuhrman, not as a prized recruit, but as a junior transfer who hadn’t done gymnastics since high school. I found my way to Coach Court’s crowded office in Sayles (“Joy and Determination,” Sept./Oct. '20), introduced myself, and asked if I could join the team. To the best of my recollection, she said, “Let’s give it a try.” Being on the gymnastics team was one of the highlights of my Brown experience. I wish I’d had the opportunity to thank her for all that I gained, and tell her how much I appreciated her ethos of hard work, opportunity, and inclusion. I will always admire her fierce devotion to the University and to the gymnastics program.

Miranda Smith '81
Bethesda
smith.miranda07@gmail.com

REMEMBERING BOB

Bob Kresko '59 passed away in April (Obituaries, Sept./Oct. '20). His contributions to Brown, the Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis Museum of Art, and others are legendary. He served as a Brown Trustee and created scholarships for future Brown students. He was devoted to his wife, Dorothea Nelle, and to his children and grandchildren. He leaves a legion of friends he helped succeed in business and life. Bob never changed from the time I first met him freshman year through all the years of his spectacular career in business and life. The first member of his family to go to college, he was dedicated to the free enterprise system and to capitalism. He never wavered in his desire to do his best and to be the best person that he could be. I will miss him more than I can express but treasure our times together, especially our emotional 60th Brown reunion.

Michael M. Peters '59
East Orleans, Mass.

BAM LETTERS POLICY

Please restrict letters to 200 words. We do not publish obscenities, *ad hominem* attacks, or known false statements of fact. For our full policy, please click on “Submit to the BAM” at the bottom of brownalumnmagazine.com.

“Virtual internships have reduced the need for students to move to expensive cities such as New York or San Francisco...they can intern for great companies from small towns. We believe virtual internships are here to stay.”
—Charles S. Isgar '22, who cofounded Intern From Home with seven other Brown students in March, in the Boston Globe. The platform has helped hundreds of students around the country connect with internships, primarily at tech startups.



NOVEMBER–DECEMBER 2020

9 CAMPUS NEWS 14 THE BIG ISSUE 16 COURSES OF STUDY

Under the Elms

Comedy of the Century The Brown Jug is back

The original Jugglers were men of few words.

As brightly-colored copies of the *Brown Jug*’s first issue danced across the Brown University campus in 1920, the vibrant covers declared simply: “A magazine of wit.”

One hundred years later, the student responsible for reviving Brown’s second oldest publication has more to say. “It’s a long college tradition of doing this very particular type of humor magazine,” says co-editor in chief Ben Doyle '21. “Pretty much every college in the country has one of these and it was very weird when I got to Brown that theirs had disappeared.”

The *Jug*’s bumpy history began during the 1930s, when an inability to afford printing during the Great Depression knocked the magazine out of commission. Since then, “it’s been revived a few times but never lasted very long,” Doyle confesses.

Humorists and modern-day Jugglers Ben Doyle '21, left, and Oscar Rousseau '21.

"When I got to campus I asked around and no one knew what it was." An aspiring humor writer himself, Doyle was eager to reignite this decades-old comedic tradition. So he put in a request for the magazine at the student activities office, grabbed a few friends, and got to work bringing the *Jug* back to life.

"When I started at the *Jug* it was myself, Ben, and three or four people in our freshman dorm hall," says Oscar Rousseau '21, Doyle's co-editor in chief. "We have 30 or so regular contributors now. It's really blossomed into something much stronger, there's much more of a community."

Laughter overflowed from the top floor of Page-Robinson Hall each Monday night as Doyle and Rousseau led their team of writers in the production of the biannual magazine. Snorts and giggles filled the



room as the writers bounced ideas back and forth, tweaked stories, and perfected jokes to maximize the laugh-factor of every page. Over Zoom, little has changed.

"Those Zoom sessions are still 30-percent information, 45-percent awful tangents, and 25-percent the other editors chastising me for going on awful tangents," admits Doyle, adding that "the real tragedy is the financial hit that Nabisco is going to take from us not plowing through a full family-sized case of Mega-Stuff Oreos every week... but I'm doing my best to make up for that on my own."

Though the Spring 2020 issue never made it into the dining halls, this year's *Jugglers* are planning to distribute the issue across campus this fall. And to celebrate a century of publication, a supersized double issue of the *Jug*—featuring material from several Brown alumni—will make its appearance on College Hill at the end of Spring 2021, just in time for the re-founders' graduation.

As perhaps the ultimate gift to mark the *Brown Jug's* 100th birthday, Doyle and Rousseau hope to "future-proof" the magazine, giving it the financial staying power it needs to become a permanent fixture in the Brown community. "The reason I think the *Jug* has not been able to survive is that it's been independent from the University and it's been self-funded," says Doyle. "We've been going through all the hoops and hurdles of getting Brown to fully fund the magazine, and by next fall I think we're going to have that together." —IVY SCOTT '21

No Lunch Breaks A chemist's COVID schedule

Natasha Vargo '23 PhD investigates copper-based oxygen-reduction catalysts. "Currently solar panels are producing all this energy and there's not really a great way to store it, so if you can transform molecular oxygen to hydrogen peroxide using an electric chemical cell and these catalysts, that would be a more efficient way," she says. BAM asked her about life and work on a distanced campus.

SUNRISE SHIFT

Right now, my lab is doing an a.m./p.m. schedule. I stick to mornings—that's the best time for me to put my head down and work, and then I have all my data and can go home and assess it.

We stagger. I have two coworkers on my shift, so someone gets there right at six, someone else gets in at seven, and then I'll get in at eight. I'll wake up at six to walk my dog, Cobalt (chemistry-themed!). My workday used to start at nine, and I've actually found that walking him this early is way better than trying to navigate bustling traffic. When I get back, I make a quick coffee, get ready, and then head to work.

GOGGLE FOG

There's a clean lab coat there for me when I arrive, which isn't new, but the most annoying thing about COVID-19 restrictions is wearing a mask with your goggles. They fog up nonstop. There are a few tricks. You can put a thin layer of dish soap on them, or I just get the masks that really stick to your nose. I'll put my goggles on top and then secure them really tight. But then you get those raccoon rings around your eyes at the end of the shift!

There are just so many extra things. Logging your symptoms, temperature checks, and I've been randomly selected to get tested four times recently, so that's another thing to set aside time to



Stairs are one-way only in the Geo-Chem building, which reopened to researchers in early June.

do and then worry about. But Brown's preparation overall with reopening the labs has been really good. The first time I got a test it took a week to get back, and the most recent time I found out within 24 hours. There's hand sanitizer, soap, and disinfectant everywhere, and enough space to social distance.

ELBOW ROOM

Our lab has eight fume hoods, and right now there are only three people in the whole space. Prior to COVID, there would be up to seven all trying to share the same materials. It was more crowded, more people, more complicated. Now it's definitely a little bit of yelling over your mask and the ventilation, and we still have to coordinate, but overall you just have more access to things when you need them.

I work straight through from eight to two. I used to break for lunch, but if I want to stay later, it's tricky—you generally need to organize it beforehand.

There's a lot of rushing around at the end 'cause you don't want to be there when the next shift comes in, so I've learned to just hit a groove and keep working until I finish everything I want to do that day.

HI/BYE

It's kind of sad with so few people. I miss running into people and having conversations. Now I almost never see anyone and sort of have to wave and keep moving along. I can't talk to the staff. I have to set up an appointment to come pick something up at the stock room and it has to be no-contact. It used to feel like there was a real community in the chemistry building. I haven't gone and gotten lunch on Thayer in forever.

After I'm done in the lab, I'll sometimes have a meeting—I have one-on-ones with my professor a lot. He's young, energetic, always had his office door open, and now keeps his virtual meeting room open and is just sitting at his kitchen table. The other day he said,

"You should look into getting an inexpensive tablet so you can draw out what you're trying to explain." I realized that I might need to invest in this, because this is how it's going to be for a while.

On the bright side, I have so much extra time to myself. I can cook, tidy up, watch a movie, go to the park with my dog—I feel like life's a lot more relaxed. —IVY SCOTT '21



His father, Larry Doyle, is a Thurber-prize-winning writer who spent four seasons with *The Simpsons*.

DAVID DELPOIO (3)

Gigs Are Out the Window

But a student band plays on



student center and naming their outfit for a popular drink at the Ratty.

“The whole experience has been a wonderful aspect to my time at Brown,” says Maya Polsky ’22, a guitar player from New York City. “To be able to have found each other so early and have grown so much—I wanted to have a band, but I didn’t think it would be like this.”

OGP played in front of thousands of students two years running for *A Night on College Hill*, a free, student-organized, campus-wide fall dance, while their recordings have racked up hundreds of thousands of views on Spotify. The nine coalesced around their love of artists like Michael Jackson, Lawrence, D’Angelo, and others from the neo-

soul musical movement.

“It’s just so insane,” says Silverston about playing on Ruth J. Simmons Quad for the fall dance party. “You see so many people you know and it feels like they’re all there for you and they’re so in tune with



Not only is OGP named for a drink—the band’s first song was named TJ, short for Trader Joe’s.

what you’re doing.”

When COVID started spreading across the country, the band had to change tune. “All the gigs are out the window,” says Silverston. “Now the challenge is that we don’t live close, but we’re still trying to make music remotely.”

How does that work? Each member of the band has been recording themselves playing separately and sending their portion of the song to Polsky, who mixes the different tracks together, describing it as a welcome distraction from the pandemic and social isolation. There might be some opportunities to do socially distanced outdoor concerts this semester, but nothing is for sure except this: “OGP should be nothing but fun for us at this point,” says Silverston. —PEDER SCHAEFER ’21

2,794

STUDENTS WERE WELCOMED TO BROWN DURING THE 257TH OPENING CONVOCATION IN EARLY SEPTEMBER. THE VAN WICKLE GATES DID NOT OPEN, AND MOST UNDERGRADS WERE NOT INVITED TO CAMPUS UNTIL JANUARY. THE OCCASION WAS MARKED BY A VIRTUAL CEREMONY.



BORDERLANDERS El Pasoan Ali Dipp ’22, a Brown/RISD dual degree concentrating in English and painting, founded a youth performing arts collaborative, Sunhouse Arts, with her little sister in 2012, so perhaps it’s no surprise that she spent the summer tapping a Royce scholarship to create the stunning online art platform ourworkproject.org, which bills itself as the “largest living archive of today’s Southwest.” Pulling together 250 artists and counting—installations are added monthly—Work Project brings alive the vibrant culture of Southwestern states that share a border with Mexico through work as varied as verbal storytelling, a collaborative mural wall, and recipes. The work “Handling Ice,” above, is one of several by Riel Sturchio, a Maine transplant who teaches photography at the University of Texas at Austin and whose work explores vulnerability, disability, and gender identity. Dipp looks forward to next summer, when she plans to grow the venture with live public events. As for this semester, “hopefully social distancing’s encouragement of an antisoocial practice will allow me to complete the two books I’ve been working on over the years,” Dipp says.

HENRY SCHAEFER ’23 (2)

The invitation to *A Night on College Hill* took the band by surprise. OGP learned they’d be expected to play for two hours. “We’d only existed as a band for two weeks,” recalls Polsky. “So we had to come up with 30 songs.”

BITS



OPPOSITION TO CLIMATE ACTION IS 2X AS LIKELY TO GET NEWS COVERAGE AS SUPPORT FOR IT, PER A BROWN PROF’S ANALYSIS OF 3 DECADES OF PRESS.



INCONSISTENT EPA STANDARDS PUT 35,000 CHILDREN AT RISK OF LEAD POISONING AND MUST BE REVISED, A BROWN EPIDEMIOLOGIST URGES.



RURAL HOSPITALS OFFER BETTER CARE THAN PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT, DUE TO INACCURATE DATA TRACKING, BROWN PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCHERS FOUND.



“IN PROVIDENCE IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS” HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY DROPPED FROM THE NAME “BROWN UNIVERSITY.”



“IF A TREE FALLS DOWN IN A MUTED ZOOM MEETING DOES IT MAKE A SOUND?” —A PROFESSOR’S “QUIET PERIOD” HAIKU CHALLENGE ENTRY



Babak Hemmatian '21
PhD (left) and Gaia-Marie
Gerbaka '21.

Coming to COVID Country

Brown's international students face ever-growing tangles of anti-immigrant red tape to get here, and stay here—not to mention the world's highest number of COVID-19 cases. BY JACK BROOK '19

Lebanese international student Gaia-Marie Gerbaka '21 had big plans for her senior year, despite COVID-19. But all appeared to change when U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement released an order in early July: international students at American universities must enroll in at least one in-person class.

Gerbaka, who has a history of respiratory problems and is immuno-compromised, had intended to enroll in remote classes in the upcoming fall semester to protect herself. She needed to remain in Providence, though, in order

to complete the research for her thesis at the bio-optics lab she has worked with since her freshman year.

"I would rather get sick and be in the hospital for two weeks than get deported home and have worked for three years for no reason," says Gerbaka, who studies biomedical engineering and neuroscience. "I would take five classes in-person instead of going back home and losing my visa."

GREATER RESTRICTIONS

While ICE ultimately rescinded the order for students already within the U.S. after facing a lawsuit led by Har-

vard and MIT, international students remain in a precarious situation. ICE has clarified that incoming students are still required to enroll in at least one in-person class, which may affect the ability of many students to safely study on campus, says Assistant Provost for Global Engagement Asabe Poloma.

Under Brown's COVID plan for the upcoming academic year, first-year students will not arrive on campus for classes until the spring term (they have the option to take one free remote class for credit in the fall).

Living in Shanghai, incoming Brown-RISD dual degree first-year Vicky Yang

'24 does not know when she will be able to apply for a visa to study in the U.S. At press time, none of the American embassies had been scheduling routine visa appointments. Stressing about an uncertain future, Yang found chat groups with other mainland Chinese students admitted to American universities and took solace in the fact that many others shared her difficult position.

"I gradually started to realize that panicking is not going to help," Yang says. "But what I can do is make good use of my time."

She's now working at an art studio teaching kids, developing a children's book about whales, and preparing to take both her RISD and Brown classes remotely—despite a 12-hour time difference. She spent her previous summer at a pre-college program at RISD, and has fond memories of Providence and Brown's campus, on which she hopes to set foot again next year.

"To be in a community, physically, which includes so many intelligent people, it just cheers you up," Yang says. "The campus gives me the feeling of a sense of freedom."

The recent restrictions are not just for the F-1 visas that Yang and other undergraduates are relying on. In late June, President Trump signed an executive order blocking skilled workers from entering the country for the rest of the year on a range of temporary work visa programs including the H-1B—affecting the ability of universities to recruit faculty and postdoctoral scholars. International students have often used these visas to get jobs within the U.S. after graduation.

"Legislation has been chipping away at [employment opportunities] and increasing barriers to be able to stay on those visa categories," Assistant Provost Poloma says. "The assault on higher education institutions has been really comprehensive."

Nearly one in five Brown students is from another country, and even before the pandemic, many faced distinctive difficulties in completing their education and pursuing their careers within

the United States.

A few years back it used to take less than a month to process most visas for students to enroll or receive work authorizations, says Shankar Prasad, deputy provost for global engagement & strategic initiatives. By 2019, pre-COVID, it was taking upwards of six months.

For international students, Prasad says, "it's hard enough to secure an internship or a job and then imagine you can't get your work authorization in time. You're stuck with no money and no certainty that if you leave you'll be able to return."

MUSLIM BAN 2020

Though the Trump administration's 2017 travel ban may feel like old news, it continues to restrict the lives of international students at Brown.

Babak Hemmatian '21 PhD, an Iranian doctoral candidate in cognitive neuroscience, is one of approximately 25 students currently enrolled in the university from the seven countries listed on the travel ban: Syria, Yemen, Iran,

"You're stuck with no money and no certainty that if you leave you'll be able to return."

Somalia, Venezuela, Libya, and North Korea. The majority are Iranian graduate students like Hemmatian.

"I felt angry because it was totally clear and apparent to me that it [the ban] was needless," Hemmatian says. "And I was dismayed because I didn't feel there was much I could do."

Hemmatian enrolled at Brown in 2014 to study how people develop political affiliations and opinions on social issues. He was three years into his research when the 2017 travel ban hit—and it came at an especially bad time in his life. His visa revoked by the ban, Hemmatian learned that his father's colon cancer was worsening. One day in early March,

his family told him that if he wanted to see his father while he was still alive, he would need to come home immediately.

Hemmatian decided that if he needed to he would be able to restart graduate school because, as he puts it: "this time that I had with my dad, that was irreplaceable—he wasn't going to be coming back."

As soon as Hemmatian arrived at his dad's bedside, he knew he had made the right decision. "I immediately felt like it was worth it when my dad saw me from the hospital bed, coming in the door, and he was so surprised and happy," Hemmatian says.

And thanks to a revised version of the travel ban which spared his visa at the time, Hemmatian was able to return to the U.S. But he has not been able to leave since then and no longer has a valid visa.

Staying put to complete his dissertation has not been easy—Hemmatian had to leave his grieving family and missed the birth of his sister's first child, whom he has yet to meet in person. He has also been prevented from attending

academic conferences within his field, many of which now take place outside the U.S. because of its tight travel restrictions. If there's been one upside to 2020 for Hemmatian, it's that many of these academic conferences are now exclusively online, allowing him to participate on more equal terms. Still, he does not believe that he will want to stay in the U.S. if the current immigration restrictions remain in place.

"I want to stay in academia; I'm really passionate about teaching and feel like I am doing meaningful work," Hemmatian says. "But if when I graduate in 2021 it is the same here, I won't be staying in the U.S."

1743

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ENROLLED AT BROWN IN FALL 2019, INCLUDING 5 AT WARREN ALPERT MEDICAL SCHOOL. GHAZAL AGHAGOLI '19, '23 MD, IS ONE OF THEM, AND SHE HELPED START THE ORGANIZATION F-1 DOCTORS TO MENTOR PROSPECTIVE MEDICAL STUDENTS GOING THROUGH THE INTENSIVE APPLICATION PROCESS.



Love, Actually

A lit class examines love and desire through academic, intellectual, and deeply personal lenses.

BY PEDER SCHAEFER '22

When Professor Andrew Colarusso '13 MFA began to refine the syllabus for the third iteration of LITR 1230: Why Don't We Fall In Love, the words of another Brown alum, Emma Watson '14, came to mind.

"She makes the assertion that she is happily *self-partnered*," says Colarusso, a professor in the Literary Arts de-

partment, referring to what Watson famously told *British Vogue* in 2019. "I thought, what does that mean for a generation of people who are so used to social media and technology that the idea of partnership or dealing with other human beings becomes untenable?"

The idea of self-partnership became the cornerstone of Colarusso's 2020 coursework for Why Don't We Fall in Love, which has evolved over the years as Colarusso's own thoughts on love and desire have changed. Heavily inspired by

Audre Lorde's essay *Uses of the Erotic: The Erotic as Power*, Colarusso's course seeks to help students better understand their own experiences with love through reading literature, watching movies, listening to songs, and engaging with relationships and love in their own lives. Why Don't We Fall in Love was the first course Colarusso ever taught at Brown, after finishing his MFA in 2013.

The course features interactive exercises that are meant to break students out of the shells created by social me-

dia and technology and help them embrace new aspects of love, by fostering a shared and "conjunctive" relationship amongst members of the class, Colarusso says.

The psychologically oriented exercises are paired with more standard academic coursework, such as reading novels like *Death in Venice* by the German writer Thomas Mann, plus scientific studies that show the power of neurotransmitters in forming relationships. One detailed pair-bond formation in male prairie voles, while another looked at the role of plasma oxytocin in social skill development in children with and without autism.

The class also analyzes films, such as the classic French film *Children of Paradise* and, in past versions of the course, the sci-fi thriller *Ex Machina*.

"As soon as I felt his energy, I knew I wanted to take the class," says Lucas Tesler '20, who took the course this past spring. "For people to be that vulnerable, and for Professor Colarusso to foster such a vulnerable environment, that was something that I had never experienced before."

SOMETHING DIFFERENT

Public storytelling figures prominently in Colarusso's course, including all the vulnerabilities and neuroses that surround sharing painful parts of our lives with strangers. Each session began with one or two students sharing a love story with the class.

"People ended up sharing really intimate details about their lives," says Dorit Rein '18, who took the first iteration of Colarusso's course in 2015. "It accelerated the relationship-building process because we got so vulnerable with each other."

In the 2020 edition of the course, one story in particular stood out to Tesler. A student Facetimed her ex-boyfriend and put him on the big projector in front of the entire class. The ex answered her questions, and the class's questions, about how their relationship had morphed and evolved, from ro-

54.6

THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO TOLD THE *BROWN DAILY HERALD* IN A 2019 SURVEY THAT THEY ARE **NOT IN ANY TYPE OF RELATIONSHIP**. MEANWHILE, 57.5 PERCENT OF STUDENTS SAID **THEY WANT TO BE IN AN EXCLUSIVE RELATIONSHIP**.

mance, to long-distance, to friendship, and how they were able to stay in each other's lives. Once COVID-19 began to spread across the country in March, classes moved online and topics of discussion in class shifted away from the abstract and towards the reality of how dating, love, and relationships have been changed by the pandemic.

Students say that Colarusso served not just as their professor, but also their companion in the group's exploration of love. "I think sometimes professors and teachers distinguish themselves from students; they'll facilitate conversation but they won't engage," says Rein. "But Professor Colarusso will share stories of his own and I felt like we were on equal ground. The relationships we were able to build with him were slightly different from relationships I've had with other professors at Brown."

"In this class, we were all sitting at a big circular table, and [Colarusso] was right there with us," says Tesler. "He wanted to center the class around our stories. He was instrumental in pushing us and creating a cohesive environment, but I think the best thing he did was giving us a space to share, and creating that space with us and for us. He could have gotten in front of the class and told us what love was, but I think he wanted us to figure that out for ourselves with his help."

"As a teacher, I feel it is my duty to inspire more generative thinking around these subjects, not necessarily to think what I'm thinking, but to get my students to come to a more grounded place in their own thinking," says Colarusso. "What is actually healthy in a loving relationship?"

One grounding idea he hopes students walk away with is the importance of and need for genuine and loving relationships in their lives, and the need to break free from relating to each other via technology, including social media platforms. "We need that awkward tangible connection with others," Colarusso insists. "Relationships can't just be mediated by algorithms."

LIBRARY OF LOVE

In Colarusso's course, students read novels and essays as well as academic pieces that explored the neurological foundation of love and attraction. A few examples:

"Uses of the Erotic: The Erotic as Power"

by Audre Lorde

Lorde's essay inspired the course and encourages students to think more critically about structures of power in their own relationships.

Death in Venice

by Thomas Mann

Mann's novel follows the romantic obsession an older author has with a young boy in the midst of a cholera epidemic. Colarusso thought it would ring true with student's pandemic-tinged dating lives.

Bluets

by Maggie Nelson

This book of poetic and philosophical essays looks at love through the lens of the color blue. Students read about how love can shape perceptions of color and time.

"People were dating through video chat and through Zoom and through whatever other outlets," says Colarusso.

David Cicilline '83, former Providence mayor and a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, at his office in a renovated Pawtucket mill.



GOING

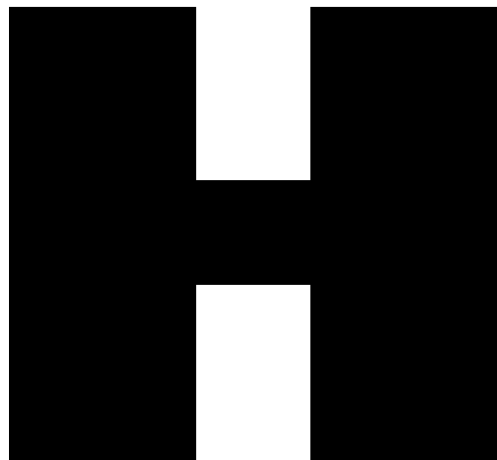
UP

AGAINST

GOLIATH

He took on Providence Mayor Buddy Cianci and R.I. political corruption. Now he's coming for Zuckerberg. The unlikely moral crusade of David Cicilline '83.

BY JACK BROOK '19
PHOTOGRAPHY BY PHILIP KEITH



may have emerged from the smallest state in the Union, but Rhode Island Congressman David Cicilline '83 has been confronting giants since his first days in politics. From helping pull up the roots of Rhode Island's infamous patronage system as a state representative to going up against notorious Providence Mayor Buddy Cianci, Cicilline has a track record of taking on entrenched systems of power—and winning.

This year finds him facing off against four of the most influential leaders in the tech industry—Amazon, Facebook, Google, and Apple—following a year-long Congressional antitrust investigation. The resulting 449-page report, released in October, accuses the companies of becoming “the kinds of monopolies we last saw in the era of oil barons and railroad tycoons.” Cicilline made his views clear when he tore into the companies' executives at a July hearing on Capitol Hill, asking Google's CEO Sundra Pichai: “Why does Google steal content from honest businesses?” Pichai deflected the question, only to have Cicilline retort with evidence that Google privileged its own products in search rankings, stifling small businesses on the web. “Our documents show that Google evolved from a turnstile to the rest of the web to a walled garden that increasingly

keeps users within its sites,” Cicilline declared.

By the time he reached Amazon's Jeff Bezos, Cicilline—who this fall launched a bid for assistant Speaker of the House—was in his element. He shared testimony from a small business that said Amazon was “the only game in town” and would string companies along into ruin. The small business described Amazon's platform as heroin for small businesses—addictive and destructive.

“Mr. Bezos, this is one of your partners,” Cicilline asked. “Why on earth would they compare you to a drug dealer?”

DINING WITH DONS

Power, politics, and corruption were all literally at the kitchen table as Cicilline was growing up—members of the Rhode Island mafia would sometimes stop by for dinner. Cicilline's father, Jack, made his career as a top defense attorney by representing the Patriarca crime family and had a close relationship with his mafioso clients outside the office. He was even the godfather of a mob lieutenant's daughter.

Yet Cicilline, who adopted his mother's Jewish faith, says his Catholic father was more than just a mob lawyer; the elder Cicilline also spent many years as a top aide to the mayor of Providence, inspiring his son to become civically involved from a young age. Growing up in Narragansett on Rhode Island's coast, David would have his mother drive him to town council meetings in his early teens. By the time he reached college, Cicilline was telling people he wanted to be the president of the United States one day.

His longtime friend Bob Walsh '83 remembers a kid who even in high school was a “tenacious debater,” adamant in defending the hot-button progressive issues of the day, including women's rights to abortion. In the mock political bodies for students, he was also a leader—elected governor of American Legion Boys State and the speaker of the House for the Rhode Island model legislature.

“If he was a dog catcher, he would catch more dogs than everyone else. That's just how he is wired,” Walsh says. “He's a whirlwind of work and always has been.”

Cicilline transferred to Brown as a sophomore from William & Mary, paying his way by waiting tables every summer, and on campus he immersed himself in political science, both in theory and practice. He helped band together John F. Kennedy Jr. '83 and William Mondale '85—who came from prominent political families practically at war with each other in the Democratic party—into Brown's new chapter of College Democrats.

Walsh recalls that when they volunteered on campaigns for local politicians, Cicilline always made himself available for the grunt work even as a full-time student, often fielding calls in the pre-dawn hours for his bosses. He learned campaign-



With the zest of the trial lawyer he once was, Cicilline makes a point at a June House Judiciary Committee meeting on the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2020.

ing the old fashioned way, heading to City Hall with a highlighter and photocopies of voter rolls while he took classes on the logistics of campaigns and elections, learning the importance of skills like cross-tabulation and polling. A former professor, Darrell West, recalls that Cicilline would bring a big box of pastries for the political science faculty on holidays. “The constituent service was very strong, even then,” West says.

Cicilline went to Georgetown for law, then served as a public defender for a couple of years before moving into a more lucrative private practice that allowed him to indulge his taste for stylish cars: he owned, at one point, a Rolls Royce and a Jaguar. (Later in his political career he would cruise the streets of Providence on a Harley and ride a horse he affectionately called “Capitol Hill.”) But despite his affluence, he still made time to represent clients for the ACLU and took a special interest in combating police brutality and misconduct.

In the early '90s, as he prepared to enter politics for the first time, Cicilline reached out to H. Philip West, Jr., then the director of Common Cause Rhode Island, a nonpartisan organization promoting ethical governance. West recalls that he was skeptical of the ethics of a guy whose father was tied to the mob and he wondered if Cicilline was considering politics to benefit from cronyism.

“Simply put, [Big Tech has] too much power. Their dominance is killing the small businesses, manufacturing, and overall dynamism that are the engines of the American economy.”

Island's uniquely anti-democratic Constitution, which lacked an appropriate separation of powers. The state Constitution allowed lawmakers to create commissions and boards tasked with doling out millions of dollars in contracts, and then appoint the members to those bodies or even serve

SARAH SILBINGER

on them themselves. No other state allowed for this, and Rhode Island's system proved to be "an engine of patronage," explains West, whose organization led a campaign to reform the state's Constitution in the '90s. "It was beyond absurd, the conflicts of interests," recalls West, who wrote a book, *Secrets & Scandals*, about the reform efforts. "But it was deeply rooted; part of the culture. And so to ask to change that was the worst kind of heresy you can imagine."

When Cicilline was asked if he was concerned about retribution from the Speaker of the House—who warned the reform movement was "a declaration of war"—Cicilline replied: "Maybe I'm a glutton for punishment. But this is both right and long overdue."

Propelled by the work of Cicilline and a group of other committed legislators, Rhode Island finally succeeded in reforming its Constitution in the early 2000s, removing the special powers of the legislature.

BESTING MAYOR BUDDY

In 2002, Cicilline decided to go for the jugular of Providence's corruption by running for mayor against incumbent Buddy Cianci—although fate would intervene before the two could go head to head in the elections.

The city's longest serving mayor, Cianci was a popular presence in Providence bars and restaurants, known for his cigars, garish sense of humor, and disgruntled toupee dubbed "the rug." He had first served as mayor from '75 to '84, but was forced to step down for kidnapping and attacking his ex-wife's alleged lover with a log and a burning cigarette, and then became a popular talk-show host. Back in the mayor's office by 1991, the charismatic Cianci, having once run on an anti-corruption platform, proceeded to peddle his own branded marinara sauce while in office (the proceeds, it was later revealed, did not benefit Providence schoolchildren as advertised). By 1998, Cianci had cemented a reputation as a brutal and beloved demagogue, so feared that he ran unopposed for re-election that year.

Circumstances had changed by the 2002 mayoral election, as an FBI probe had for the previous few years been circling closer and closer around Cianci, looking into charges of racketeering and corruption. Still, his would-be challengers hung back, too scared to enter the ring with the undisputed heavyweight champion of Providence politics. No one knew if the feds would find the evidence needed to convict the Don of City Hall. Besides, Cianci's personality defused the seriousness of the accusations, and a majority of citizens polled at the time said they thought Cianci was doing just fine as mayor.

Nevertheless, alone among Providence politicians, Cicilline chose to announce his candidacy.

As Cicilline tells it, he had spent years griping with colleagues and constituents about the corruption of the Cianci administration and decided the timing was right to do something about it.

"It occurred to me that rather than grumble and complain, the only way to take on that kind of corrupt leadership was to run against it," Cicilline told the BAM.

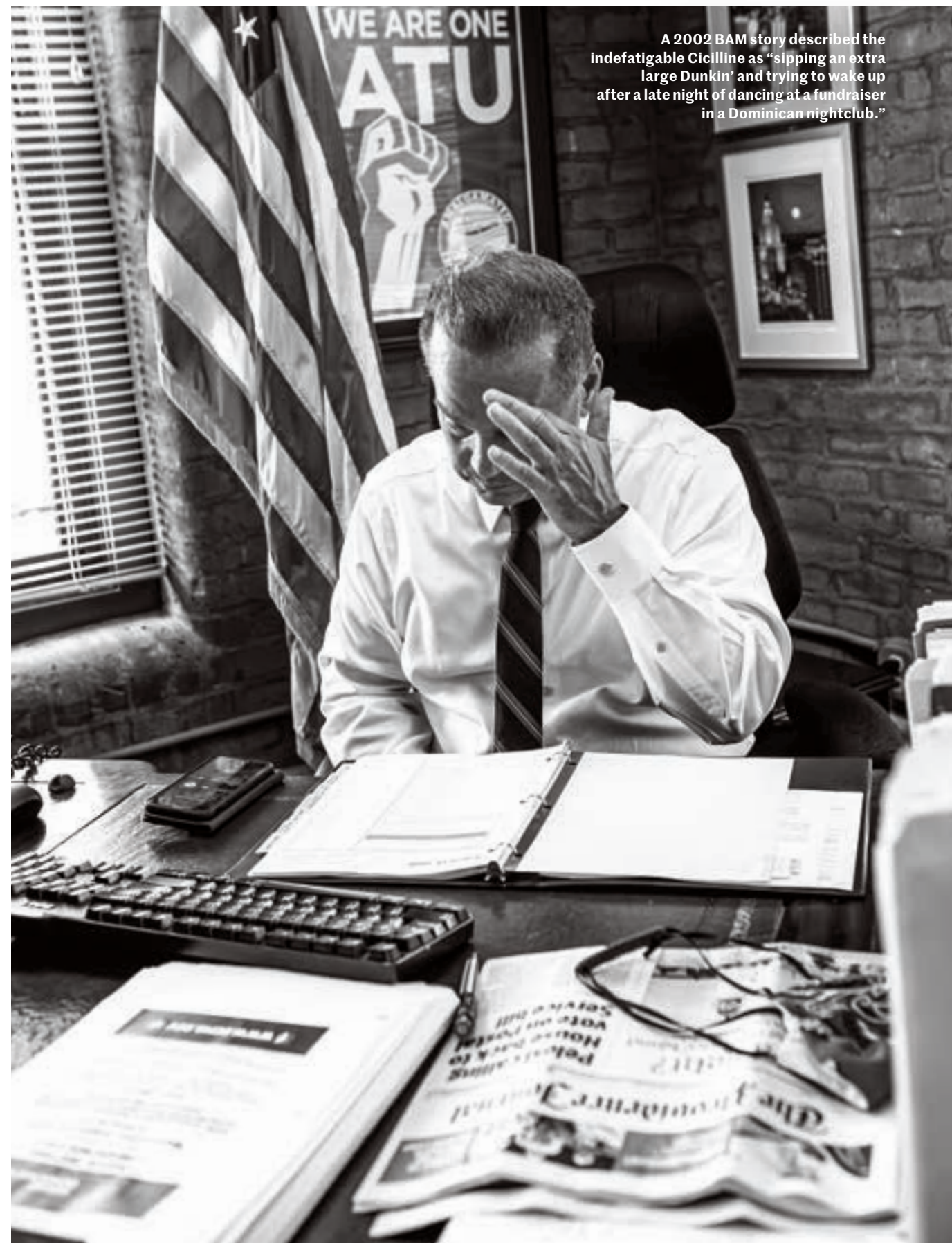
Months later, after Cianci was indicted and forced out of the race in order to serve five years in federal prison, candidates rushed to announce their campaigns. But Cicilline had made an impression on voters with the courage of his early start and he won the general election in a landslide, becoming the first openly gay mayor of a major U.S. city. Declaring a new era "guided by those old-fashioned principles of right and wrong," Cicilline took up residency in an office where the smell of Cianci's trademark cigars still lingered on the furnishings, and, over eight years as mayor, set about the task of instilling ethics into the city's administration. Cicilline himself would be marred with a scandal after leaving City Hall for Congress in 2012, when he was lambasted for saying the city was in "excellent financial condition." In reality, Providence was mired in a \$110 million deficit. His approvals sank and the *Providence Journal* called him "a dead man walking"—but he hung on and kept his Congressional seat. Voters have since

Cicilline has a joy for the events most politicians grow tired of: the mixers at senior homes, residential picnics, and other small and unglamorous gatherings and conversations.

largely forgiven him, focusing on his progressive policies, chutzpah, and love of mingling with constituents. Those who know him say he has a joy for the events most politicians grow tired of: the mixers at senior homes, residential picnics, and other small and unglamorous gatherings and conversations that show a representative cares about connecting with the community.

Perhaps another reason for Cicilline's enduring success—since getting into office in 1994, he's never lost an election—is that he appears, overall, to genuinely stick by his principles, even in the little moments. His friend Bob Walsh recalls that after Cicilline became mayor, he walked out of the transition headquarters to find a city official writing a ticket for his car. The official realized whose car it was and apologized, explaining the ticket would be "taken care of."

"No you won't," said Cicilline, saying he would pay the fine. "That's exactly why I ran."



A 2002 BAM story described the indefatigable Cicilline as "sipping an extra large Dunkin' and trying to wake up after a late night of dancing at a fundraiser in a Dominican nightclub."



The 59-year-old progressive organized on College Hill with John F. Kennedy Jr. '83 and is the first openly gay member elected to House leadership.

BIGGER FISH

Cicilline was sworn into Congress in 2011, and in the nine years since he has established a record fighting to stop proposed cuts to Medicare and Social Security and pushing for gun control legislation, including authoring a bill to ban assault weapons (he once joined John Lewis in a sit-in on the House floor in 2016 to protest the lack of gun control reforms). He's also introduced legislation to automatically register voters at the DMV and to extend anti-discrimination protections to the LGBT community by expanding the definition of the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

Now, as chair of the House Judiciary's subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law, he's uniquely well-positioned to go into battle against the likes of Mark Zuckerberg and Big Tech. Cicilline has been vocal about how he believes these companies are harming Americans and the market itself.

"Simply put, they have too much power," Cicil-

line declared in his opening statement at the hearing on July 29th. "This power staves off new forms of competition, creativity, and innovation....Their dominance is killing the small businesses, manufacturing, and overall dynamism that are the engines of the American economy."

Cicilline has led a dogged effort to gather the evidence necessary to make the case to the American public that Congress should intervene in reshaping the digital economy—at a time when many Americans are increasingly wary of how Big Tech companies dominate everyday life and online infrastructure. After reviewing more than a million documents and interviewing hundreds of business owners and tech industry players, Cicilline's report concludes that the four companies—worth nearly \$5 trillion combined—are "unaccountable to anyone but themselves."

"Our responsibility is to make sure there is real competition and that the monopoly power of these large technology platforms is checked," Cicilline tells the BAM. "We know the consequences of this concentrated economic power—it very often creates concentrated political power, which is really inconsistent with democracy."

Not that Mark Zuckerberg plans to let his company get dismantled without a fight. At the July hearing, he made the case that Facebook and other Big Tech companies were benefiting consumers by innovating within a competitive marketplace.

"We're here to talk about online platforms, but I think the true nature of competition is much broader," Zuckerberg said. "When Facebook bought WhatsApp, we could compete against [telephone companies] that used to charge twenty-five cents a text message, but not anymore. Now people can... send private messages for free. That's competition."

Zuckerberg was expressing a now-dominant theory of American antitrust law: that these issues should be evaluated by the prices people have to pay for goods and services. So long as things are cheaper than before, everything is all right.

MONOPOLY PHILOSOPHY

Originally, antitrust law focused on breaking up the classic monopolies like John D. Rockefeller's Standard Oil, which dominated markets at the expense of a more diverse range of smaller companies. The bedrock of antitrust law, created in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, was premised on the notion that the fewer companies operating in a market, the more likely there will be anti-competitive practices.

But for decades, that view has been mostly out of fashion. The current consensus on antitrust issues took off after conservative legal scholar Robert Bork's seminal 1978 book, *The Antitrust Paradox*. Bork argued that antitrust law should be primarily concerned with protecting consumers, not competitors. Mergers and market integration should

be welcomed because they make things more efficient, leading to lower consumer prices.

Yet there has been an increasingly vocal group of economists, legal theorists, and legislators, Cicilline among them, that has argued that to truly assess competition in today's economy, a broader and more nuanced approach is needed. Leading the charge is wunderkind scholar Lina Khan who, while still in her 20s, wrote a groundbreaking paper published in 2017 that analyzed the dangers of Amazon's rise by drawing on traditional but out of favor concepts of antitrust law. Price and quality of product alone are not enough to judge the competitiveness of markets, she says. We need a broader, more holistic view, since the structure of companies like Amazon and Google has increasingly become the structure of the marketplace.

As a result, the question that we should be asking in antitrust law, Khan says, is whether a company's structure creates "anticompetitive conflicts of interests" across a range of markets, allowing harmful, predatory practices to persist. Cicilline hired Khan as an advisor, and his committee's report highlights how each company consolidated its power by exploiting one-sided access to data and control over distribution, allowing them "to acquire, copy, or kill" competitors. The impact of this consolidation may not be reflected in higher prices for goods and services but may harm consumers and the market in less tangible, more insidious ways such as violation of user privacy, the decline of accurate information, and the undermining of democratic processes.

Facebook's acquisitions of What's App and Instagram appear to have led to more competition between its own products than with actual rivals, according to the company's own estimations. And businesses in peripheral markets, such as local newspapers, have collapsed in part due to the rise of Facebook. The lack of competition allows for proliferation of disinformation on the platform, Cicilline argues. The company notoriously offers a seemingly free service that profits off its users' personal data, sold to shadowy firms like Cambridge Analytica—now well known as having attempted, perhaps successfully, to influence the 2016 election. Meanwhile, more than a third of Amazon's 2.3 million third-party sellers rely on the platform as their only source of income, and any developer releasing a product on Apple's app store has to fork over 30 percent of their revenue.

In other words, as Cicilline's report explains, by running the market and competing in it at the same time, these companies are able "to write one set of rules for others, while they play by another." And the report found that these companies are often unscrupulous in the ways they maintain their grip on the market. Google, for instance, is effectively the only search engine in town, bolstering its own products in searches, downgrading those

of competitors, and "extorting" companies that want to get seen by users.

While the practices sound sketchy, clearly proving harm to consumers and the marketplace as a whole is not an easy task, notes Darrell West, the former director of Brown's Taubman Center for Public Policy. West believes his former student is taking the right steps to build the consensus to crack down on Big Tech.

"You need evidence of actual wrongdoing," explains Darrell West, now a senior fellow at Brookings. "David has spent the last year really developing the evidence, setting the agenda. It's not enough to just say the tech companies have acted badly—you need to have concrete illustrations."

Cicilline has always thrived on the theatrics of the public forum and he made forceful points at the hearings. The real question is whether his rhe-

As the report explains, by running the market and competing in it at the same time, these companies are able "to write one set of rules for others, while they play by another."

torical grillings—and the subsequent report and its findings—will translate into substantive Congressional policy.

Cicilline points out that this is the first major Congressional antitrust investigation in decades, and that his committee's report offers a menu of policy options for better regulating the digital economy. Along with increasing scrutiny over mergers, the report notably calls for the companies to be broken up and barred from operating across adjacent lines of business. Cicilline's Republican colleagues felt the report went too far and disavowed its conclusions. But Cicilline believes major intervention is needed.

"I think it's pretty clear from our investigation that these large platforms really have monopoly power," he says. He argues that Facebook, in particular, should not have been allowed to acquire WhatsApp and Instagram. Even so, "there is certainly an ability under existing law to go back and unwind that transaction," Cicilline adds.

Whether that's feasible remains to be seen—but if anyone could break up Big Tech, Walsh believes it is Cicilline, who seems never to have lost the idealistic spirit of those early campus campaigns. "We were all running around trying to change the world," Walsh says. "David still believes we can."

Jack Brook '19 is a 2020-2021 Luce Scholar and received the 2019 Betsy Amanda Lehman '77 Award for Excellence in Journalism.

State of Play

This spring, Brown overhauled its athletics program. Varsity teams went club and vice versa, protests and lawsuits ensued, and some teams were reinstated—all in the shadow of the pandemic's halt to competition. A look at the scoreboard. By Will Bunch '81

PHOTOGRAPH BY ROB MIGLIACCHIO



Maddy McGrath '22 (left) and skipper and Olympian Ragna Agerup '20, captured as they decisively won the College Sailing/Sperry Women's National Championship in 2019. Women's and coed sailing were transitioned to varsity sports this May.

The time stamp on the email remains etched in the mind of Kevin Boyce '21: 12:04 p.m. on May 28, 2020.

Neither Boyce—a sprinter on the varsity men's track team who saw the invitation to jump on a Zoom call with Brown Athletics while home in Columbus, Ohio, after a spring semester like no other—nor the 150 other student-athletes invited had any advance warning about why their cellphones were now buzzing.

Boyce figured it was an update on COVID-19, which had already upended college sports. Instead, on the brief Zoom call with Director of Athletics and Recreation Jack Hayes, he learned his team would be dropped from Brown's roster of 38 varsity squads and would transition to a club sport. Members of 11 varsity teams—men's cross country and indoor and outdoor track and field, men's and women's fencing, men's and women's golf, men's and women's squash, women's skiing, and women's equestrian—received the same news.

"I was sitting there dumbfounded and devastated," recalls Boyce. He and his teammates instantly began group-texting—now what? Fencer Anna Susini '22 says one moment she had been focused on her team's incoming recruits and her coach's blueprint for imminent success in the Ivy League, and then the next moment, "all of that was ripped away."

Meanwhile, the coed and women's sailing teams learned they were transitioning from club to varsity status. Brown's had been one of the few sailing teams competing at top level that was not a varsity team, according to a source within the dual crew, which effectively works as one entity except in competition. The women's sailing team has won every national competition the past couple of years and recently included 2016 Olympics competitor Ragna Agerup '20. A team spokesperson declined



to comment publicly on their good news, given ongoing conflict around the changes.

For Hayes and Brown President Christina H. Paxson, this reveal of the Excellence in Brown Athletics Initiative was what they call a difficult but necessary step in a plan to create a winning sports culture on a campus where trophies have been few and far between. The Ivy League may be known worldwide for its academic excellence, but it was created as a sports conference—one in which Brown has stood out mostly for its large number of teams yet low rate of championships.

"Before these changes, we had the third-largest varsity athletics program in the country," Hayes explains, "but the smallest budget in the Ivy League—which does not make sense if we are trying to give student-athletes the resources and experiences they need to be consistently competitive." The varsity cuts were one part of a four-part plan, along with enhancing recruiting and building competitive roster sizes; taking coaching, training, and conditioning to the next level; and improving facilities. The overall objectives,

Hayes says, are increasing varsity competitiveness, upholding equal opportunities for men and women, and enhancing club sports. Both Paxson and Hayes say they'd like to duplicate the success of club squads like Ultimate Frisbee, which won a national championship in 2019.

The groundwork for this shakeup was laid in the 2018-2019 academic year, when a consultant was brought in to assess the athletics program. University officials crunched the numbers and found all those varsity teams won just 2.8 percent of Ivy League titles in the decade from 2009-2018, the lowest in the league. "If Brown, as one of



eight Ivy League institutions, won its proportional share, it would have won 12.5 percent of those championships," Hayes wrote in an email interview. "That means we can and will do better."

The grim stats led Paxson, in January 2020, to quietly form a seven-person, all-alumni advisory committee tasked with coming up with recommendations—with careful attention to diversity and gender equity among their charges. Brown's Board of Trustees voted on the resulting plan this spring. "We look at this like building a great university," Paxson said this summer in an email interview, stressing that Brown needed to make the smartest use of limited dollars for athletics. "You focus resources on the areas where you can be truly excellent. Brown takes that approach to academics and is applying that approach to athletics."

University officials questioned offering a sport such as skiing at the varsity level in a state with no mountains, when promoting the two sailing teams—in the Ocean State, which for decades hosted the America's Cup—made more sense.

The plan was announced as soon as it was approved, and when there was still a more than two-week window for athletes to transfer to other Ivies. But why the secrecy at the planning stage? Not even coaches had a clue changes were coming, students say. Hayes says the University wanted the restructuring to be a data-driven process, not affected by emotions. Alumni have told the University over the years that it should reduce the number of varsity teams, "but the immediate follow-up is, 'but not my team,'" Hayes says. "That's just human nature. There is no universe where you don't experience divisiveness and outright anger over which teams should be affected."

"HERE'S THE PLAYBOOK"

After the announcement, with Ivy League stadiums dark for fall amid the pandemic, the University tapped Joseph Dowling III, chair of the Brown

Investment Office, to head a strategic planning effort to build what he calls "a high performance culture" within athletics. "I said great!" Dowling remembers. "So here's the playbook. The playbook is you go in and you interview everyone, every coach, assistant coach, administrators, maintenance...." He and his team also analyzed three years of lengthy player surveys, he says.

Dowling—a Harvard squash player who grew up in Providence in the stands of Brown football games with his dad Joseph Dowling Jr. '47—is credited with outperforming the school's rivals with what had been the Ivies' smallest endowment when he was hired in 2013. He told the BAM he restructured the endowment staff to 50 percent women because diverse perspectives have been shown to improve performance. Now he wants to use the same data-driven, best-practice formulas to bring a higher return of championships to the school's athletics.

"We hope to bring some *Moneyball* techniques to athletics," Dowling says, referring to the 2003 Michael Lewis book and subsequent film that sparked a revolution of computer analytics in pro sports. Dowling cites five parts to his plan: invest more in athletics, with funds to be raised specifically for this goal; enhance "cross-communication" for teams and coaches to share winning strategies; set goals and increase accountability; invest in coaches and their training; and better integrate the University's academics with athletics. "We have data science—we should be utilizing that. We have one of the best psychology/mindfulness professors in the world," Dowling says. "It's the Building on Distinction playbook for athletics," he adds, referring to Paxson's 10-year strategic plan, launched in 2014.

Dowling, whose team will announce more details in coming months, plans a town hall meeting with coaches to present his findings and says transparency will be his byword. One of the "cross-communication" opportunities he hopes

For Mann, running is a doorway for academically talented kids from disadvantaged backgrounds who otherwise might not have even heard of Brown.

to tap involves women's soccer coach Kia McNeill, who in 2019 led the Bears to their first Ivy title and NCAA appearance in 25 years. "She's one of our highest performing coaches," he says, and "we're not giving her a platform to share her philosophies and strategies around recruiting, around coaching, around attracting people to Brown."

Brown turned out to be at the crest of a wave of varsity trimming. Several Division I universities announced cuts in April. Then, in July, Stanford—citing budget problems from before the coronavirus—announced its lineup of 36 teams was going down to 25. Most of the dozens of other colleges that dropped varsity programs over the coronavirus summer of 2020, including Dartmouth, targeted what some call "country club sports" such as squash, fencing, golf, or rowing. Meanwhile, thanks to reinstatements Brown made after student and alumni pushback and a lawsuit, its new roster of 34 teams will mean Brown, along with Harvard, will field the highest number of varsity teams in the country. Even so, says Hayes, the net reduction will position Brown Athletics for a more competitive future.

That future will be soon, if Dowling has anything to do with it. "In five years, I want our program to be top of the Ivy League," he says, noting that if he'd said that when he arrived to work on the University's investments, "they'd have laughed me out of the office." Brown's Investment Office brought its endowment performance up to number one in the Ivy League and, last year, to number one in the nation.

A MAJOR REVERSAL

In group texts that started even before the call with Hayes ended and went on for days, athletes did what they've been trained to do: Fight back.

Jordan Mann '15, a former track and field team member who now is a volunteer coach, said he was out with a friend when he looked at his phone "and there were like 800 texts"—only a slight exaggeration. Like many Brown sports, the teams had seen their struggles, with men's indoor track and field placing last in the Ivy right before the coronavirus shutdown, but



Jordan Mann '15

Mann also noted "we had multiple people qualify for NCAA regionals." Indeed, University officials acknowledged that a key driver of the decision to cut the teams was not so much their records as the need for gender balance.

To Mann and other advocates, downgrading men's track in pursuit of gender equity showed a blindness to what the sport meant for other diversity. Statistically, the teams, taken as a whole, had the third-highest rate of Black athletes on campus, after football and basketball. For Mann, running is a doorway for academically talented kids from disadvantaged backgrounds who otherwise might not have even heard of Brown. "There's no one who plays squash," he says, "who says, 'I didn't know what Brown was until somebody told me.'"

Ironically, one key testimonial came from an Irish alumnus, the distance runner Kevin Cooper '13. In an impassioned essay for *New England Runner*, he described his roots as the son of a house painter, his pride as the only Irish citizen in his graduating class, and his deep frustration over this proposal for a varsity sport that had been his door to the American Dream. "Running," he wrote, "never cared that I was working-class."

The outcry spread. A key source of support came from Brown's women track athletes—even though their squad was not downgraded—who said the camaraderie between their team and the men had been an integral part of their college experience. "It hurt me to see the men's team cut," said Brynn Smith '11, an Ivy League champion hammer thrower who now teaches school in Baltimore. Smith, recalling how sports had connected her to Brown and how the men's and women's teams had been like family at away meets, said track, "for many underrepresented groups, was giving access to a predominantly white and elite institution."

Within hours, Smith and Mann found themselves among the unofficial leaders of a campaign to reinstate the teams that grew quickly through platforms like Facebook, GroupMe, and a series of Zoom calls. The crusade's level of organization—with committees created to lobby, coordinate letter writing, and conduct supportive



Amy Cohen '92 (kneeling, second from right) with the 1989-90 Gymnastics team

A Lawsuit Revives, then Settles

The cycle of proposed varsity cuts—and pushback—launched in 1991, when then-President Vartan Gregorian, seeking \$1.6 million in savings in an era of tight budgets, okayed a plan to convert men's water polo and golf and women's gymnastics and volleyball from varsity to club status. The move prompted not just an uproar but a lawsuit, *Cohen v. Brown University*, named for gymnast Amy Cohen '92, a plaintiff.

The suit argued that numbers were deceiving. Even though Brown's 17 women's varsity teams made up the second greatest number in the Ivies, the plaintiffs alleged female student-athletes were treated as second-class citizens—kicked off the basketball court when the men showed up to practice, with gymnasts forced to sew their own leotards. By 1997, the Cohen complainants had a string of courtroom victories that forced the University not only to restore the dropped varsity sports but to add three more women's squads—lightweight crew, water polo, and equestrian—while holding it to a legal framework that the University has complained is burdensome and distinct from Brown's obligations under Title IX. That includes yearly compliance reports and a requirement that Brown's overall rosters reflect the gender ratio of undergraduate student enrollment to within such a tight percentage—between 2.25 and 3.5 percent—that any time a single player quits, it could cause a gender imbalance and thus noncompliance with *Cohen*. The consequences fall most heavily on recruitment,

necessitating what the University called "complex roster maneuvers" and many teams' reliance on "walk-ons" or non-recruited athletes—which can hurt competitiveness.

Title IX, meanwhile, asks that programs be "substantially proportionate" to enrollment but sets no numerical requirement. University officials crunched the numbers and found that other Ivies, particularly those with higher female enrollment, vary by as much as 10.8 percent.

Amy Cohen rejects the idea that the *Cohen* Joint Agreement was about anything other than insisting that Brown stick to Title IX. "It's not that Brown is held to a higher standard," Cohen asserts, but rather that "a lot of schools have been getting away with not being in compliance."

Brown, which has an undergraduate student body with the highest female ratio in the Ivy League at 52 percent, counters that it has long been a leader in Title IX compliance and gender equity more broadly, and that the settlement would allow the Bears to focus on the quality of women's athletic opportunities, not just the quantity. "The *Cohen* agreement served an important purpose when it was signed 22 years ago," Paxson said. But Brown's concern over its restrictiveness "is entirely separate from our unwavering support for equal opportunity for women in athletics."

Barring any reversals, a proposed settlement reached in September will end the *Cohen* requirements in time for the 2024/2025 school year.

MARK OSTOW

BROWN ARCHIVES

Should success be measured—arguably, in the spirit of the Open Curriculum—by the number of opportunities to compete? Or should the focus be images of Bears hoisting trophies?

research—and its ability to plug into a global network of highly resourced Brown alumni eventually captured national attention through a profile in the *New York Times*. But advocates say their sophisticated effort still might not have succeeded were it not for the May 25 police killing of George Floyd.

The same night as the Hayes Zoom call, protesters in Minneapolis occupied and burned a police precinct house, a gathering storm that soon mushroomed into a nationwide movement against structural racism. At Brown, those protests powered an argument that the University was demoting teams that had a larger number of Black athletes than most others.

On June 10, less than two weeks after the initial Zoom call, Paxson announced a reversal and a reinstatement of the three squads. The president said in an email interview, “I don’t think there is any question that the horror and tragedy of George Floyd’s killing shaped the stories shared with us about the importance that track and field and cross country had on the student experience at Brown,” adding that testimony about the impact on women’s track and field also played a role. More reinstatements would follow.



Kevin Cooper '13

TO THE COURTS

A group of Brown squash players filed suit against the University in late May. According to *Legal Radar*, the breach-of-contract suit “accuses the defendant of concealing plans for termination of the sport from students before they decided to attend Brown, thereby depriving them of opportunities to play for other elite universities.”

In late September, by press time, the squash lawsuit was still making its way through the system. Players interviewed by BAM said the University’s vague words about boosting support for club sports rang hollow. In addition to losing access to varsity-level training facilities, the teams feared at the club level they’ll be raising money for costs currently covered by Brown for everything from bus travel to uniforms. The level of competition will drop off sharply, they said, while scheduling opponents will be tougher, and their best athletes would lose their chance to win an Ivy championship or compete in the NCAAs.

A month later, in late June, the Rhode Island ACLU filed another suit, alleging that the reinstatement of men’s track and field and cross country meant the reshaped initiative now violated the 1998 settlement to an earlier lawsuit, *Cohen v. Brown University* (see page 31). The ACLU demanded the reinstatement of five women’s teams.

By late August, court-mandated discovery proved embarrassing for the University when emails showing conversations between Paxson and others about using the controversy as a means to petition the court to end the Cohen agreement were released by the plaintiffs and made headlines. In one email thread—which discussed the latitude other Ivy schools take in matching the gender balance of their athletic rosters to that of their overall undergraduate population—Chancellor Samuel Mencoff had told Paxson that anger over squash and, at the time, track could be “a way to end this pestilential thing.”

More news stories followed, but on September 17, both parties in the ACLU-led *Cohen* lawsuit announced a proposed settlement in which the *Cohen* Joint Agreement will terminate on August



Brynn Smith '11



Lauren Reischer '21 and her horse, Benignity

31, 2024—leaving Brown still fully subject to Title IX, but without additional restrictions. The big news for affected athletes: under the settlement, Brown restored women’s equestrian and women’s fencing to varsity status.

THE JOY OF REINSTATEMENT

Equestrian rider and team cocaptain Lauren Reischer '21 was born with a form of cerebral palsy that initially left her unable to crawl, let alone walk. She’s been riding since childhood, and her story as a disabled varsity equestrian rider, who also works with the therapeutic program

GallopNYC, has been highlighted by Brown. She was baffled by the initial May decision to move her sport to club status.

“The team could not be more inclusive and more welcoming,” Reischer said at the time. She explained that like a few other Brown teams, you can join with no experience and learn as you go. “It’s rare that you hear a disabled person and sports used together in the same sentence. And what I had felt is that Brown Athletics, by including me, has been paving the way to change the narrative around what it means to be an NCAA athlete.”

BROWN ARCHIVES (COOPER); DAVID PETERSON (SMITH)

HANNAH FARWELL

“The holistic benefit to the most neglected aspect of Brown’s culture over the last seven decades is unassailable.”

Reached in late September, after the reinstatement, Reischer was giddy. “I’m so overwhelmingly happy to be reinstated, it’s hard for me to think of anything else.” She points out that Brown’s continuing varsity support makes the team accessible for new riders and those who can’t afford horses or the transportation and equipment costs. “It would probably come out to two thousand dollars per person per semester,” she says.

It’s an observation that blows open the same question the initiative set out to answer: What does excellence in Brown sports look like? Should success be measured—arguably, in the spirit of the 51-year-old Open Curriculum that celebrates experimentation and individuality—by the number of opportunities to compete? Or should the focus be on images of Bear teammates hoisting trophies, augmenting the University’s national reputation for academics and campus life?

WHY ATHLETICS, ANYWAY?

Brown has arguably been grappling with these questions since the official formation of the Ivy League in 1954—Brown was the last to join—and certainly since the 1970s, an era highlighted by the 1972 federal civil rights law that established Title IX, mandating gender equality.

Brown women’s crew won the Ivy title in 1974, the first year for female championships in the Ancient Eight, while women’s track and field won a championship in its second year as a varsity sport in 1978, and women’s soccer dominated the Ivies in the 1980s.

But in the highest-profile men’s sports, apart from occasional breakout moments—men’s ice hockey reached the NCAA Frozen Four in 1976, for example—the Bears never really sustained a level of success to match Brown’s rising profile as an academic institution in the first decades after instituting what was then called the New Curriculum.

Over the decades since Title IX and the *Cohen* case, Brown’s varsity teams—both men’s and women’s—proliferated to a point that the administration found unsustainable. Yet in 2011, then-President Ruth Simmons shelved a recom-



Pinya Pipatjarasgit '22

mendation to downgrade four varsity programs amid community backlash.

For some alumni, it’s long been a source of frustration. Kevin A. Seaman ’69, former golf team member and *Brown Daily Herald* sports editor and the “biggest fan Brown sports has had for the last 55 years,” wrote to the BAM to express kudos. “Finally,” he wrote, “Brown has recognized that by focusing on a more realistic number of programs, it can hope to achieve the success that all of its sister schools, relative to Brown, have attained.... The unfortunate, but expected, pushbacks have occurred, but the holistic benefit to the most neglected aspect of Brown’s culture over the last seven decades is unassailable and forever welcome.”

To current golf team member Pinya Pipatjarasgit ’22, who argues Brown should have phased in the changes so she and her teammates could finish their varsity careers, winning shouldn’t be the whole story. Brown Athletics should be about “teaching students how to build character and creating a bond with the school,” she says.

“I see that side,” says Dowling. But “you’re only given so many resources.” He compares the sports strategy to Brown’s academics: “We could have a lot more classes if we hired teachers that weren’t as great; if we lowered standards.”

In a letter to the *Brown Daily Herald*, golf consultant Brendan Ryan offered an insider’s view of the golf landscape, which he says is increasingly competitive at both varsity and club levels. “Many schools now make academic accommodations in recruitment,” he wrote. “At Brown, from my observations, the academic standards for women’s golf are amongst the highest requirements for student athletes. This privileges an exceedingly small group of potential recruits ... and has led Brown women’s golf to fall behind.”

Pipatjarasgit countered that despite recent struggles, the team won awards just two years ago—and “has been an important source of Asian American representation in Brown athletics.”

Hayes says that overall, “Multiple teams that have the highest diversity, in terms of students from historically underrepresented groups and socioeconomic diversity, have maintained vari-

DAVID SILVERMAN

Varsity Redux

34 New number of varsity teams, down from 38

2 From club to varsity
Women’s Sailing, Coed Sailing

5 First moved to club, then reinstated to varsity
Women’s Equestrian and Fencing; Men’s Cross Country, Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field

6 From varsity to club
Women’s Golf, Squash, and Skiing; Men’s Golf, Squash, and Fencing

ty status, while some sports that were among the least diverse transitioned to club.” Going forward, he adds, diversity will be under renewed focus in recruiting. And even as the initiative has morphed, “we expect the representation of students from historically underrepresented groups to remain comparable to the approximately 20 percent prior to the launch of the initiative.”

“We understand the frustration and sense of loss that some of our student-athletes are experiencing,” Paxson says. But she points out that it’s “the University’s responsibility to make the best decisions,” even when those decisions are hard. And perhaps no words, no promises of future glory, could console students for whom varsity sports has been central to their Brown experience, and whose teams are varsity no more.

Reaction from alumni has been mixed. Roger Sherman ’69, part of a seven-person committee of alumni, parents, and students seeking to overturn the changes, questions the value of the savings—initially estimated at 2.5% of last academic year’s \$19.9 million athletics budget, although COVID impacts meant Brown hadn’t released a new figure by press time. The group wants a transparent approach and a seat at the table for future athletics planning—and has also asked the Ivy League to set spending caps to address what Sherman calls a “competitive imbalance” between Princeton, Harvard, and Yale and the other Ivies. “We seek... to give all the schools with fewer resources more opportunities to compete successfully,” he says.

Genine Fidler ’77, who played varsity lacrosse and squash and later became a University trustee,

COURTESY GENINE FIDLER '77

was not involved in the initiative but supports it. Of fielding 38 varsity teams, she says, “we can’t fulfill the mission when we’re spread that thin. It’s important to view the changes within a larger context. The university needs to maintain the ability to be flexible and respond and change and grow.”

For Lisa Caputo ’86, who led women’s field hockey to an Ivy League title before a high-profile career in communications, the initiative “makes logical sense” as a first step toward the kind of success that made a difference for her experience



Genine Fidler '77 (right)

at Brown and her path afterward. Winning “gave me the tools I needed to succeed in the workforce,” Caputo says. And she believes that’s true for club sports, too: “They’re not losing that opportunity. The thrill of victory—and to be a convenor for fans—is a big deal.”

Caputo takes a long view. She recalls coming back for her 30th reunion when the entire campus was electrified by men’s lacrosse playing in the NCAA Final Four that weekend. “There was a sense of pride—you can’t underestimate what that does for a university,” she says. “Brown should be the best of the best in as many areas as it can be, and athletics is one of them.”

Will Bunch '81 is national opinion columnist for the Philadelphia Inquirer and Daily News and author of several books including Tear Down This Myth: The Right-Wing Distortion of the Reagan Legacy. Additional reporting by Louise Sloan '88.



Under



the Hood



Above, Edward Ball '82. Right:
An 1885 *Currier and Ives* print of
Ball's native city of New Orleans as
it would have appeared during his
Klansman ancestor's time.

**The descendant of a Klansman probes the racial
violence in his family background to expose larger
truths about the history of white America.**

BY JULIA M. KLEIN

PHOTOGRAPHY BY TONY LUONG

E

dward Ball '82 grew up in New Orleans hearing occasional anecdotes about “our Klansman.” Ball’s maternal great-great-grandfather Polycarp Constant Lecorgne, named for a Catholic saint, was a Confederate veteran and a carpenter. He owned slaves and later joined white militias. To Ball’s great-aunt Maud, the Lecorgne family historian, he was a heroic “redeemer” who played a bit part in the Southern drama of overthrowing Reconstruction.

After his mother’s death, in 2003, Ball inherited Maud’s notes—and the Klansman’s story, intriguing but still skeletal. Several years later, he tried, and failed, to imagine it as fiction. He eventually turned to historical archives, producing his sixth work of nonfiction. Like his groundbreaking *Slaves in the Family*, published more than two decades ago, *Life of a Klansman: A Family History in White Supremacy*, which appeared in August to strong reviews, seeks to exhume not just one family’s shameful secrets, but America’s.

However coincidental the book’s timing, its themes have struck a nerve. “[A] story for our cultural moment,” the author and essayist W. Ralph Eubanks declared in the *Wall Street Journal*. “The interconnected strands of race and history give Ball’s entrancing stories a Faulknerian resonance,” the historian Walter Isaacson wrote in the *New York Times*.

Ball’s unlikely New Orleans-based protagonist, a man of modest means and abilities, plunged into the turbulent currents of the Reconstruction era with its warring ideologies, political upheavals, terror campaigns, and street fights. That history, much of it now little known or taught, has its own allure. Ball insists on its present-day relevance: The nineteenth century’s embrace of white domination is a marker of America’s continuing obsession with “whiteness,” he suggests, and foreshadows our own racially polarized culture and politics.

“What I wanted to do, and simultaneously was afraid to do, was take ownership of white supremacy—acknowledge that it is a part of my family history and, by implication, part of me.



An 1871 *carte de visite*—a “calling card” photo—of a Klansman. Opposite: Ball (right) and brother Theodore with their mother Janet in 1966.

So that was frightening,” Ball says over lunch earlier this year at the Union League Cafe in New Haven, Connecticut. “And yet I felt that to do that—to own white supremacy—was an important act.”

The point, Ball says, isn’t that he has an avowed white supremacist (actually several, including cousins) among his ancestors—it’s that millions of other Americans do, whether they realize it or not. *Life of a Klansman* attests that “this happened, this is not only my family, but part of our national history—and not an uncommon part. The story is that white supremacy is deep in American life, it is long lived, and it is normal.”

The Black Lives Matter protests of the police killing of George Floyd, which occurred after our initial interview, spotlight the prescience of Ball’s undertaking. “This year, despite its shadows, has been hopeful. This year, a movement arrived: the mass marches, talk of systemic racism, the statues of successful racists tumbling down,” Ball says. “Since 2016, a river of racism flowing from Washington has submerged us, but now there seems to be a levee going up against the stream.”

MALEVOLENT MEMORABILIA

Nestled among the soaring spires and ornate facades of Yale University’s neo-Gothic campus, the Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library is itself a rarity: a squat, windowless Modernist building clad in white marble and granite. Ball, curly-haired and lanky in a black wool suit jacket and navy sweater, his Southern accent long since “sanded away,” seems at home here. For five years, he was a part-time lecturer at Yale, teaching writing and American studies. He left the adjunct

position in 2016 to concentrate on *Klansman*, logging many hours in archives like this.

In a library study room, he thumbs through Klan-related memorabilia, including sheet music for a romantic ballad celebrating the Klan. The archaic Victorian lyrics for “Midnight’s Roll Call,” dating from 1868, mask the grotesque deeds the song trumpets. “It’s a ballad of a night ride against a Black village” that “would be played in the parlors of a ‘good’ white family,” Ball says.

Equally chilling is a Klan fashion catalog, displaying white robes, with diversely colored insignia and scarves, for women of different ranks. Some have short skirts, the Klan equivalent of flapper dress. The booklet dates from the 1920s, when a reinvigorated Klan attracted an estimated five million members nationwide. Consigned in the 19th century to making their men’s robes, women in the ’20s were “coming out from the sewing rooms and onto the streets,” says Ball. “The liberation of [white] women included this.”

One primary source Ball used for *Life of a Klansman* is an 1884 history by two former Klansmen. “They’re looking back and telling their story with a great deal of romance and self-congratulation,” says Ball. “Remember: They won.” In the 1870s, Reconstruction in the South ended and the era of Jim Crow began. Polycarp Constant Lecorgne (1832-1886) played a minor role in that triumph of white supremacy.

But telling that story would prove a challenge.

For *Slaves in the Family*, Ball could draw on a rich trove of papers, from letters to slave lists, that his father’s forebears, wealthy rice planters in South Carolina, had preserved. The Ball papers, along with other documents and artifacts, also informed two of his subsequent books: *The Sweet Hell Inside*, a multigenerational chronicle of the mixed-race Harleston family (distant cousins of his), and *The Genetic Strand*, Ball’s attempt to resolve family mysteries by DNA-testing locks of his ancestors’ hair.

In Lecorgne’s case, however, the evidence was sparse. To reconstruct his great-great-grandfather’s life, Ball started with his great-aunt’s stories, along with genealogical infor-

“To take ownership of white supremacy—acknowledge that it is part of my family history and, by implication, part of me—was frightening.”

mation from Catholic Church records. But he found no Lecorgne letters, diaries, or other first-person sources—the gold standard for biographers.

Imagining his ancestor’s missing voice, he attempted a novel titled *Memoir of a Klansman*. But after 100 “mediocre” pages, he abandoned the effort. He settled on a hybrid form: Other historians, writing about women, Blacks, and the working class, were demonstrating the potential of combining indirect or unconventional evidence with informed speculation. Ball’s models included Jill Lepore (*Book of Ages*), Daniel J. Sharfstein (*The Invisible Line*), and Saidiya Hartman (*Wayward Lives, Beautiful Experiments*).

Ball’s book—like Lepore’s, on Benjamin Franklin’s sister Jane—is a “microhistory,” chronicling an individual whose

deeds might seem unworthy of a full-length recounting. But “a single life carries a society in microcosm,” Ball explains in his prologue.

One task was to tease out the links between Lecorgne and the white supremacist groups that flourished in southern Louisiana after the Civil War. While known collectively as the “Ku-klux,” these primarily French Catholic organizations had other names and morphed over time: the Knights of the White Camellia, the McEnery Militia, and the White League. Ball pinned down Lecorgne’s membership in the latter two groups and infers his membership in the more secretive Knights, whose founder was a family friend.

From the available evidence, Ball believes—but can’t prove—that Lecorgne participated in the 1866 Mechanics Institute Massacre in New Orleans, a deadly white uprising against Black political rights. An arrest record and indictment do clearly indicate his involvement in the McEnery Militia’s capture of a police station in 1873. The charges against him, for treason and violating the 1871 Ku Klux Klan Act, were dismissed, Ball says, by a sympathetic judge.

When Ball began his research five years ago,



“before Trump, before the [publicized] rash of white supremacist murders,” some friends advised him not to bother. They suggested his concerns with the legacy of “whiteness” were outmoded in the “post-racial” era signaled by Barack Obama’s presidency. Ball parted with his literary agent of 15 years when she told him the subject was “too radioactive” and “had a deplorable protagonist.” Another agent signed on, then backed out, saying, “I don’t want to make a hero for white supremacists.”

Ball persisted. In 2017, he retained Andrew Wylie, an agent known for his high-powered literary clientele and clout. Shortly afterward, Ball received four offers for the book. He chose Farrar, Straus and Giroux, which had published *Slaves in the Family*.

PHOTO FROM LIFE OF A KLANSMAN: A FAMILY HISTORY IN WHITE SUPREMACY

Ball in his Radcliffe office circa 2016. Opposite: Edward Capla, a “Creole of color,” who was blinded in one eye during the 1866 massacre Ball believes his ancestor was involved in.



UNCOMFORTABLE TRUTHS

“One thread that weaves through my books is that I do family history as a way to access History, with a capital H,” Ball says. “Family history is full of drama, and it opens a door directly to politics.”

Ball’s immediate family endured its own private dramas. His father, Theodore Porter Ball, was an Episcopal minister who kept changing congregations. “We moved around,” he says, from Georgia to Florida to Charleston, South Carolina. “He seemed to have a restless side to him because he would request another church assignment every three years or so.”

Ball remembers his childhood in the late 1960s and ’70s as “entirely segregated,” as though an “iron curtain” separated Blacks and whites.

After the recurrence of a brain tumor, his father, unable to work, committed suicide. “It broke our family,” says Ball, who was 12 at the time. “It broke my childhood into two parts, before and after his death, and decimated our sense of who we were.”

Ball’s mother, Janet Rowley Ball, moved the family—Ball and his brother Ted, two years older—back to her native New Orleans. She “wanted to be with her people,” he says. “It helped.” The family lived modestly on her earnings as a bookkeeper.

Scholarships and loans enabled Ball to attend Brown, where he studied history and planned to become a lawyer. “I wanted to be a part of the Ivy League gentry,” he says. But he wasn’t happy and after two years took a leave. “I think I had the restlessness that my dad had,” he says.

He worked as a waiter in New Orleans, spent a year hitchhiking in Europe, then returned to Brown and concentrated in semiotics, studying film and mass media. Next came a master’s in film at the University of Iowa. He decided that the life of an academic was not for him and moved to New York, working as a proofreader while trying, unsuccessfully, to land a job in advertising. “It was only at age 26 or 27 that I started to publish anything,” he says. He wrote freelance film, art, and book reviews, as well as an architecture column for the *Village Voice*.

At 34, he began researching *Slaves in the Family*, “a story that’s Black and white simultaneously, a common history.” Ball tracked down descendants of workers who’d been enslaved by his plantation-owning ancestors, seeking racial reconciliation. Some, he found, were his cousins, the prod-

ucts of sexual violence and more complex relationships that included long-term partnerships or even common-law marriages. Ball’s mélange of history, journalism, and memoir won the National Book Award. Since its 1998 publication, he says, “the desire to reckon with the hard parts of the past... has become much more acceptable.”

OVERDUE RECKONINGS

Even before the protests following George Floyd’s death, the zeitgeist seemed ready for *Klansman*. Across the street from our lunch at the Union League Cafe, the Yale University Art Gallery was hosting the traveling exhibition *Reckoning With “The Incident”*: John Wilson’s *Studies for a Lynching Mural*. The centerpiece was a silk-screened photograph of a 1952 fresco mural, no longer in existence, by the Massachusetts-born African American artist. Against the backdrop of a burning cross, white-robed and masked Klansmen have cut down an African American hanging victim. Looking on, through a window, another Black man holds a shotgun, while a woman embracing a child cowers in fear. The scene is spatially compressed and stylized, with few identifying details; the action could be happening anytime, anywhere.

The mural, Ball says, testifies to “the uncomfortable, unspeakable parts of American life.” As Ball sees it, “Violent white supremacy is like an underground river, until it erupts like a geyser. And that’s a moment we’re in right now. We might think that it’s aberrant, exceptional, but it’s not.” The reckoning, in his view, is overdue.

“Our country was founded on race violence, which was more important than religious liberty, more important than the free market,” he says. “Race violence is in the DNA of American identity. And white people in general, not merely the families of Klansmen, are heirs to and beneficiaries of white supremacists and their terror campaigns.”

In the case of his great-great-grandfather, Ball says he felt some empathy—“oscillating with disgust and shame”—for his “often pitiful life,” which included unemployment, financial hardship, and the loss of five of his nine children before they reached adulthood.

Ball sought out the descendants of people—in this case, from New Orleans’s Black and mixed-race communities—

“Our country was founded on race violence, which was more important than religious liberty, more important than the free market.”

who might have been affected by his ancestor’s actions. The meetings, he says, constituted an “unusual and very cathartic moment”—“as though a door of the past had been flung open and a ghost comes out and presents himself.”

One door Ball knocked on belonged to Janel Santiago Marsalis, an 84-year-old artist and retired art teacher in New Orleans who is the great-granddaughter of Alfred Capla (pronounced Kah-PLAH). Capla, a “Creole of color,” was partially blinded after being shot in the eye during the Mechanics Institute Massacre in which Ball’s Klansman may have participated.

When she first met Ball, who showed up unannounced,

Marsalis was skeptical. She declined to invite him in. “I didn’t know what kind of game he was playing,” she says. “I didn’t know if he had something dishonest in mind.”

Paging through Ball’s book *The Sweet Hell Inside*, one of whose characters is an artist, reassured her, and a series of coffee shop meetings involving other family members forged a bond. Though Ball’s heritage was “disturbing,” Marsalis says, “he did seem to be genuinely regretful and embarrassed that he was a descendant of somebody who would have taken part in a gang action. We still feel strongly about the Klan. [But] he presented himself in such a way that we felt a bit of closeness to him, and we felt a bit of joy that he was interested in what happened then, and to our family, and at the prospect that our story would be in a book.”

Can such individual encounters really help heal



racial rifts so deeply embedded in American history? “It’s painstaking,” Ball acknowledges. “It’s not something that can be scaled up.” He hopes *Life of a Klansman* will stand as “a countervailing discourse to the triumph of white supremacy”—a means of “taking honest responsibility for the dark parts of our national identity.” In an era “when whiteness and white supremacy have become more powerful and menacing,” Ball says, “I would like the book to be a voice of protest.”

Julia M. Klein is a cultural reporter and critic in Philadelphia. Her writing has appeared in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Mother Jones, The Nation, Slate, and many other publications. @JuliaMKlein.

PHOTO FROM LIFE OF A KLANSMAN: A FAMILY HISTORY IN WHITE SUPREMACY

TONY LUONG

Calling All Brown Authors

Published a
book recently?



Would you like to share it with the entire Brown community of alumni, seniors, parents of undergraduates, medical students, faculty, and staff? Promote your title in Brown Alumni Magazine's specially formatted advertising section—Fact, Fiction & Verse—and reach more than 116,000 readers.

Fact, Fiction & Verse is for Brown authors exclusively and includes your book's cover and a brief description, as well as your name, class year, and author or publisher contact information. As a bonus, we will post your ad in the brownalumnimagazine.com Classifieds and link to your website.

For more information or to reserve space in our next Fact, Fiction & Verse, please contact Juli Mahoney at (401) 863-9612 or juli_mahoney@brown.edu.

ARTS, CULTURE, START-UPS, IDEAS, AND DISCOVERIES

BEYOND

THE GATES



NONFICTION

The Feedback Loop

How our inventions have changed our culture

Before the Industrial Revolution, humans slept twice. After “first sleep” (about 9 p.m. to midnight), they spent an hour or so awake—chatting, eating, reading—then returned to bed for their “second sleep.” In *The Alchemy of Us: How Humans and Matter Transformed One Another*, materials scientist Ainissa Ramirez '90 links the little-known change in sleep habits to advances in keeping time. The widespread availability of accurate watches became the foundation of factory work and the fixation on efficiency and productivity shaped our bodies' rhythms to the workday. In other words, humans invented clocks, and then the clocks changed us.

The Alchemy of Us explores the feedback loop between people and things. From steel to telegraphs

Science educator, patent holder, and former Yale professor Ainissa Ramirez '90.

Photograph by James Duncan Davidson/TED

to glass, human history in Ramirez's telling is a story of both progress and unforeseen consequences, good and bad. Steel led to railroads, which collapsed our sense of time and space: the journey from New York to Washington, D.C., took five days by stagecoach but one day by train. "In other words," she writes, "the world shrank." When Thomas Edison perfected the electric light bulb in the 1870s, he solved one problem—dirty, cumbersome gas lamps—and created a host of others. Disruptions in natural light have led to health problems. So many lights obscure our view of the night sky, which in generations past was a



“With the universe now invisible to us, it is easy to incubate hubris under these lights,” Ramirez writes.

reminder of how small and insignificant is humans' place in the universe. "With the universe now invisible to us, it is easy to incubate hubris under these lights," Ramirez writes.

Each chapter is organized around an invention or innovation and traces its history and impact through vignettes and personalities. We meet

inventors, activists, and dreamers, both famous and forgotten, and see them toiling to invent things whose existence today seems a foregone conclusion. In the 1880s, a German organic chemist whose family owned a glass factory partnered with a lab scientist to develop a menu of glasses with different properties for different uses, like microscopes, thermometers, and other instruments. Previously, glass was more art than science and the result was crude and cloudy. And "without good glass, science was blind," Ramirez writes. In another chapter, a chemist at Bell Labs in the 1930s was obsessed with the obscure element germanium and eventually developed the precursor to a silicon transistor—the foundation of modern day computing—in the middle of the night because his bosses dismissed his idea and wouldn't let him pursue it during regular work hours.

Ramirez makes a point of including the stories of women and people of color and working class strivers, as well as scientists from the more genteel ivory tower. Even inventions that have become so woven into the fabric of human life that we perceive them as natural resources, such as our mastery of wood and water, are the products of years and decades of toil, trial and error, and heartbreak, Ramirez reminds us. And by bringing scientific progress down to this human scale, Ramirez instills a little of that long-lost humility that our successes have erased. —BETH SCHWARTZAPFEL '01



UPCYCLING

FLOWER POWER After a bouquet-filled pop-up art exhibit she produced in Brooklyn, Caroline Gates Anderson '71 learned that the perfectly fresh stems would be thrown in the trash. "I realized that there was no nonprofit for flowers," she says. So the former gallery owner and a director of visual content for Scholastic decided to start her own, BloomAgainBklyn, in 2014. The nonprofit repurposes flowers from weddings and corporate events as well as unsold store merchandise, delivering newly fashioned bouquets to vulnerable communities like



nursing home residents and domestic violence and trauma survivors, bringing some joy and "a pop of color" to their lives. Since

its start, BloomAgainBklyn has distributed more than 85,000 arrangements, and its 1,500 volunteers are a multicultural, multi-

generational group from all boroughs of the city. Though COVID-19 changed everything, Anderson believes that "the powerful and transformative impact" of flowers is ever more important. Blooms are now harvested from the teaching gardens of GrowNYC on Governors Island, and frontline health care workers are high-priority recipients. The nonprofit has also expanded into hosting floral workshops on Zoom for corporate and community partners. Says Anderson, "It's gone way beyond what we ever thought it would grow into."

BLOOMAGAINBKLYN

PERFORMING ARTS

Rules of Thumb

Clubbed Thumb, the trailblazing theater company, hopes its 25th year won't be its last

Early this year, the multiple Obie-winning New York City theater company Clubbed Thumb, cofounded by Maria Striar '91 and Meg MacCary '91, was heading into its 25th summer season with a trio of original plays, one of which was to be directed by Tara Ahmadinejad '07. There would also be readings of plays by its early-career writers group,

throughout the city frozen in place—and some of them shuttering for good—the 25th season has been delayed for this company that has not only become an incubator for top theater talent—including a string of Brown grads like Sarah Ruhl '97, '01 MFA, Gina Gionfriddo '97 MFA, and Jordan Harrison '03 MFA—but that, last year, saw Heidi

(named for a photo in a book of Victorian palmistry) has remained intimate in scale, but it's hard to overstate the influence it has had on a generation of theater artists—and on playwriting itself, having shaped dozens of works, very often women-driven, that aren't exactly commercial parlor dramas but aren't too far-out either. A Clubbed Thumb play exists in a beguiling netherworld where the everyday meets the bizarre, eerie, or quirkily charming. "A playwright told me last year that Clubbed

Striar also hopes that Clubbed Thumb survives COVID. "Right now, we can't do our main activity, which is to produce new plays. Our communities are all out of work. We have no real box office and we can't throw real galas. It's early yet, but it feels pretty sure all our funding sources will be strained by the devastation to the economy. We were poised for our biggest year ever, with three shows outside of Summerworks," the company's usual troika of warm-weather fare. "We were growing."



An all-female cast played all-male characters exploring the West in 1869 in *Men on Boats* by Jaclyn Backhaus.

including Julia Izumi '19 MFA. It was shaping up to be a banner silver anniversary for a company that has long garnered critical praise for mounting, in the company's own boilerplate, "funny, strange, and provocative" works; "unusual stories unusually told." Then came COVID-19. With arts organizations

RICHARD TERMINE

Schreck's *What The Constitution Means to Me* become its first play to go to Broadway. "We're pretty sure we're postponed until next spring," says Striar, who now helms the company alone. "If we can gather groups in small spaces by then. It's hard to know." With no physical theater of its own, Clubbed Thumb

Thumb was where theater was going but just didn't know it yet," says Striar, who often held readings and rehearsals in her East Village apartment, passing around homemade baked goods as her pit-shepherd mix, Otto, curled up amid the actors. "I loved that remark, so I'm repeating it now in hopes of making it a thing."

Despite the uncertainty of the moment, she remains optimistic. "I'm really hoping that as a small, flexible company that's not used to having much but has been a springboard for talent and innovation, we'll be able to adapt and come back swinging—and be part of making the theater of tomorrow." —TIM MURPHY '91

Actress, producer, and writer Meg MacCary left Clubbed Thumb in 2009 to act full-time; one role was Queen Isabella in *The Adventures of Jame!*; *The Time Traveling B-Boy*.

Studies have shown that wildlife behavior, including migratory patterns, is also adversely affected by artificial light.

STYLE

Fashion Soldier

Glamour and heartache in a memoir from André Leon Talley '73 AM

For decades, one of the most towering presences in the fashion world—literally and figuratively—has been André Leon Talley, a six-foot-six North Carolina-bred Black gay man who cut off his French lit doctoral studies at Brown to climb the ranks of the fashion world in 1970s New York and Paris. As *Vogue's* longtime editor-at-large, he sat for three decades beside the throne of [Anna Wintour](#) and jet-setted opulently with the fashion elite. It's all recounted in his *New York Times* bestseller *The Chiffon Trenches*. Talley chatted with us from his Westchester County home.

Of your many interviews, this may be the only one to lead by asking you about your time at Brown in the early 1970s. What was it like? I was in Providence for three and a half years. I mostly remember the quietude and elegance of the campus. I also made one of my best friends there, Dr. Janis A. Mayes '73 AM, '75 PhD (now a professor of African American studies at Syracuse University). We still speak almost every day.

Was the whiteness and privilege of Brown shocking to you, coming from a modest southern Black background? My goodness, no! Brown was a liberating experience for me. I met sophisticated people and I was rather sophisticated in my own education, so I adapted easily and was surrounded by Black best friends, like

Dr. Mayes. We ate together and went to Paris on spring break. I merged into the Brown and RISD lifestyle and met wonderful people.

You've been sitting out COVID in your house in White Plains? Yes, I rarely go out. People come to me and we sit on my very beautiful porch and we have lemonade and lovely food. I haven't been inside

anyone else's house since February. I have friends who pick up my food curbside for me. On a typical day, I'll wear an agbada, a North African cotton garment with a kitelike silhouette.

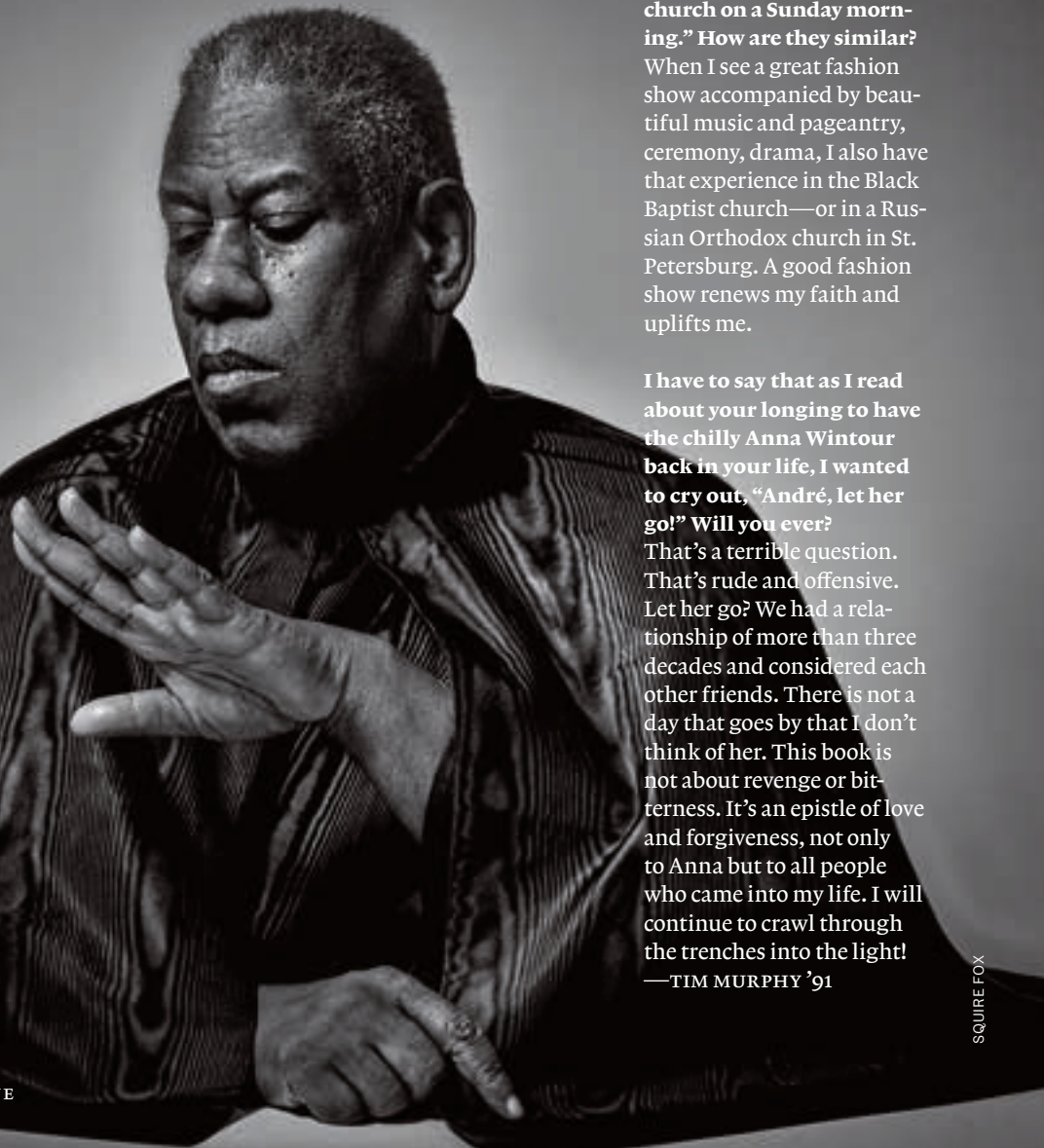
A throughline in your book is white dominance and racism in the fashion industry. Are we in an unprecedented breakthrough moment race-wise? Thank you for that question. I appreciate it. The world changed this summer when we saw George Floyd being murdered by cops. But now there are so many white, Latino, Asian people out

there marching next to their Black brothers and sisters.

Do you feel vindicated? No. People perceive that I've lived a glamorous life, but if you dissect the glamorous fish of fashion, you'll see that racism is embedded in the guts. There was never a Black photographer who did a *Vogue* cover until Tyler Mitchell photographed Beyoncé recently. Now a Black man, Edward Enninful, is the editor of *British Vogue*. These are the slow drifts of Blackness into white spaces.

You write in the book, "A great fashion show makes me feel good, like attending church on a Sunday morning." How are they similar? When I see a great fashion show accompanied by beautiful music and pageantry, ceremony, drama, I also have that experience in the Black Baptist church—or in a Russian Orthodox church in St. Petersburg. A good fashion show renews my faith and uplifts me.

I have to say that as I read about your longing to have the chilly Anna Wintour back in your life, I wanted to cry out, "André, let her go!" Will you ever? That's a terrible question. That's rude and offensive. Let her go? We had a relationship of more than three decades and considered each other friends. There is not a day that goes by that I don't think of her. This book is not about revenge or bitterness. It's an epistle of love and forgiveness, not only to Anna but to all people who came into my life. I will continue to crawl through the trenches into the light!
—TIM MURPHY '91



SQUIRE FOX

DOCUMENTARIES

A Man in Focus

For Lynne Sachs '83, *Film About a Father Who* was a decades-long effort

Every family has its issues. But few have to deal with a parent quite like Ira Sachs Sr., the roguish, hard-living, serial philandering id at the center of a new documentary by Lynne Sachs '83, *Film About a Father Who*. Sachs worked on the project for three decades, beginning to shoot the film shortly after graduating from Brown with a degree in history. By turning her camera on her father, Sachs wanted to better understand a man who remained stubbornly enigmatic.

"Making a film provided me with an excuse to ask the questions I'd always wanted to ask," says Sachs.

The film doesn't let the Sachs family patriarch off the hook. It shows his charming side as well as the drive and confidence that enabled him to become a successful developer and hotelier. Yet Ira Sachs Sr.'s personal life was a jumble of failed relationships, emotionally neglected offspring, and substance abuse (he smoked pot obsessively). He also fathered nine children with six different women and was notorious for his wandering eye.

"I had different cuts of the film, one that totally forgives him and one filled with rage," says Sachs. "The final version falls somewhere between those poles. I hope it gives audiences permission to dig deep with their own parents."

As a director, Sachs has a penchant for tackling challenging subjects, making movies about everything from an Israeli filmmaker killed near the West Bank (*States of Unbelonging*) to New York City laundromats (*The Washing Society*). She also recently



Lynne Sachs '83 editing some of the footage she first started filming in 1984 to chronicle the life of her elusive father.

published *Year by Year*, her first collection of poetry. Sachs credits Brown, and particularly the late Naomi Schor, who taught French literature and feminist theory, with honing her analytical skills.

"She taught me how to read and how to observe," said Sachs. "I like attention to detail in films. I believe the micro ends up revealing the macro."

Film About a Father Who had its world premiere on the opening night of Slamdance in Park City, Utah, and screened at MoMA's Documentary Fortnight, where Ira Sachs Sr. was in attendance. Despite the fact that the film is an unvarnished look at his life and legacy, the elder Sachs is pleased with the final cut.

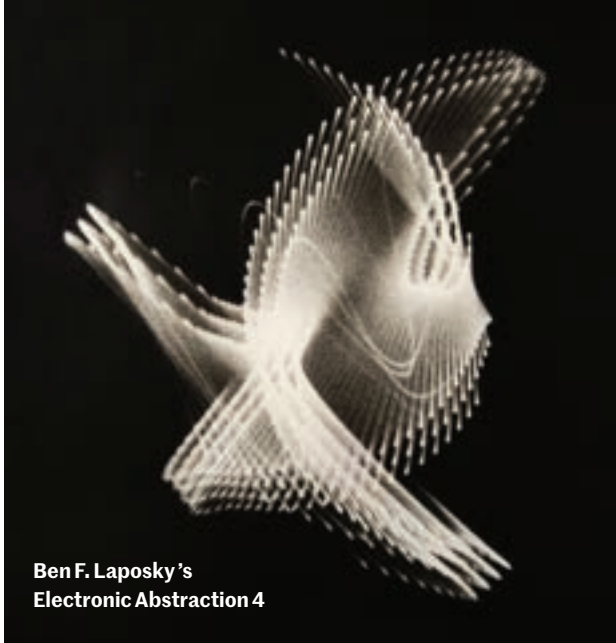
"When he watched it, I saw him cry for the first time," said Sachs. "Part of the weeping was that feeling of here's your life. I filmed this for decades, so it's impossible to not watch it and feel the vulnerability of your own passage." —BRENT LANG '04



MARK STREET (SACHS); DINO DISTEFANO (BOCCELLA)

MENTORING

FIERCE WOMEN In 2013, J.G. Boccella '10 painted a portrait of a female friend, then another, and soon realized the subjects were "amazing, strong, fierce women leaders"—and so began his FierceWomen portrait series. "It really began to take on a life of its own," he says, "and very organically morphed from being a portrait series into being a platform to bring together these awesome women leaders to share their stories with young women and girls." Through mentoring and a vision book, the idea is for young women to "expand their sense of what's possible for their own futures." Summer 2020 saw the introduction of #FierceWomenFridays on Instagram, with Stephanie Morimoto '99 and Jill Furman '90 giving interviews, and in the fall there were Zoom interviews with Jan D'Alessandro '85 and Christy McGill '86 (two West Coast Brown clubs participated). Leaders like Jennifer Gass, a hospital chief of surgery who is on the med school faculty, have been involved. Boccella foresees "fantastic growth and scaling plans for the next year." More info at fiercemenonline.com



Ben F. Laposky's
Electronic Abstraction 4

VISUAL ARTS

Digital Pioneers

A decades-deep computer art collection

Their interest in art has been mutual since they met in a Brown modern art class. But it wasn't until the early 1990s, when Anne Morgan Spalter '87 founded the first digital arts classes at RISD and Brown, that she and her husband considered collecting it. Anne was in the midst of writing a textbook about the computer's impact on the visual arts. Michael Spalter '87 was drawn into the research, interested in the way the art world's disdain for computer art echoed once-marginalized movements like Impressionism.

As they became immersed, they worried the history of digital art could be lost. Collectors, fretting over issues of duplication or suspicious of artistic value, weren't interested. The couple's finances were limited. For two years, they tried to decide between buying a work of art or a couch. In 1993, they chose the art: a surreal, Photoshopped print by Richard Rosenblum.

Their collection has since grown to 750 works, including early computer animations and the first documented work of computer art. They've focused primarily on a pioneering group from the 1960s, the "algorists." Mostly programmers or mathematicians, they wrote scripts for plotters—devices that hold pens, pencils, and brushes with an adjustable arm.

"People thought we were a little bit out of our minds," notes Anne, an internationally-recognized artist who transforms digital photographs and video using algorithms. "When you see a lot of it, it's not immediately obvious what it even is. But once you start thinking about it, its beauty emerges."

Works from the Spalters' collection have been featured all over the world, with a 2023 show planned at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. They're in talks with Google Arts and Culture to make their collection available online—an unusual step for a private collection. "What we stumbled upon, which has taken almost 27 years to become obvious," says Michael, "is that those earliest artists were inventing a whole new chapter in the canon of art history." —ABIGAIL CAIN '15

BOOKS

Fresh Ink

REVIEWED BY EDWARD HARDY

Nobody Will Tell You This But Me by Bess Kalb '10 (Knopf)

Bobby Bell is gone but she's still talking. That's the premise of Kalb's intriguing debut, a memoir told through a scrim of fiction. Barbara "Bobby" Bell, Kalb's grandmother, lived to be 90—and Kalb, a writer for *Jimmy Kimmel Live!*, conjures her brassy, advice-laden voice to tell story after story. From Bobby's mother's arrival in New York at 12, as she escaped the prosecution of Jews in Belarus, to her marriage to her housebuilding husband Hank and her turbulent relationship with Kalb's mother, this entertaining love story charms with well-told family tales.

Likes by Sarah Shun-lien Bynum '95 (FSG)

In the title story of this exquisite collection, a father tries to decode his taciturn 12-year-old daughter's life by scrolling through her Instagram posts. It's a quiet, moving drama as he worries the mystery, afraid his daughter's silence might be his fault. For many of Bynum's characters, from a guilt-ridden mother roaming a private school's Elves' Faire to a couple watching the marriage of close friends collapse, there's a deep sense of longing as they look back to small failures that still feel large. Bynum's prose is always precise and gently sparkling, which makes the fairytale shifts in some of these stories all the more pleasurable.



Demagogue: The Life and Long Shadow of Senator Joe McCarthy by Larry Tye '77 (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

Tye's eighth book brings Joe McCarthy back in ways that make the self-aggrandizing senator seem both more sinister and surprisingly human. This illuminating look at McCarthy's rise, beginning with growing up on a Wisconsin farm, and final fall is powered by the recent opening of McCarthy's archives at Marquette University, including correspondence, diaries, and love letters. The fresh material allows Tye to fill in gaps and flatten preconceptions about a figure whose story remains crucial because, Tye writes, he was "the bully who set the guideposts" for the rise of Donald Trump.

ANNE AND MICHAEL SPALTER DIGITAL ART COLLECTION; ERIK GOULD (BOOKS)

TECHNOLOGY

The Ethics Team

At Microsoft, Sharon Lo '16 ponders how products can harm society

Microsoft constantly develops new technology, and Sharon Lo '16 considers how those creations could wreak havoc upon the world. As a member of Microsoft's Ethics & Society organization, Lo actually gets paid by the company to do this.

"You're coming to a team where they've worked on [a product] for months," Lo says. "And we say, 'Okay, let's brainstorm all the bad things your technology can do to harm people.'"

Lo serves as a product manager, helping developers address and reconcile the hard questions raised when producing novel technologies. After studying computer science at Brown and working for several years in a more conventional role at Microsoft, Lo wanted to dive into how the company's technologies influenced society—and talked her way into a position within the company's relatively new ethics branch.

This year, Lo spent considerable time thinking about Microsoft's recently released Custom Voice, a way to design synthetic voices (or what the company calls "voice fonts") for an array of purposes. Inevitably, the ability to customize a

realistic digital voice led to philosophical challenges for Lo and the rest of her team. Among them: How could the tech spread misinformation? Would a world with digitally-created voices undermine the authenticity of real human speech?

To approach these kinds of issues, Lo and her team rely on a "harms framework" they developed, influenced by the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights and intended to build accountability into products. They use the framework in part to consider which societal groups are most likely to be negatively impacted by a given technology, whether directly or indirectly, and then they assess how to mitigate that harm. This process often includes focus groups. In the case of Custom Voice, Lo's team spoke with voice actors.

The company's public ethics principles also offer broad values-based guidelines, such as promoting fairness and transparency, for addressing potential harms. Yet the increasing adoption of these sorts

of reforms across the tech industry has been subjected to much scrutiny, as critics ask whether companies are merely using ethics as a public relations strategy.

Lo acknowledges that pushing for ethical decision-making in a private sector tech company is not always easy but argues that in the absence of clear and effective regulations, teams like hers are essential. She points out that new technologies arise quickly, leading to specific ethical questions requiring in-depth thought and attention—hard to meaningfully address with the broad stroke of law. Companies like Microsoft should be thinking of ethics not as a matter of compliance but as a practice built into the process of innovation itself, she argues.

Microsoft decided to limit Custom Voice to approved and vetted companies, requiring them

to verify receiving written and informed consent from voice actors. They laid out additional guidelines for the appropriate amount of disclosure that companies would need to include when employing a synthetic but realistic sounding voice so as not to openly deceive people.

But the vetting itself proves difficult. One company asked Microsoft if it could use the Custom Voice to recreate voices of the deceased. Lo's team decided that given the absence of clear consent—how could the dead have known their voices could ever be regenerated?—the company should not be allowed to use the technology.

"Sometimes, I'm like, 'Who am I to answer this question?'" Lo says. "But I've always been really interested in how we think about what's right versus what's wrong, and how we rationally build that into our principles and models." —JACK BROOK '19



CHRISTINE YOO

At Brown, Lo was a co-organizer of Hack@Brown, a 24-hour, stay-up-all-night coding and app-building marathon, which drew 450 students from around the world.

Published in 1998, *The Computer in the Visual Arts* by Anne Morgan Spalter is a weighty 650 pages.



NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2020 51 THE CLASSES 54 CLASSIFIEDS 61 OBITUARIES

THE CLASSES



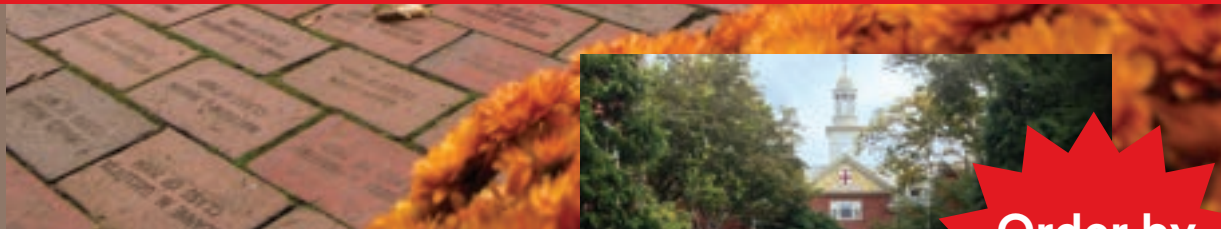
rites and Reason at 50 The late Professor George Houston Bass (standing, right) leads rehearsal for his anti-war play, *O Lord, This World!*, in 1972. Also standing is James B. Borders IV '71, '78 AM, one of the founders of a late 1960s student theater group that grew out of the frustrations of Black students at Brown who had no outlet for their culture. Officially founded by Bass in 1970, Rites and Reason Theatre is now one of the oldest continuously producing Black theaters in the nation. By 1975, it had become part of what was then called the Department of African American Studies and developed its signature Research-to-Performance Method, a collaborative, scholarly approach that engages professors, students, writers, and community members in the creation of new works. Bass developed the method with the late Professor Rhett S. Jones '72 AM, '76 PhD. The theater's current mission is to "give expression to the diverse cultures and traditions of continental and diasporic Africans and the vast Africana experience." Foreground, from left: Jackie Page '75, Deborah Thomas Benson '73, Phyllis Hall Brown '75. Background: Karlton Chapman '73, Curtis Scott '75.

TOM GAULD ILLUSTRATION; PHOTO: BROWN ARCHIVES



Become part of
Brown's enduring
legacy.

INSCRIBE YOUR NAME ON COLLEGE HILL



**Order by
April 1!**

The Brown Alumni Association invites you to celebrate your lifelong connection to Brown by purchasing a brick in the Alumni Walkway. Add your name – or the name of any alumnus or alumna you wish to honor or remember – to the beautifully designed centerpiece of the Maddock Alumni Center garden.



PLACE YOUR ORDER AT
brown.edu/go/walkway

- Order by April 1 to have your brick installed before Reunion/Commencement weekend.

Your \$250 gift is tax deductible. All proceeds help support alumni programs.

Please send us your news by mail: *The Classes*, Brown Alumni Magazine, Box 1854, Providence, R.I. 02912. By e-mail: alumni_magazine@brown.edu. Through the web: brownalumnimagazine.com. The deadline for the April–May issue is January 15.

49 Send your news to class secretary **Harold Gadon** at hgadon7333@aol.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Dolores Pastore DiPrete writes: “The social distance mandate has allowed me time to open my Pembroke ’49 file on my computer, where there were so many pictures that brought a smile to my face. In the photo below, left to right, we have **Marjorie Logan Hiles**, **Lois Jagolinzer Fain**, **Glenna Robinson Mazel** and myself enjoying dinner at an off-year reunion. I urge all classmates to update current addresses with the Alumni Office since so many of us are making changes. Let’s continue our friendship via the BAM!”

70TH REUNION

51 Send your news to class president **Constance DelGizzi** at chdelgizzi@comcast.net or class president **Gene Weinberg** at awew1@cox.net or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

54 Send your news to class secretary **Margery Sharp** at 75 Harrington Ave., Shelburne, Vt. 05482, margexsharp@gmail.com; to class secretary **Marshall**

Cohen at bigmarsh@verizon.net; or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Joanna Slesinger Caproni writes: “Like everyone else, I am living in the COVID-19 era and what seemed like a decent sized one-bedroom apartment when we worked all day now feels like a small box when one spends the entire day in it. I continue to shop at the nearby supermarket observing all restrictions. People mostly wear masks, but not all. My neighborhood is less affected by the many protests, but several local stores are boarded up to prevent looting. Zoom has provided an opportunity for us to contact doctors, family, and friends. Overall, it has been and is scary! I tried to end on a comedic note, but I fear the disease has sapped my humor.”

65TH REUNION

56 Send your news to **Gretchen Wheelwright** at ggwphd@aol.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

57 Send your news directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu. **Dorothy Crews Herzberg** self-published her fifth book, *Through the*

Writer’s Eye. The book compiles stories and poems from 17 of her writing group’s participants. Every Monday morning, the writing group reads a poem, writes spontaneously, and shares. Dorothy will also be included in *Marquis Who’s Who Lifetime Achievement Edition*.

58 Send your news to class secretary **Jill Hirst Scobie** at 15 Albert St., Waltham, Mass. 02453; jill.scobie@alumni.brown.edu; or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Class secretary **Jill Hirst Scobie** reports: “With the exception of Mr. Lugossy and Mr. Moses, all these notes were derived from a Zoom meeting consisting of a group of us who were in Angell House together (1954/55):

Betty Wolin Baer has spent the last several months dealing with the after effects of a flood in her Connecticut condo. Lots of insurance, lots of logistics, and lots of dealing with contractors.

Adrienne Arabian Baksa, who lives in Costa Rica, has been a lifelong (and very adept) piano player, but she is now in the process of divesting herself of a lifetime’s worth of music (books and sheet music). A formidable task. She is also passing on the work she and her husband, Richard, have done with incarcerated people. This is another formidable task.

Kathie Schutt Chadwick has been watching the news assiduously and reading a lot of Louise Penny, a Canadian author who is very popular with the “Angells” group. Kathie is quite musical and served as a choir director for many years. For our Zoom meeting she donned a T-shirt that had a musical staff with the following notations for meter: 6/4, 9/8, 11/16. Underneath was this brief sentence: “These are difficult times.”

Connie Black Engle’s son, Douglas, normally a resident of Brazil, has been sheltering in place with his parents. One of the tasks he took on was bringing all of Connie’s children’s books upstairs so that she could peruse them and decide what their destination ought to be. She has sent a bundle off to Bank Street College of Education in New York City and to the Providence Athenaeum.

This past July, **Gil Lugossy** was to have received an award for service to the public and the community from the Polish Arts Club of Trenton, New Jersey. Now, he is scheduled to receive it in 2021. By background, Gil is Hungarian American, and his late wife, Lee, was Polish American; they were longtime members and supporters of the organization.

Jane Bertram Miluski, a watercolor artist, has not been able to paint of late due to the heat... alas, no air conditioning in her studio. Like many others, she has had to cancel various workshops she was scheduled to give due to the coronavirus. Once we can go about safely,

she hopes to resume both her painting and her teaching. In the meantime, she’s been watching Turner Classic Movies (thank you, Ted!) and reading Sinclair Lewis.

Not to be outdone, **Tom Moses** has been playing tennis in Sarasota, Florida, while the temperature has been in the low nineties.

Judith Ann Perlin moved to a senior independent living community within the last year. She has been participating in safe, socially distanced, but still happy-to-be-there happy hours and finds this is an easy way to get to know her neighbors. She enjoys shopping at her local farmers’ market, which luckily is within walking distance.

Barbara Comroe Trevaskis and her husband moved from New Jersey to the Jacksonville, Florida, area to a continuing care retirement community several years ago. Like **Judith Perlin**, they are enjoying safe, socially distanced happy hours, as well as remote exercise classes. Thanks to the magic of Zoom, we were able to see a painting she had done. She has also been learning to do tole painting, which according to Wikipedia is “the folk art of decorative painting on tin and wooden utensils, objects, and furniture.”

59 Send your news to class secretary **Caryl-Ann Miller Nieforth** at 161 Everett Ave., Providence 02906, carylann189a@gmail.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

60 Send your news to **Rosemary Kostmayer** at r.kostmayer@verizon.net or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

60TH REUNION

61 Send your news to class secretary **Beth Burwell Griffiths** at atnhbeth773@gmail.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Dick Nurse announces that the film *Quakers: The Quiet Revolutionaries* will be broadcast on public television stations across the United States. He worked as a senior producer for the film at the Gardner Documentary Group.

62 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

R. Brayton Bowen, ’65 AM, continues to consult in the area of human resources and is certified by the Society for Human Resource Management as a senior certified professional. He speaks on business related topics and teaches at the undergraduate level for Northwood University. He has published *Recognizing and Rewarding Employees and Engaging the Heart for People, Performance, and Profit: Seven Competencies of Compassion@Work*.

“Like everyone else, I am living in the COVID-19 era and what seemed like a decent sized one-bedroom apartment when we worked all day now feels like a small box when one spends the entire day in it.”

—**Joanna Slesinger Caproni ’54**

He has produced the documentary series *Anger in the Workplace*, which aired on public radio stations nationally. He has written for the American Management Assoc., *HR Magazine*, and various other publications. Presently, he is leading the Howland Group, a strategy consulting and change management firm. He writes: “Believe it or not, I still am able to sing (thanks to my training with the Brown Glee Club and Professor David Laurent) and currently perform at two churches in Louisville. I have served on several boards, including the board of directors for the Louisville Committee on Foreign Relations. In 2012, I received the James E. Flynn Peace Award for community service and social justice. My connections with Brown are primarily through the Brown Club of Kentucky, where I serve as vice president for marketing. And I should add, after three tries, I finally got it right; I am happily married to Vaughn Bowen, who is a nurse practitioner and a wonderful partner. I enjoy living in Louisville, but I miss Rhode Island and sailing in Newport waters. If anyone cares to connect, contact me at brayton@howlandgroup.com; (502) 558-2154.”

Gerald David Miller writes: “I constantly find the news of the classes jumping from ’61 to ’63. Hey, what’s new ’62? Okay, I figure I will fill that sandwich. Soon after graduation, I married my childhood sweetheart, Susan Gilson, started using my middle name (David), earned a couple of graduate degrees, and moved to Israel for several years. In 1970, Susan and I, with our two little kids, went to Morocco for a month for a research project.

IN THE NEWS

For demonstrating how a nonprofit can develop drugs as well as Big Pharma can, **Mel Spigelman** ’70, CEO of TB Alliance, is one of *Fast Company’s* “Most Creative People in Business for 2020.” TB Alliance’s pretomanid became one of three new anti-tuberculosis drugs approved by the FDA and the first developed and registered by a nonprofit. TB Alliance is partnering with major generic-drug makers to get pretomanid to market.

We found classmate **Richard Holbrooke** in Rabat serving as a Peace Corps director. As a result, we stayed on as Peace Corps volunteers for the next three years. From there, I became director of Peace Corps training in Afghanistan and then acting director for Peace Corps Tunisia. I was recruited into the U.S. Agency for International Development and the State Department. Once again, Holbrooke and I would cross paths at State. We often went to lunch together when we were both in town and not flying off somewhere. I left State to become deputy vice president for programs at Save the Children before becoming founding director of the International Community Economic Development master’s degree program at Southern New Hampshire University. Susan did her PhD research and taught Middle Eastern history at Harvard much of that time. For two of those years, I was also a research fellow at Brown’s Thomas J. Watson Jr. Institute for International Studies. I spent the time at the ‘Rock’ catching up on all the things I missed as an undergraduate. In 2009, Susan and I joined the faculty of UC Davis. I founded the Global Fellowship for Agricultural Development program that takes research to action by connecting faculty and graduate fellows to organizations in developing communities all over the world. Susan and I have two prize-winning kids (RISD and Brown grads), each of whom have prize-winning children. Retirement is not among my plans.”

65 Send your news to class co-vice president for communications **Terri Alschuler Hale** at vanhale43@gmail.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

55TH REUNION

66 Send your news to class co-secretary **Jaclynn Horn Laxon** at jlaxon@comcast.net or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

67 Send your news to class copresident **Sharon Drager** at sbdrager@sbcglobal.net; copresident **Glenn Mitchell** at mitchellm2012@gmail.com; class gift chair and nominating chair **Dave Chichester** at davidchichester1@gmail.com; or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.



Dolores Pastore DiPrete '49 with '49 friends

THE CLASSIFIEDS

For classified advertising rates and information, contact Advertising Director Juli Mahoney: (401) 863-9612; ads.brownalumnimagazine.com; juli_mahoney@brown.edu. The deadline for the April–May issue is January 20.

BROWN AUTHORS

HARRISON'S WORD Peter Thompson '75. Boarding school drama. A racy and bitingly funny tale of infatuation and a young teacher's struggles at a private school. This is a sequel to the acclaimed *Winter Light*. dialogosbooks.com; Amazon.

GIFTS

UNIQUE GIFT! Tell My Story, an audio story production service founded by Molly

Schulson '16, takes milestone moments in your life and transforms them into extraordinary audio tales. Think engagements, births, anniversaries, and retirements. It's like an episode of a podcast (with music and narration), all about you. For more: tellmystoryaudio.com.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

TUTOR Personal Statement Tutor for College Applications. From framing your narrative to proofreading the final draft, I help you put your best foot forward. I hold

a BA from Brown and a PhD from the University of Chicago. Over 15 years teaching in higher education. Reasonable rates and quick turnaround time. Inquire for details. essaytutor2021@gmail.com.

VACATION RENTALS

FORT LAUDERDALE, FL BEACH CONDO 2 bedroom/2 bath available for 4-12 month rental. Quiet, small complex with expansive private beach setting. For more details email Btuohy8@comcast.net

68 Send your news to class secretary **Sally Kusnitz Horn** at s-horn@msn.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

69 Send your news to class secretary **Linda Antonucci** at antonucci@att.net.

Peter Kaufman writes: "Having a ball in Bethel, Vermont, just two towns away from one of my art professors, Ed Koren. We are doctoring up a Ralph Lauren style 1830s brick Cape on two dramatic acres on Route 12. I work part-time as the sexton for St. James Episcopal Church in Woodstock."

Thomas Lindsey writes: "I am now licensed as a property and casualty insurance agent in Texas and scheduled to take the life insurance exam."

70 Send your news to class vice president of communications **Geri Williams** at geri3williams@comcast.net or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Richard Bush writes: "I have retired as a supervisory administrative law judge with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in Irvine, California, and also as a commander in the Navy Reserve Judge Advocate General's Corps. As a member of U.S. Masters Swimming, I competed in many meets in southern California. My wife and I now live in a small town in the northernmost part of Cajun Country in central Louisiana. In retirement, I enjoy reading, lap swimming at the YWCA, playing tennis, traveling (my wife and I planned a trip to France in October), and visiting my three children and four grandchildren in Mississippi, Canada, and Georgia. I am looking forward to visiting my classmates at our 50th reunion and will enjoy

hearing from any of them." Contact Richard at RichardSBusho8310812@gmail.com; (949) 798-9584.

50TH REUNION

71 Send your news to class co-vice president of communications **Darrell Davidson** at dddavids@iupui.edu; to co-vice president of communications **Harry L. Watson** at hwatson@email.unc.edu; or directly to alumni_magazine@brown.edu

72 Send your news to class communications chair **Lois Abromitis Mackin** at loismackin@aol.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

73 Send your news to class communications cochair **Mary Hutchings Reed** at mhreed3@gmail.com or directly to alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

74 Send your news to class co-vice president for communications **Scott Harris** at sharris@alumni.brown.edu; to co-vice president for communications **Jim Morris** at jimmorris@alumni.brown.edu; or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Andy Gralla writes: "Half a century after his father was admitted, Brown admitted my son as a junior! The Gralla family is very, very proud. It's fun to share this news with the class. I hope this finds everyone well. Bye for now." Contact Andy at andy@gralla.us.

75 Send your news to class communications chair **Rhonda Port Walker** at rpwalkerbhj@verizon.net or directly to alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

"There are published concerns about Zoom's encryption strength and now foreign governments may have derogatory information about who gave Cliff the pot brownies and several other troublesome incidents."

—Rick Carell '77

45TH REUNION

76 Send your news to communications chair **Elizabeth Robertson Laytin** at erlaytin@gmail.com or directly to alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

77 Send your news to class communications cochair **Ann Galligan** at a.galligan@northeastern.edu or directly to alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Rick Carell writes: "Time to end the 1977 class news blackout. Brown lacrosse coach Cliff Stevenson was inducted into the Intercollegiate Men's Lacrosse Coaches Association Hall of Fame last December in Baltimore. Cliff's doctor would not allow him to fly so he provided a video, in which he reminisced about team history, opined about NCAA rule changes, and generally out-hustled the other inductees.

CLASSES

More than 60 of Cliff's players attended, including class of '77 star athletes **George Caraberis, John Grill, Bill Isaacs**, and my roommate, **Dan Scofield**. We shared many stories about Cliff and Brown, and all were thankful cell phone cameras did not exist during our playing days. With the COVID lockdowns, George assumed a leadership role to boost everyone's spirits, hosting biweekly Zoom cocktail hours. We extended participation to other Brown sports teams and had guest appearances from **John Gaddis, John Klupka, Gerry Muzzillo, Steve Narr '78**, and **Pat Shattenkirk**. Unfortunately, there are published concerns about Zoom's encryption strength and now foreign governments may have derogatory information about who gave Cliff the pot brownies and several other troublesome incidents in the West Quad freshman year."



Rick Carell '77 with friends

78 Send your news to communications chair **Patsy Dimm** at patsydimm@msn.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

David Hahn writes: "As I write we are all enduring the mass grief and restrictions due to the pandemic, as well as the public anger from the long-term systemic racism that continues to plague our society. The economic shock of these issues, highly exacerbated by a mentally ill president (at least Nero played the violin!), affects everyone. For me, outlining my recent work helps to maintain some semblance of things continuing to go on, even if not quite in the same way. Some of my new compositions are 'Women of the Aeneid,' 'Kaj Ja Znam,' 'Amanda,' 'Virus Cosmos,' and 'Fantasia.' Before the pandemic, I had a full schedule of performances, music therapy sessions with memory care patients, teaching lessons, and volunteering at a hospital. I expect things to pick up again when things open up a bit more. Feel free to send a line to say hello! I always enjoy hearing from Brown friends."

79 Send your news to class communications cochair **Johanna Musselman** at johannam567@gmail.com, to communications cochair **Robert Sussman** at robert.sussman@safebridge.com, or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

AROUND THE WORLD *with the* BROWN TRAVELERS



We regret that many of our 2020 trips have been postponed. But we eagerly anticipate once again bringing alumni around the globe in the company of Brown's world-class faculty.

Brown_Travelers@alumni.brown.edu
401-863-6322
brown.edu/go/travelers



Do you have real estate to sell or a business or professional service to promote?

Advertising in the BAM delivers your message in print and online to over 116,000 readers. Use our secure form at ads.brownalumnimagazine.com to post directly.

For more information including rates and deadlines please contact Juli Mahoney at (401) 863-9612 or juli_mahoney@brown.edu.



It's Your Annual Meeting!

All alumni, as automatic members, are invited to the Brown Alumni Association's annual meeting on **Saturday, January 30, 2021**.

Email baa_president@brown.edu for details.



Support the BAM

Connection. Engagement. Inspiration.

In trying times, it's good to come home. For many alums and students, Brown is more than an alma mater; it's a way of thinking and being in the world. And with our world in crisis, it's a comfort to see that the Brown community is ever true—questioning, serving, and innovating as always.

Donate online at brownalumnimagazine.com

Confronting Legacies of Racism and Injustice

By Debra Bradley Ruder

Brown's Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice and Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America are catalyzing critical conversations and change.

As the nation confronts anti-Black racism and other pervasive injustices, two leading-edge academic centers at Brown are expanding understanding about the impact of systemic racism and racial slavery, with the goal of helping to build a more just and equitable society.

The Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America (CSREA) and the Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice (CSSJ) bring together creative minds to address some of this century's most complex human rights issues, including racial profiling, health disparities, mass incarceration and voting rights. These long-established centers have different foci — CSREA studies race and ethnicity in U.S. culture and everyday life, while CSSJ examines the history of racial slavery and its local and global legacies today. Together, they're advancing Brown's leadership in catalyzing debate, discovery and action through collaborative research, scholarship, lectures and the arts.

Slavery's Indelible Legacies

As Black Lives Matter demonstrators filled the streets last spring, the Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice launched a virtual series called "This is America," convening scholars and activists to discuss the meaning and potential impact of the protests, both nationally and internationally.

This was an ideal role for CSSJ, which is shaping pivotal conversations about racial justice, freedom and equality, says center Director Anthony Bogues, Asa Messer Professor of Humanities and Critical Theory



and professor of Africana Studies (left). Amid a pandemic that has transitioned conferences to virtual meetings — and that is disproportionately harming Black and other communities of color — the center has continued its mission

of bringing together scholars, museum curators, policy makers, activists and students through programs that pose questions like, What should happen with Confederate monuments? How to reform policing? How do we understand the contemporary global Black Lives Matter movement?

CSSJ has become one of the world's premier centers for studying the history of racial slavery and its legacies, such as modern-day human trafficking and anti-Black racism. Founded in 2012 as an outgrowth of Brown's 2006 investigation of the University's historical ties to the trans-Atlantic slave trade, the pioneering center offers insights to colleges and universities across America examining their own slavery histories. It is helping educate the next generation around these critical issues; incoming Brown students will read the landmark 2006 report of the Steering Committee on Slavery and Justice as their communal "First Reading."

"Slavery was a human experience that shaped the modern world from the late 15th century to today," Bogues notes. "It was a crime against humanity. The historical fact of racial slavery is an issue the country needs to have a hard conversation about in order to understand the present."

The center is changing the way the Brown community and world learn about the consequences of human bondage. It was instrumental in efforts to place port markers where slave ships docked in Rhode Island. It has partnered with award-winning filmmaker Stanley Nelson on a forthcoming PBS documentary film about the Atlantic slave trade, is working on a major scholarly book project, and collaborates with global museum curators seeking to tell this important story. And closer to home, CSSJ created a high school curriculum on racial slavery with the University's Choices Program, while inviting campus visitors to explore how the tragedy of slavery shapes art and culture today.

Spotlighting Systemic Racism

The Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America, meanwhile, is one of the nation's first academic centers dedicated to research, scholarship and academic exchange on race and ethnicity.

As the pandemic spread last spring, CSREA produced a video series about how COVID-19 has intensified the daily struggles of groups already facing unequal access to food, safe living conditions and health care. Dedicated to sharing its research widely, the center also released timely e-newsletters drawn from its extensive archive of recorded programs. One focused on anti-racism and another showcased the arts, "to remind people," says center Director Tricia Rose, Chancellor's Professor of Africana Studies, "that extraordinary beauty and hope are still happening during this time of incredible stress and despair."

Since its 1986 founding, CSREA has fostered rigorous cross-discipline research, meaningful conversations and new approaches to critical issues affecting African American, Latinx, Asian and other communities of color.

"Although many Americans have recently grown acutely aware of anti-Black racism, we were aware of it, and many scholars have been aware of it, for a very long time," Rose says.

The pandemic has not impeded the center's roster of academic activities, including a new program — funded by a four-year grant from

the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation — that will enable Brown faculty wishing to add a hands-on "humanities lab" to a course on race and ethnicity.

For the past five years, the center has spotlighted systemic racism: the discriminatory practices that influence opportunities and hurdles in life and drive inequality in such areas as housing, education and employment. The center enables faculty, students and others to investigate some of today's most entrenched societal problems — from white supremacy to immigration policies to ethnic stereotyping and police aggression — through research projects, seminars and internships. And it provides a dynamic portal for the Brown community and public to explore challenging issues through art exhibits, films and lectures featuring respected scholars.



CSREA Director Tricia Rose (left) discusses the heightened impact of COVID-19 on incarcerated populations with Brown Associate Professor of Sociology Nicole Gonzalez Van Cleve.

Increasing Their Impact

Expanding and amplifying the impact of CSREA and CSSJ is a priority in the University's 10-year strategic plan, *Building on Distinction*, and its *BrownTogether* fundraising campaign. Both centers are also being strengthened by the hiring of more faculty from historically underrepresented groups under Brown's 2016 diversity and inclusion action plan.

Amid growing global interest in social justice, the University is committed to investing in and increasing both centers' capacity to spur faculty and student research, bring distinguished speakers to campus, and power new ways of approaching obstacles to a more just, free and democratic society. ■

BROWN

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

IN THE NEWS

The *New York Times* reported that **Maureen Raymo** '82 has been appointed the interim director of the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory at Columbia University, becoming the first woman scientist and the first climate scientist to head Lamont. In 2014, she was the first woman to receive the Wollaston Medal, the Geological Society of London's highest accolade. Her scientific work has established her as one of the most influential earth scientists of her generation.

A. Benjamin Goldgar writes: "In October 2019, I was appointed chief judge of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois. I've been a judge on the court since 2003."

80 Send your news to vice president of communications **Barbara Weinreich** at barbaralweinreich@gmail.com, or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

40TH REUNION

81 Send your news to class co-vice president for communications **Suzanne Curley** at suzo329@gmail.com; to co-vice president for communications **Charles Taylor** at ctaylor@htgroup.com; or directly to alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Michele D. Wilson Marincola and **Lucretia Kargère-Basco** '90 published their book, *The Conservation of Medieval Polychrome Wood Sculpture: History, Theory, Practice* with the Getty Conservation Institute in August. Michele is a professor of conservation at the Conservation Center, Institute of Fine Arts, NYU, and Lucretia is a senior conservator at the Met Cloisters. Their book is the first in English to comprehensively discuss the history and methodology of conserving medieval polychrome wood sculpture.

82 Send your news to class co-vice president for communications **Liza Boyajian** at lizaboyajian@gmail.com; to co-vice president for communications **Roger Baumgarten** at rogerbaum@comcast.net; or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Mark Malamud writes that his latest book, *The Timeless Machine*, "transforms H.G. Wells's original Victorian novella into an exploration of the limitations and contradictions of living with grief. Mixing together time travel, meta-fiction, and my own special kind of neurosis, it's funny, clever, and heartbreaking."

83 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu. **Frederick Thurber** and his wife Amy (RISD '88) have teamed up with **Madeleine Barker** '21 MFA, an actress in the Brown/Trinity program, to work

"Running [for office] during a pandemic is difficult, yet good governance is more important than ever."

—Jennifer Fries '91

on an audio version of his book, *In the Wake of the Willows*.

84 Send your news to class vice president for communications **Michael Zuraw** at michael.zuraw@alumni.brown.edu or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

85 Send your news and updates to class communications cochair **Ellen Taschioglou Parsons** at ellenparsons@gmail.com; communications co-chair **Daniel Sterman** at daniel.sterman@gmail.com; or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

35TH REUNION

86 Send your news to class communications chair **Cecilia Francesca Pineda** at ceciliafpineda@gmail.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Sarah Brown was awarded a nine-month Fulbright Scholarship to Romania, where she will teach solo performance and mask performance at the Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu, Romania. She will also direct acting students in a series of performances for 400 North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) officers and their families from 29 countries who will be establishing a three-star command post in Sibiu. The project will help draw this

IN THE NEWS

Dr. **Cheryl Anderson** '92, an epidemiologist known for her insights on how diet and nutrition factor into the development of heart and kidney disease and cancer, has been named founding dean of UC San Diego's Wertheim School of Public Health. She becomes the first Black female dean in the nearly 60-year history of the campus. Already among UCSD's top scientists, in 2016, Anderson was elected to the National Academy of Medicine, the honorary society whose members include Dr. Anthony Fauci.

new international population closer to the city of Sibiu and to the University.

87 Send your news to class president **Pamela D. Gerrol** at classof1987@alumni.brown.edu or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Micah Solomon published *Ignore Your Customers (and They'll Go Away): The Simple Playbook for Delivering the Ultimate Customer Service Experience* with HarperCollins Leadership. Micah is a customer experience consultant and speaker and a senior contributor at *Forbes*. He is enjoying life on Bainbridge Island, Wash., with his wife, two kids, four dogs, cat, and outdoor goldfish. Contact him at micah@micahsolomon.com; (434) 343-5881.

88 Send your news to class vice president for communications **Vinny Egizi** at vinnymass@yahoo.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Judy Schaechter, chair of the department of pediatrics at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, has been named a 2020-2021 health policy fellow by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the National Academy of Medicine. This fellowship, in Washington, D.C., will expand her involvement in health policy and child policy at the local and state levels to the federal level and empower her to bring those strategies back to the University of Miami to enhance its educational and community outreach work. She has been on the faculty of the Miller School of Medicine since 1997. She also holds an MBA in health sector management and policy from UM. Contact Judy at 1601 NW, 12th Ave., Miami 33136; (305) 243-3993.

89 Send your news to class vice president for communications **Michael Tate** at michael_tate@sbcglobal.net or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

90 Send your news to class communications chair **Didier Jean-Baptiste** at dj101@mac.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Lucretia Kargère-Basco (see **Michele D. Wilson Marincola** '81).

Rachel Moore was elected into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

—Class of '92

30TH REUNION

91 Send your news to class co-vice president of communications **Gayle Weiswasser** at gweiswasser@gmail.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Jennifer Fries is a candidate for state representative, 24th Middlesex district in Massachusetts. She writes: "Running during a pandemic is difficult, yet good governance is more important than ever." Fellow alums **Reed Cochran** '90, **Sarah Francis Holmes** and her boyfriend **David Kluft** '90, and **Briel Schwartz Schmitz** have been instrumental to the campaign, and many other classmates have been supporters. Learn more at www.jenniferfries.com.

92 Send your news to class co-vice president of communications **Jeffrey Wolfson** at jawolfson@comcast.net or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Rachel Moore was elected into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in May. Founded in 1780, the Academy is one of the oldest learned societies in the United States.

93 Send your news to class communications cochair **Ethan Flaherty** at ethan.flaherty@gmail.com or directly to alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

94 Send your news to class co-vice president of communications **Bernadette Aulestia** at bernyau@gmail.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Lisa Levenstein published *They Didn't See Us Coming: The Hidden History of Feminism in the Nineties* in July with Basic Books.

Stacie Nicole Smith was promoted to managing director at the Consensus Building Institute (CBI), a nonprofit based in Cambridge, Mass. CBI helps leaders and

IN THE NEWS

CEO and founder of EB5 Capital **Angelique Brunner** '94 has been named an independent member of the Board of Directors of Cushman & Wakefield. She was highlighted in "Angel Investing" in the March/April 2019 issue of BAM.

IN THE NEWS

Irving Fain '02 is cofounder and CEO of Bowery Farming, a "vertical farm" operating in a New Jersey warehouse. The farm grows vegetables from seeds in a controlled, lab-like environment year-round, with less water and no pesticides. The company says it can be 100 times more productive than a traditional farm on the same footprint of land.

stakeholders collaborate to make decisions, achieve agreements, and manage multi-party conflicts and planning efforts. Stacie has more than 20 years of experience working as a mediator and facilitator on a broad range of highly complex issues in the U.S. and internationally. She specializes in environmental issues, historical and cultural resources, tribal and indigenous peoples, and education.

25TH REUNION

96 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

97 Send your news to class co-vice president of communications **Brooke Davis Nalle** at bnalle@gmail.com or directly to alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

98 Send your news to class communications chair **Michael Mancuso** at mikemancuso1323@yahoo.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

99 Send your news to class vice president **Keith M. Blechman** at drkeithblechman@gmail.com or directly to alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

00 Send your news to class communications cochair **Naomi Ture** at naomiture@gmail.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

20TH REUNION

01 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu

04 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu. **Dan McElligott** and **Olma Fuentes** (Williams College '03) announce the April 19 birth of their daughter, **Paloma Saoirse McElligott**. She was born in Livingston, N.J. Paloma and her older sister, **Denise**, are doing well and enjoying time at home with their mom and dad.



Dan McElligott '04

05 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu. **Eddie Ahn** was appointed in June to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the government agency that plans and finances transit throughout the nine-county Bay Area region and its 101 cities. He also works as the executive director of environmental justice nonprofit Brightline Defense and serves on two commissions that address urban sustainability and rising sea level in the Bay Area; the SF Commission on the Environment and the Bay Conservation and Development Commission.

15TH REUNION

06 Send your news to class co-vice president of communications **Jessica Pesce** at jessica.pesce@gmail.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

08 Send your news to class communications cochair **Adam Axler** at adamaxler@gmail.com or directly to alumni_magazine@brown.edu. **Peter Wenstrup** is a candidate for the U.S. Senate race in Louisiana. For more than a decade he has been teaching high school math, coaching basketball, and tutoring students in Louisiana schools.

09 Send your news to class communications cochair **Susan Kovar** at susan.kovar@gmail.com or directly to alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Lorenna Ellis and **Cameron Lee** married in a two-part wedding over Zoom on July 4, with the first half in the Boise area and the second half in Orange County, Calif. In attendance/members of the wedding party were **David Atkinson** '08; **Alberto Castellón**; **Kara Kamikawa DeBaun**; **Marquita Ellis** '12, '14

THE CLASSES

IN THE NEWS

Dr. **Peter Lee** '94, '05 MD, '15 PhD, the new cardiothoracic surgeon at Southcoast Health and assistant professor of pathology and laboratory medicine at Brown, is the recipient of the Grand-Cross of the Royal Equestrian and Military Order of Saint Michael of the Wing—the highest award bestowed by the Portuguese Roman Catholic dynastic order. He is also a flight surgeon with the U.S. Air Force and cofounder and chief medical officer for the innovative medical device company STARK Industries, LLC. He conducted three experiments that were sent to the International Space Station as reported in the *Herald News*.

ScM; **Julia Kim Ho** '12; **Janice Kim**; **Holleigh Bergstrom Oliveira** '14, '16 MAT; **Christina Tang**; and **Jihoon Yoon** '13 MD. Cameron and Lorenna met through the Brown student group College Hill for Christ, dated briefly, and were next door neighbors in Young Orchard their senior year. They stayed in touch over the years and finally dated again following their eight-year class reunion. At their 10-year class reunion they got engaged at Prospect Park. Cameron is working at a family medicine clinic and Lorenna continues directing business systems for a Christian nonprofit. She will serve on the Alumni Board this year to help the class of '09 build connections that support Brown and each other during these challenging times. They will be living in Los Angeles and look forward to a lifetime of growing and serving others together.



Kristin Richardson Jordan '09

Kristin Richardson Jordan wrote this summer: "I am running for New York City Council in District 9, which is Central Harlem. I'm running a grassroots campaign for the primary against an incumbent who's been in New York politics for more than 30 years. My platform is composed of six focus areas which can be simplified into the acronym HARLEM: H: Holding police accountable and police abolition A: Actually affordable housing

Lorenna Ellis and Cameron Lee married in a two-part wedding over Zoom on July 4, with the first half in the Boise area and the second half in Orange County, Calif.

—Class of '09

R: Redistribution of wealth
L: Living longer with more resources for our seniors, as well as gun control
E: Education for all and environmental justice
M: Meaningful change
If elected, I will be the second woman, the youngest ever, and the first openly LGBTQ+ person to represent District 9 on the Council. I would also be the first Black lesbian to serve on the City Council. More information about my platform can be found at www.kristinforharlem.com."

10 Send your news to class communications cochair **Meha Verghese** at mehaverghese@gmail.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Emilie Lygren has coauthored *How to Teach Nature Journaling: Curiosity, Wonder, Attention*. This is a teacher-friendly book that combines curriculum plans and practical advice so that educators can bring journaling to their students.

10TH REUNION

11 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

12 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Krutika Parasar Raulkar published *COVID-19: Inside the Global Epicenter: Personal Accounts from NYC Frontline Healthcare*

Providers. It shares the experiences of Krutika and colleagues in combating COVID-19 in heavily impacted New York City and is available on Amazon.

14 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu. **Holleigh Bergstrom Oliveira** '16 MAT (see **Lorenna Ellis** '09).

5TH REUNION

16 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

17 Send your news to class copresident **Orlando E. Rodriguez** at lando1795@gmail.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

GS **R. Brayton Bowen** '65 AM (see '62). **David Orsini** '66 AM, '75 PhD, published *Vanishing by Degrees* and *The Weaver of Plots*. *Vanishing by Degrees* is scheduled to be introduced into the language arts curriculum in Cranston High School West, R.I.

Toby Ward '69 MAT retired 21 years ago as a physics professor at the College of Lake County in Grayslake, Ill. In retirement, he enjoys golf, fishing, wood-splitting, and traveling with his wife. For the past 40 years, he has created stained glass houses, panels, and holiday items, which have been displayed at his local library, the CLC Gallery, and in the Dunn Museum. He lives with his wife in Lake Villa, Ill. His daughter, Dana, and three grandchildren live in Woodside, Calif., and his son, Ryan, and three grandchildren live in Antioch, Ill.

Katharina Galor '96 PhD and former Brown faculty member **Sa'ed Atshan** published *The Moral Triangle: Germans, Israelis, Palestinians* in June with Duke University Press. They drew on ethnographic fieldwork and interviews to explore the asymmetric relationships between Germans and Israeli and Palestinian immigrants in the context of official German policies, public discourse, and the impact of coming to terms with the past.

Marquita Ellis '14 ScM (see **Lorenna Ellis** '09).

Emily J. H. Contois '15 AM, '19 PhD, published *Diners, Dudes, and Diets: How Gender and Power Collide in Food Media and Culture* with UNC Press in November.

Holleigh Bergstrom Oliveira '16 MAT (see **Lorenna Ellis** '09).

MD **Jihoon Yoon** '13 MD (see **Lorenna Ellis** '09).

OBITUARIES

Survivors and friends of the deceased can help by completing the obituary form found at brownalumnimagazine.com or by sending information to Obituaries, *Brown Alumni Magazine*, Box 1854, Providence, R.I. 02912 or by e-mail to alumni_magazine@brown.edu. To contact the editors, call (401) 863-2873.

40s **Norman N. Nutman** '44, of Oradell, N.J.; Apr. 8. After receiving a DDS from the NYU School of Dentistry, surgery training at the University of Pennsylvania, and serving in the U.S. Navy, Norman moved to Teaneck, N.J., where he established an oral surgery practice. He was head of the Bergen Oral Surgery Group and on the staff of Hackensack Hospital. He retired in 1989. He was a board member and president of Delta Dental of New Jersey, serving the last two years as its acting chief executive officer. He enjoyed traveling and is survived by his wife, Norma; a daughter; son **Tom** '74; a daughter-in-law; a son-in-law; and four grandchildren.

Margaret Sullivan Palmer '45, of Newport, R.I.; Apr. 18. She was an English teacher at Rogers High School for more than 35 years. An avid reader, she was a member of The Preservation Society of Newport County, Newport Historical Society, Newport Art Museum, and Friends of the Waterfront. In retirement she volunteered delivering Meals on Wheels. She is survived by a daughter and son-in-law, seven grandchildren, and nieces and nephews.

Banice M. Webber '45, of New York City, formerly of Providence; May 27, from complications related to Parkinson's disease. He graduated from Tufts Medical School and was sent to Korea in 1952 as an Army surgeon. He went on to become a radiation oncologist and founded Radiation Oncology Associates in Providence. He was a fellow in the department of radiation oncology at Tufts New England Medical Center, an attending radiation oncologist at Rhode Island Hospital, and a member of the Brown medical school faculty. He was a clinical associate professor emeritus of radiation medicine at Brown and an associate professor of radiation oncology at Tufts University School of Medicine. His medical career included positions as president of New England Cancer Society and as a trustee of Miriam Hospital and Home

and Hospice Care of Rhode Island. He published numerous medical papers and articles, retired in 2003, and then tutored 4th- and 5th-grade children at the Paul Cuffee School. A lifelong sailing enthusiast, he also enjoyed photography, music, and traveling. He is survived by two daughters, their spouses, and four grandchildren.

Herbert "Skip" Barlow Jr. '46, of Annapolis, formerly of Providence and Barrington, R.I.; June 2. After graduating from Brown as an ensign in the Navy, he toured the Pacific in 1945 on a troop transport. He then served in the Naval Reserve for 23 years, retiring as a lieutenant commander. After active duty, he attended Catholic University Law School in Washington, D.C., and worked in the U.S. Patent Office and the Navy Department. Upon graduating from law school, he returned to Rhode Island and joined his father's patent law firm, now known as Barlow, Josephs & Holmes, Ltd. He was active in the intellectual property section of the American Bar Association and chaired the trademark committee. He was an avid sailor, a member of Brown's sailing team, and competed in 18 Newport-Bermuda races, navigating once to first place overall. He and his wife cruised the Caribbean and Florida Keys. He is survived by a daughter and son-in-law, a son and daughter-in-law, and four grandchildren.

Alfred M. Buff '46, of New York City; July 4. As a World War II Army Air Corps veteran, he spent more than 40 years as an engineer with New York State and was involved with building the New York State Pavilion at the World's Fair in Flushing Meadows. Later he worked with the department of health as a supervisory sanitation engineer regulating hospitals and nursing homes, and concluded his career as an environmental engineer with the department of conservation. He volunteered with organizations involved in the Hudson River and enjoyed skiing and traveling. He is survived by his wife, Lenore; daughter **Carolyn Buff** '84; a son; and a grandson.

Stanley E. Sugarman '47, of Baltimore; May 7, of cancer. He was a retired landlord and real estate business owner. After serving in the U.S. Navy during World War II and graduating from Brown, he moved to Washington, D.C., and began teaching science at John Philip Sousa Junior High School. He married and settled in Baltimore and became a co-partner of Homewood Realty for many decades. Disturbed by the fact that African American soldiers who returned from fighting in the Korean War were being denied housing, he provided high-quality and affordable housing to low-income people in Baltimore. He was twice the president of the Property Owners Association and taught landlords about the principles of providing high-quality property management. He eventually had two real estate firms, Homewood Realty and Sugarcorn Realty, and managed a portfolio of 500 rental units. He was an avid cyclist and a member of the Baltimore Cycle Club. He is survived by his partner, Phyllis Posner; a daughter; and five grandchildren.

Ruth J. Itschner Cooper '48 of Northampton, Mass.; May 10. After Brown she went on to earn a master's degree in music from Colorado College. Her career in singing and teaching voice lasted more than 60 years. She began her career in New York City, where she met and married John Cooper, an aspiring composer and pianist. Together they traveled to India and taught at the Calcutta School of Music. Eventually they returned to the U.S. and lived and worked in New York and California before settling in Massachusetts. She enjoyed learning languages, particularly German, French, and Italian. She also enjoyed writing poetry, playing card games, birds and wildflowers. She is survived by her husband; a daughter; and two grandchildren.

Albert Feldman '48, of Henderson, Nev.; July 7. He is survived by a son and daughter-in-law and two grandsons.

Alden C. Goodnow Jr. '48, of Danvers, Mass.; May 21. He attended Brown but interrupted his studies to serve in the U.S. Navy during World War II. After returning from the war, he completed his baccalaureate studies and went on to earn an MBA from Harvard Business School. He married in 1951 and began his career in Manhattan at Shell Oil. He then returned to Danvers, where he established Goodnow Real Estate & Insurance Agency, which he owned and operated for more than 50 years. He was a member of Danvers Rotary Club, president of Danvers Historical Society, and a trustee, church moderator, and choir member of Maple Street Congregational

OBITUARIES

Church, forming a barbershop quartet with some of the other choir members. He was an avid Red Sox fan and proud to be the “Hats off for Heroes” honoree at Fenway Park in September 2018 for his service in World War II. He enjoyed building model trains and built and collected many ship models over the years. He is survived by his wife, **Lois Booth Goodnow** ’50; three daughters; six grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; a sister-in-law; and a niece.

Paul C. Abramson ’49, of Teaneck, N.J.; Apr. 23. Upon his honorable discharge from the U.S. Army, he became president of the United Travel Agency in Manhattan, which he helmed for most of his adult life. During his lifetime he went on innumerable cruises and became an expert on the cruise industry and an icon in the luxury travel business. He was active with many travel organizations and a board member emeritus and vice chair Masonic brother. He retired from the travel business

Contagious Joy

Two careers and a tradition of giving

Vernon Alden ’45, whose life spanned WWII military service and successful careers in both higher education and financial services, as well as a remarkable record of giving, is remembered first for his enthusiasm and warmth.

“Everyone loved meeting my dad because he was so curious about life and so interested in everyone. His face would light up and he’d yell your name because he was so excited to see you,” remembers daughter **Anne Alden** ’78.

After serving in the U.S. Navy during World War II and graduating from both Brown and Harvard business schools, Alden started in the Northwestern University admissions department. In 1960, while associate dean of Harvard Business School, he was asked to be president of Ohio University, serving from 1962 to 1969 and doubling faculty and student enrollment during his tenure. “I came to Ohio University in 1966 because

of a diversity initiative he started,” recalls President Emeritus Roderick J. McDavis. “He started the Honors College, the Fellows program...and was responsible for the Black Studies Institute.”

ton Safe Deposit and Trust Company. By the end of the 1970s, he had helped grow a local firm into an international organization and the 15th largest U.S. investment management company.

Outside of his professional life, Alden became deeply involved in Japanese-American relations through groups including the Japan Society of Boston and the National Organization of Japan-American Societies. He was an advocate for the arts and a life trustee of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Boston Museum of Science, and the Children’s Museum. A devoted philanthropist, he established endowed funds at Brown, Ohio University, Ohio Wesleyan University, MIT, the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, and Northfield Mount Hermon School. A trustee and member of the Brown Corporation Board of Fellows, he was also a staunch supporter of the Brown cross country and track and

field programs, endowing the track and field coaching chair, funding the Alden indoor track facility and the Alden Award, sponsoring the annual Alden Invitational, and becoming a founding director of the Brown University Sports Foundation.

He held honorary degrees from 13 universities, including Brown.

Alden passed away on June 22 from complications of pneumonia. He is survived by four children, including daughter **Anne Alden** ’78 and sons **James** ’81 and **David** ’87; and eight grandchildren.

in his 80s, but never stopped his quest for new experiences. He continued to commute from Teaneck to Manhattan for activity-filled days, including visiting museums. He is survived by daughter **Nancy Abramson** ’81 and her spouse; son **Richard** ’84; and two grandsons, including **Jesse Hertz** ’13.

Elizabeth Stone Ellis ’49, of Manchester, Conn.; May 4. Her husband bought two weekly newspapers and in 1967 she went to work in their circulation departments. The two merged into the daily *Journal Inquirer* a year later and she became the publication’s assistant publisher in 1970. She rose to publisher in 1973, overseeing the newspaper’s expansion in a time when the industry was mostly run by men. The New England Newspaper and Press Association honored her in 2000 with its prestigious Yankee Quill Award in recognition of her contributions to both journalism and the communities the *Journal Inquirer* covers. The newspaper also won the association’s Newspaper of the Year award under her leadership in 1987. She is survived by her husband, **Neil** ’48; two daughters and their spouses; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Joan McWeeney Geary ’49, of Jamaica Plain, Mass.; Apr. 25. She taught in the Pawtucket (R.I.) school system. She was also a remedial reading volunteer at St. Pius School in Providence and a volunteer for Meals on Wheels. She enjoyed playing bridge, solving word searches, and playing bingo. She is survived by three children, five grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Shirley Whipple Hinds ’49, of Oconomowoc, Wisc.; June 6. She was a homemaker and volunteer. She had a passion for history and conservation and helped to secure the preservation of many of Oconomowoc’s original landmarks and buildings, most notably the 1886 Oconomowoc City Hall. Following her husband’s death, she went back to working outside the home after 40 years, first as the bookkeeper for the Waukesha County Red Cross and then as the innkeeper for the Inn at Pine Terrace, finally retiring at the age of 80. She continued her work with the Oconomowoc Historical Society and Museum as a member of the board of directors, as well as volunteering for many committees and projects for the American Association of University Women and the Heritage Trails (Oconomowoc) chapter of The Questors, an international organization dedicated to historical preservation and restoration. Phi Beta Kappa. She is survived by five children and their spouses, 10 grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, a brother and sister-

in-law, and 15 nieces and nephews, including **Richard Whipple** ’77.

Muriel Broadbent Jones ’49, of Mansfield, Mass., formerly of Attleboro Falls; May 10. Her husband was president and owner of Lyons Advertising in Attleboro Falls, where she worked part-time. During the 1960s she was a substitute teacher at North Attleboro High School. She became an accomplished sailor on their 37-foot sloop *Dauntless*, sailing along the coast of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Maine. In 1983, she helped prepare *Dauntless* for an ocean yacht race from Marion to Bermuda, and then sailed the boat back from Bermuda. She was a longtime member of Angle Tree Garden Club and the North Attleboro Historical Society. She enjoyed gardening and travel and is survived by her husband **Phillip** ’48 and a son.

Joanne McKeever ’49, of Milford, Conn.; May 26. After Brown, she enrolled at Boston College Law School, where she met and married her husband. They traveled extensively in Europe after college and once had an audience with Pope Pius VII at the Vatican. She taught Sunday School in Milford, was well read, and was a member of the board of directors of Milford Mental Health. She enjoyed many types of music, including opera, classical, and heavy metal. She is survived by three children, four grandchildren, a brother and sister-in-law, and a niece.

Lilliam Barlowski Runyon ’49, of Marietta, Ga.; May 10. She is survived by a daughter, two grandchildren, and a great-grandson.

John T. Townsend ’49, of Newton, Mass.; Apr. 22. After Brown, he studied theology at Wycliffe College and was ordained to priesthood in the Episcopal Church. He entered Harvard Divinity School and earned a doctorate in 1959. Following two years of parish work, he taught at the Philadelphia Divinity School. During his teaching years he also studied at Ulpan Etzion and Hebrew Union College, both in Jerusalem. He retired in 1994. He published numerous papers and was a contributing member of the Christian Scholars Group on Christian-Jewish Relations, serving one year as its chairperson.

50s Jacqueline Stocker Kent ’50, of Carlsbad, Calif.; Mar. 6. As the wife of a Navy captain, she moved often and enjoyed the role of hostess for Navy social events. In the late 1980s the couple moved to Carlsbad, California, where they resided for more than 30 years. She and her twin sister enjoyed making ceramics, a hobby that they turned into a ceramic tile

company, Riviera Designs. She volunteered with Meals on Wheels and was an active member of the San Diego United Methodist Church. She also enjoyed reading history and biography books, writing poetry, and traveling, including trips to Europe and touring in RVs around California. She is survived by three sons and their spouses, three grandsons, two sisters, a brother, a sister-in-law, a brother-in-law, and a niece and nine nephews.

Anne Crane Ryan ’50, of Basking Ridge, N.J., formerly of Bay Head, N.J.; Apr. 3. She joined the Bernards Township Library in 1966 and during her 19 years there, she served as a director and was instrumental in the building of the new library in 1974. For 50 years she enjoyed playing bridge. She was active in the Seaweeders Garden Club, Bay Head Yacht Club, and Bay Head Improvement Association, and was founding director of the Sea Girt Library, where she served for 17 years. She is survived by two daughters and sons-in-law, including **Susan Ryan Chiarulli** ’75 and **Michael Chiarulli** ’75.

Burton C. Staugaard ’50, of Madbury, N.H.; June 7. His career took him to the universities of Connecticut, New Hampshire, Vanderbilt, and the University of New Haven, where he taught for 21 years culminating in the title of professor emeritus. After retiring, he designed and built his own home in Madbury. He was a man of deep faith and community commitment whose volunteer work included church projects, Habitat for Humanity, and volunteer firefighting. He enjoyed photography, camping, stamp and coin collecting, and rebuilding Volkswagens. He is survived by his wife, Ruth Helen; two daughters, including **Betsy Staugaard** ’83; two sons, including **Peter Staugaard** ’81; a daughter-in-law; a son-in-law; and eight grandchildren.

George F. Tubley ’50, of Lansdowne, Va.; Apr. 7. After Brown, he served for 30 years as an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps. He is survived by a daughter and son-in-law; a son and daughter-in-law; three grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

David M. Curry ’51, of Verona, Pa.; Mar. 30. During his time at Brown he was captain of the rowing club that evolved into a varsity program. After graduating, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps, where he served in Korea and was discharged with the rank of captain. Upon returning to Pennsylvania, he worked at the advertising firm of Ketchum, McLeod & Grove as an account executive. In 1968, he graduated from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. After a short tenure in private practice, he worked at the U.S. Attorney’s

office, retiring in the 1990s. He was a deacon of Shadyside Presbyterian Church, an active board member for Family Resources, and a supporter of Three Rivers Rowing Association, where he was instrumental in the creation of its adaptive rowing program for the blind. He is survived by his wife, Natalie; a daughter; three sons; and 10 grandchildren.

Priscilla Loring Griffin ’51, of Melvin Village, N.H., formerly of Reading, Mass.; June 5. Upon graduation, she worked at Draper Labs. In 1970, she began working for her mother at Roger A. Reed, a wax manufacturing company in Reading. She would later own and operate the company until her retirement in 1987. She was a member and past president of the Reading League of Women Voters and a member of the Ipswich League of Women’s Voters, and she served on the Governor’s Council and board of directors for Mass Bank. She enjoyed gardening and playing tennis. She is survived by a daughter, two sons, a daughter-in-law, eight grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

Henry Pelletier ’51, of Wappingers Falls, N.Y.; May 17. After serving in the U.S. Army Air Corps and graduating from Brown, he began a career in international sales, first at W.R. Grace and then at R.J. Reynolds Metals. Wanting to remain stateside, he accepted a position at Smith Kline & French. Finally, he worked as a buyer for IBM from 1966 until his retirement in 1987. He enjoyed spending summers with family at his home on Cape Cod. He is survived by his wife, Marita; three children; seven grandchildren; and six nieces and nephews.

H. Bradford Benson ’52, of Southbury, Conn., formerly of Glastonbury, Conn.; May 7. In addition to ROTC at Brown, he was active in student government as class vice president and was a member of the Glee Club and Delta Tau Delta. He served two years as an ensign in the U.S. Navy, then moved to New York City, where he worked in banking while attending NYU School of Business. In 1956 he moved to Hartford, Conn., and began his career as an investment broker with Putnam and Company, which later became Advest, Inc. He became a comanager of the Hartford office in 1966 and general partner in 1972, retiring as a senior vice president in 2004. He was active in the Congregational Church and was president of the Brown Club of Hartford. In 1966, he moved to Glastonbury and served on the board of trustees for the First Church of Christ for 25 years. He enjoyed traveling with his wife and spending time at the family retreat on Lake Norman, N.C. He is survived by two daughters and their spouses; a son, **B. Brooks Benson** ’79 and his spouse; four

grandchildren; a sister; three sisters-in-law; two brothers-in-law; and several nieces and nephews.

Roderick H. Brown '52, of Unionville, Conn.; May 21. He was a teacher and assistant headmaster at Mooreland Hill School in Kensington, Conn., for many years. Following his teaching career, he formed his own construction business. He served in the U.S. Army in the Occupation Forces in Japan and was a member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church and the New Britain Rotary Club. He was a member of the board of directors for the Art League of New Britain and the New Britain Museum of American Art and was active with art projects at the Hospital for Special Care. He enjoyed spending summers with family at his Clinton, Conn., beach house, playing bridge, creating family Christmas cards, and traveling. He is survived by his wife, Sarah; four children and their spouses, including son **Vance Brown** '85; four stepdaughters; 17 grandchildren; and two nieces.

Lawrence Kaufman '52, of Owings Mills, Md.; May 10, of cancer. After graduating from Yale University School of Law, he clerked for the chief judge of the Maryland Court of Appeals and then joined the Baltimore firm of Cable, McDaniel, Bowie & Bond, where he worked in tax and estate planning, eventually becoming a partner. The firm merged with McGuire, Woods, Battle & Boothe in 1992, and he retired a few years later but continued to practice law on his own until he was 80. He was past president of the Jewish Big Brother League and mentored and helped to raise a Little Brother. He was active in the Baltimore Exchange Club and the Child Abuse Center of Baltimore. In retirement, he spent a decade volunteering with Meals on Wheels and Pets on Wheels. He is survived by three sons, including **Mark A. Kaufman** '87; six grandchildren, including **Lucy M. Kaufman** '22; and a sister.

James M. Mather '52, of Akron, Ohio; Apr. 18. He was a salesman for Dave Towell Cadillac for more than 35 years and an avid car collector. He supported conservation efforts of public lands, parks, and gardens and for 50 years was a consistent blood donor. He is survived by his wife, Rosaline; two daughters, including **Melissa Mather** '85; a granddaughter; and a brother.

Clinton J. Pearson '52, of Bristol, R.I.; Apr. 4. He graduated from Brown as part of the Navy ROTC and served as a midshipman and officer. In 1956, he founded and was chairman of both the Pearson Yacht Company and Bristol Yachts, birthing the fiberglass boat

industry in Southern New England. He built more than 20,000 boats during his career. He was honored as the Chief Marshal of the Bristol Fourth of July Celebration in 1961. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn; four children and their spouses; 10 grandchildren, including **Charles T. Enright** '08; four great-grandchildren; and a sister.

Leo Vine '52, of Bridgeport, Conn.; Apr. 23, of Parkinson's disease. Upon graduating from Harvard Law School in 1955, he entered the U.S. Army and later was an attorney in Shelton, Conn., where he practiced law for more than 45 years. He served in leadership roles and was a member of many boards. He is survived by his wife, **Doris Kreiger Vine** '54; four children and their spouses; and eight grandchildren.

E. Jane Hovey '53, of Cranston, R.I.; Apr. 21. She worked for the telephone company for 33 years as a service representative and business office supervisor and later was responsible for the department's budget. She was involved in church activities, including being parish treasurer at the Church of the Ascension in Cranston from 1946 until 2008. She was a member of the Cranston Historical Society and the Rhode Island Historical Society.

Theodore S. Jadick '53, of Paramus, N.J.; May 10. He had a long career in sales working at Cannon Mills Company and later as an independent sales rep, retiring in 2015. He was a founding member of Presbyterian Church at High Mountain and served in several governance positions over the years. A sports enthusiast, he was a three-year varsity Brown baseball player and later in life was a participant of his local men's summer softball league and competitive tennis and paddle tennis teams. He was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps and enjoyed spending time with family during the summers in Nantucket. He is survived by four children, 10 grandchildren, and a sister, **Carol Jadick Hanson** '58.

C. Jane Hallet Kirstel '53, of Altamont, N.Y.; Apr. 13. She was a retired teacher. She volunteered at Landis Arboretum as an art therapist at the Capital District Psychiatric Center in Albany and later became a full-time therapist at Ellis Hospital in Schenectady, where she worked for many years. She was also an accomplished woodworker. Phi Beta Kappa. She is survived by two step-grandchildren.

Fred R. Riveglia '53, of Chester, N.J.; Apr. 13. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II as a paratrooper and group member of the Office of Strategic Services, operating

behind enemy lines in Italy and France. He was awarded a Bronze Star and received a Congressional Gold Medal. Upon returning home, he studied mechanical engineering at Brown and worked for the Pratt & Whitney division of United Technologies for 30 years. He is survived by a daughter and son-in-law, a son, four grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, two brothers, and several nieces and nephews.

Steven van Westendorp '53, of Raleigh, N.C.; Apr. 30. He retired as captain from the U.S. Navy in 1976 and moved to Raleigh in 1978. He taught at Sanderson High School and retired from teaching in 1991. He then spent ten years working with Bev's Fine Art. He was a member of Saint Michael's Episcopal Church in Raleigh and served in multiple leadership positions. He enjoyed traveling with his wife. He is survived by a son and a niece.

William Whitehouse '53, of New London, N.H.; Apr. 25. In addition to a business assignment in Lima, Peru, he and his family lived in several Eastern U.S. states. From 1978 to 1994, he owned and operated the Hollow Inn & Motel in Barre, Vt., receiving the Vermont Innkeeper of the Year Award. In 1994, he moved to Grantham, N.H., where he established and operated Eastman All Seasons Real Estate until retiring to New London in 2006. He is survived by four children and their spouses and five grandchildren.

Armando E. Batastini Jr. '54, of Providence; Apr. 11. He worked as a student support specialist for the Providence School Department for 36 years. He also worked as a supervisor and director for the Kennedy Recreation Center at the Providence Recreation Department for 25 years. He was named to the Governor's Advisory Commission on Children and Youth for his work in education. Additionally, he served as State Representative from the Elmhurst/Mount Pleasant and North Providence areas from 1976 until 1992. He was awarded the Hubert Humphrey Public Service Award for his work on the Senior Citizen Bill of Rights legislation. Throughout his life he was involved in all aspects of his community, particularly through sports, having founded the Elmhurst Little League and coached the St. Pius Catholic youth sports basketball team for 61 years. He was inducted into both the New England Basketball Hall of Fame and the Sons of Italy Hall of Fame, and in 2019 the Armand Batastini Recreation Center in Providence was named in his honor. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy. He is survived by his wife, Mary; three daughters; a son; a daughter-in-law; and five grandchildren.

Charles I. Judkins Jr. '54, of Albuquerque, formerly of Maryland, Massachusetts, and Connecticut; June 26. He was known as "Red" to his family and friends because of his fiery red hair. He was a choir singer all of his life, most recently at Sandia Presbyterian Church. He entered Brown on a Navy ROTC scholarship and played varsity football and basketball, then proudly served during the Korean War. He earned an MBA from Columbia Business School in 1958, was hired by IBM and sold large-frame computers in the New York City area. In 1961, he was recruited to work at Travelers Research Center in Hartford, Conn. In 1967, he and two partners started Geomet, a technical service company in Washington, D.C., and the family lived in Potomac, Md., until 1985, when Geomet was purchased and he partially retired. He then traveled the world with his wife, Nancy, played golf, and enjoyed his summer cottage in Bethany Beach, Del., with family and friends. They moved permanently to Albuquerque in 2003 to take part in the lives of their two grandsons. In 2019, he and Nancy attended their 65th reunion, where they were both honored to serve as Marshals at the 2019 Brown Commencement. He is survived by his wife, **Nancy Kaufman Judkins** '54; three children, including son **Peter** '84; a daughter-in-law; two grandsons; a brother, **Richard Judkins** '59; a sister-in-law; and several nieces and nephews.

Vincent M. Love '54, of New York City; Apr. 16. He was vice president of the Mayflower Hotel in New York City. In retirement he volunteered as a research docent at the South Street Seaport Museum. He enjoyed sailing, opera, and attending productions at the Met. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army. He is survived by his brother **Arthur** '56; a sister-in-law; a niece; and four nephews, including **Andrew M. Love Jr.** '87.

Louis H. Pastore Jr. '54, of Cumberland, R.I.; May 1. He had a long career as an insurance broker in Providence and Hartford, Conn. He also served as state senator and held a commissioner appointment in the business regulation department. He enjoyed playing golf and was a longtime member of Metacomet Country Club in East Providence. He also enjoyed spending summers with family at Bonnet Shores in Narragansett. He is survived by his wife, **Elaine Richard Pastore** '58 AM; four children, including daughter **Chaela Pastore** '89; seven grandchildren, including **Michael Pastore** '13; and two great-grandchildren.

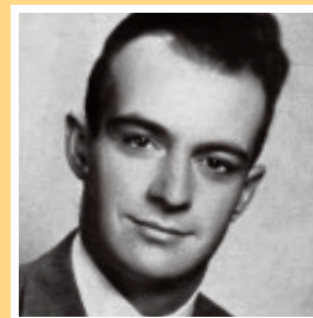
Cornelius J. Sullivan '55, of Concord, Mass.; May 22, after a long illness. He worked for Honeywell and later Raytheon as a human

Agent Orange Attorney Getting justice for Vietnam vets

World War II U.S. Navy veteran **V. Donald Russo** '50 had a distinguished and multifaceted career as a lawyer that included five years working tirelessly to help fellow veterans who had been affected by the toxic defoliant Agent Orange.

After his military service, Russo attended Brown, St. John's University School of Law, and NYU Graduate School of Law, then worked as a negligence trial attorney, eventually retiring with more than 60 years of experience at Allstate Insurance Company. He lectured at the Columbia Lawyers Association of Manhattan and the Civil Court of the City of New York, taught real estate law at Marymount Manhattan College, and developed a multitude of continuing legal education programs and training manuals.

A highlight of his career came in 1979, when he joined a consortium of plaintiffs' lawyers from Long Island who undertook the prominent Agent Orange case, one of the largest product liability litigations in American legal history. For years he traveled to listen to interrogations and take depositions. His wife Christine



Russo remembers when he returned from one such trip, exhausted, he told her: "When you listen to these fellas tell you about their illnesses, you forget about being sleepy and just keep going."

That was the hallmark of his approach to his work, she says: "He would prepare until he knew every fact of the case and it was hard to beat him."

The case was settled in 1984 and the Vietnam veterans were awarded medical and financial assistance. Russo was honored with an Award of Gratitude from the Veterans of Foreign Wars; his papers are part of the Brown Vietnam Veterans Archives.

Among other professional honors, in 1997 Russo was the recipient of the Individual Service Award from Allstate for his hard work, loyalty, and dedication to excellence in legal work. In his private life, he was an avid reader and enjoyed

playing golf and working outdoors at his home in Northport, Long Island, as well as traveling with Christine and spending time at a family lake house in Vermont. He passed away on May 28. Survivors include a brother-in-law, a sister, two nephews, and a niece.

resources manager. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He was an active member of Holy Family Parish, where he served as a Eucharistic minister and choir member. He is survived by his wife, Maureen; three daughters and their spouses; a son; and four grandchildren.

Joseph Focarino '56, of New York City; Apr. 21, of lung cancer. Before retiring, he was the editor of books and catalogs for the Frick Collection in New York City. He had a lifelong interest in the arts and frequently visited the theater, art museums, the opera, and ballet. He is survived by a sister, a brother and sister-in-law, and a niece and nephew.

Ronald E. Foster '56, of Princeton, N.H.; Apr. 13. After serving in the U.S. Army, he began a 30-year banking career with Bankers Trust

Company (now Deutsche Bank) in New York City. He retired in 1989. At Brown he was a member of the baseball and basketball teams and Lambda Chi Alpha. He enjoyed reading, playing golf, traveling and was a fan of the New York Yankees and Giants. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; two daughters; a son-in-law; two grandsons; a brother-in-law; a niece; and two nephews.

Joanne Dean Keane '56, of Stamford, Conn.; May 15. She had a 35-year career working for the Department of Education for the Town of Stratford, Lord Chamberlain Elderly Care, and the Westinghouse Corporation. An accomplished artist and art historian, she enjoyed painting, sketching, and visiting museums and galleries around the world. She is survived by two sons, a daughter-in-law, and a granddaughter.

OBITUARIES

Charles W. Merritt Jr. '56, of Boonton, N.J.; June 1, after a brief illness. While at Brown he was captain of the men's basketball team and a member of the football and golf teams and was named to Brown's 100th Basketball All-Decade Team. After serving in the U.S. Army, he took over the operations of the family business, Merritt Mounting & Finishing in New York. He was a member of Rockaway River Country Club, where he was a multiple time club golf champion. He also enjoyed playing cards and spending many hours watching his children and grandchildren participate in activities. He is survived by five children and their spouses, including son **Wesley A. Merritt** '85 and daughter **Elizabeth H. Merritt** '89; 18 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; a sister; and nieces and nephews.

Nevann Winslow Smith '56, of North Kingstown, R.I.; Feb. 13. She is survived by a daughter, two sons, two daughters-in-law, eight grandchildren, and a sister.

James McCurrach Jr. '57, of San Francisco; Apr. 9, after a long illness. He had a varied career that began as vice president at Bankers Trust in New York. He owned and operated a restaurant in New York City during the late 1970s and later was a player and teacher of squash until he settled in San Francisco in the early 1990s and began teaching. He spent the last 25 years of his life enjoying the Bay Area, dining out, attending the theater, and reading and writing. He is survived by two sons.

Robert R. Cole '58, of Westwood, Mass., formerly of Darien, Conn.; June 11. He started his career at Citibank in 1961 and moved to MacKay Shields in 1966, where he was a partner for 22 years. In 1988, he cofounded White Oak Capital Management and ran the business for the remainder of his career. He was a member of several golf and country clubs and an avid tennis and paddle tennis player. He enjoyed traveling and spending summers in Little Compton, R.I., with his family and friends. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; two daughters; a son-in-law; seven grandchildren; and a sister.

Donald C. Dowling '58, of Boynton Beach, Fla.; Apr. 12. He was a lawyer whose criminal and civil career spanned 52 years and three countries. In 1961, he became a field research associate of the American Bar Foundation, studying law and procedures concerning the commitment and discharge of the mentally ill. He then moved to Chicago and entered private practice, specializing in trial work, until accepting an appointment as the National Defender Fellow at the Uni-

versity of Chicago Law School. A position with the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation to work on aspects of the Portuguese penal code in Lisbon followed. After returning to the U.S., he worked at GTE International in New York City, then practiced for 33 years as chief trial attorney and head of the Capital Division in the office of the Public Defender in Palm Beach County, Florida. He started his own civil and criminal practice and then later became a partner at Spinner, Dittman, Federspiel & Dowling. He is survived by his wife, Andree Marie-Therese; three children and their spouses, including **Luc Dowling** '98; five grandchildren; a sister; two brothers; and several nieces and nephews.

Diane Demirjian Markarian '58, of Bethesda, Md.; July 2. She taught elementary school in Warwick, R.I., and in Anne Arundel County, Md., and later held various professional roles with Old Colony Bank, Mass. She served as chair of the Hopedale School Committee, Mass., and was a longstanding member and officer of the Portsmouth Garden Club, R.I. She enjoyed antiques, playing bridge, tennis, dancing, skiing, gardening, crocheting, knitting, sewing, solving crossword puzzles, and cooking. She is survived by her husband, **Dr. Shant Markarian** '54; a daughter, **Kris Markarian** '84; two sons; two grandchildren; three sisters, including **Virginia Demirjian Dadourian** '59; and 12 nieces and nephews.

David B. Peterson '58, of Melbourne, Fla.; Apr. 18. While at Brown, he enrolled in the ROTC program, then entered the U.S. Marine Corp and was discharged with the rank of captain. He spent most of his career working for the RCA Corp., assisting with the space tracking program. He was a member of a Unitarian Universalist congregation and participated on many committees. He enjoyed solving Sudoku and crossword puzzles and reading two newspapers a day. He is survived by a brother and several nieces and nephews.

W. Scott Roberts '58, of Scituate, Mass.; June 1. After serving in the U.S. Army during the Korean War, he attended Brown, where he was treasurer of Phi Gamma Delta. After graduation, he joined the Gillette Company as a sales representative in New York City. Over the next 40 years he held many positions there, was recognized with numerous industry awards, and retired as corporate vice president of trade relations in 1999. He volunteered for the town of Scituate, chairing the town advisory committee and helping preserve conservation land. He was a Bruins, Pats, and Sox fan and especially enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren. He is survived by his wife, Pat; three children,

including son **Scott Roberts** '88; nine grandchildren; and 17 nieces and nephews.

Thomas M. Wilson III '58, of Baltimore; Apr. 24. After serving two years in the U.S. Army in Germany, he married and moved to Baltimore, where he worked in sales for Mid-Eastern Box Company. He earned his JD from the University of Maryland School of Law in 1971 and in 1974 established the State of Maryland's Antitrust Division, which he headed for five years. He successfully defended before the U.S. Supreme Court on antitrust and commerce-clause constitutional issues. In 1979 he joined Tydings & Rosenberg, where he developed and chaired the firm's antitrust practice. He lectured and published in the U.S. and abroad on antitrust and trade regulations issues, as well as testifying before Congress. A former fellow of the American Bar Foundation, he was selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America* every year from 2007 and was named "Lawyer of the Year" in Baltimore for his antitrust litigation practice by the same publication in 2014. He retired from Tydings Law in 2017. He enjoyed traveling and attending the opera and was a fan of the Baltimore Orioles and Ravens. He is survived by three children and four grandchildren.

John M. Howard '59, '65 MAT, of Bradenton, Fla.; May 19, of cancer. He taught English, coached hockey, and directed the glee club at Blake School in Minneapolis. He then served as camp director at YMCA Camp Warren in Eveleth, Minn., for 10 years before returning to the school environment at Breck School (Minn.). In 1987, he moved to Bradenton and began a 15-year career as headmaster of Saint Stephen's Episcopal School. He enjoyed playing the piano, cruising to Alaska and the Caribbean, and vacationing in the North Carolina mountains. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn; a daughter; a son; and two brothers.

J. Stewart McLaughlin '59, of Bay Shore, N.Y.; Apr. 8. He earned a law degree from Cornell University Law School in 1962 and worked for two years as an attorney at MONY Life Insurance Company in New York City. During that time, he obtained a Master of Laws from New York University in taxation. In 1964, he returned to Bay Shore and established a general law practice that he operated for more than 50 years. He was also the attorney for the Kismet Fire District from 1973 until 2012 and for the Village of Ocean Beach for nine years. He served on boards for Southside Hospital, the New York State Hospital Trustees, and the Healthcare Association of New York State, gaining experience that led to a second era of his career, in which he was

appointed Receiver for Brunswick Hospital Center, Inc. Over the past 19 years, his role developed and changed as the receivership came to an end. He is survived by his wife, Laura; a daughter; a granddaughter; and several cousins, nieces and nephews.

60s Robert B. Carlin '60, of Marblehead, Mass.; Apr. 15, of cancer. A Swampscott High School four-year, three-sport varsity athlete, he continued both his football and baseball careers at Brown, earning many accolades including captain of the football team in 1959. He spent time playing football for the semi-pro Providence Steamrollers and baseball for the Cape Cod League, then served in the U.S. Army, where he was also fortunate to play football. Upon discharge, he worked for 45 years in the insurance business. He enjoyed traveling, playing golf, and sailing. He is survived by his wife, Lissa; three daughters; two sons-in-laws; seven grandchildren; and a sister.

Cheryl Snider Conron '60, of Worcester, Mass.; May 2. She worked in alumni affairs at Worcester Polytechnic Institute for many years. She was an avid reader, especially in history. She was a skilled carpenter and furniture refinisher and enjoyed gardening. She is survived by her husband, **John** '61; daughter **Maura Conron** '84 and her spouse; a son and daughter-in-law; three grandchildren, including **Kolya Shields** '24; two step-grandchildren; and a brother.

Lawrence W. Hegarty '60, of Weatogue, Conn.; Apr. 7. He served in the U.S. Navy for three years after attending officer candidate school. His career spanned many areas in sales and sales management, including selling safety products for a Chicago-based firm that named him salesman of the year. He was an avid sailor and owned sailboats throughout his life. He is survived by a son and his spouse, two grandchildren, a brother and sister-in-law, and his former wife, Constance Hegarty.

Charles E. Houriet '60, of Flemington, N.J.; May 17. He was a retired stockbroker. He was a Mason, a longtime member of the New York Athletic Club, and a veteran of the U.S. Army. He is survived by a brother and several nephews.

Daniel G. Wayne '60, of Riverside, R.I.; June 10, of Parkinson's disease. An early job entailed test-driving cars for Rolls Royce in New York. This was followed by positions in marketing for Royal Crown Cola, Irvin Industries (in the parachute division),

Haskon Corporation, Auto Placement Center, and Comsearch on the East Coast, as well as European Auto Parts in northern California. He enjoyed tinkering with cars, being part of the pit crew for his racing friends, riding his motorcycle, painting model airplanes, and building sculptures and stained glass. He also enjoyed watching *Jeopardy!* and was often the winner of the in-person version played during his time at the Scandinavian Home Assisted Living Community. He is survived by his wife, **Vera Samak Wayne** '65; daughter **JC Wayne** '88 and her partner; daughter **Halley Townsend Wayne Lavenstein** '92 and her spouse; and two grandsons.

Amy Lautman Ullrich '61, of Hingham, Mass.; May 7, following a long illness. She earned her master's degree in anthropology from Harvard. An accomplished sailor, she combined vocation with avocation with her work at *SAIL Magazine*, from which she retired after 30 years as managing editor. She raced sailboats at the Hingham Yacht Club and cruised extensively throughout Maine, the Caribbean, and Europe, publishing accounts of her journeys and serving for many years as a director of the Bitter End Yacht Club. She coauthored a book on the Virgin Islands and wrote numerous cruising guides to New England and the Caribbean. She also enjoyed solving the *New York Times* crossword puzzle. She is survived by daughter **Nicole Ullrich** '90 and her spouse; two sons and daughters-in-law, including **David Ullrich** '87 and **Anja Wehde-Siniscalco Ullrich** '88; and nine grandchildren.

Philip M. Reed '62, of Litchfield, N.H.; May 24, of cancer. He worked for Travelers Insurance Company across the Northeast in senior management and commercial lines insurance. He later owned his own agency in Manchester, N.H. He served on various boards, including the Litchfield School Board, the Advisory Council of the Independent Services Network, and as president of the Pastoral Counseling Services in Manchester. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and enjoyed playing golf. He is survived by his wife, Shirley; two sons and their spouses; four grandchildren; and a brother.

Dayton T. Carr '63, of New York City; Apr. 7. He established the Venture Capital Fund of America Group (VCFA Group) in 1982 and is credited as being the founder of the secondary private equity industry. He was captain of the sailing team at Brown and was an accomplished competitive racer in a variety of boats throughout his sailing career. He was a champion and ambassador for the causes he supported, which included the U.S. Sailing and U.S. Olympic Sailing Program.

He served on the board of directors of the National Sailing Hall of Fame for many years and was involved in various organizations, including Sail Newport, Oliver Hazard Perry Rhode Island, Herreshoff Marine Museum, the Preservation Society of Newport County, Redwood Library and Athenaeum, and ChildFund International.

Jo-Anne Palumbo Vaughn '64, of Parkville, Md.; Apr. 9, after a long illness. She spent several years teaching French and Italian in high schools in Westerly, R.I., and Hyattsville, Md., then lived and worked with her husband, who was a Foreign Service Officer, in Indonesia, Germany, Bolivia, and Singapore. She earned her master's in education and counseling from Boston University and became a State Department Family Liaison Officer, providing family and marriage counseling to American families living overseas. On her return to the U.S., she continued to work for the State Department as a crisis management trainer, traveling to embassies in Africa, South America, and Europe. She spent 2002-2004 as a program officer for a Catholic mission in Citi Soleil, Port au Prince, Haiti, providing meals and education to children in need. She retired in 2004 and volunteered at her local community center, held gourmet cooking classes, and sailed and traveled extensively with her husband. She was also an adjunct ESL professor at Chesapeake College. She is survived by her husband, Tony; three daughters and their spouses; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Stephen R. Bond '65, of London, England; May 29, following complications from heart surgery. He received his law degree from Columbia University and was senior counsel in the London office of Covington & Burling, specializing in international commercial arbitration. Previously, he was cohead of the international arbitration practice group at White & Case LLP. He held several leadership positions with the International Chamber of Commerce, as well as positions with the United States Department of State, including as counselor for legal affairs in the United States mission to the United Nations in Geneva. He received numerous accolades, including recognition as one of the 20 most highly regarded individuals for commercial arbitration by *Who's Who Legal*, and the U.S. State Department's distinguished honors award. He is survived by his wife, Bruna; a daughter and son-in-law; a son and daughter-in-law; four grandchildren; a sister and brother-in-law; and two nieces.

George H. Connell Jr. '66, of Atlanta; Apr. 13, from complications of a stroke. He graduated

OBITUARIES

from the University of Georgia School of Law in 1969 and began working as a United States attorney. He was a partner at Long Weinberg Ansley & Wheeler before establishing his own private firm, where he successfully practiced for more than 40 years. He retired from the legal firm of Dennis, Corry, Porter & Smith. He was a member of the Georgia Bar Association, Sigma Chi Fraternity, and the Capital City Club. An accomplished tennis player, he was a former member of Brown's varsity tennis team. He is survived by his wife, Deborah; four children; five grandchildren; and a sister.

Gerard T. Lynch '66, of Vero Beach, Fla., formerly of Avon, Conn.; Apr. 20. After receiving a law degree from Fordham University School of Law and serving in the U.S. Marine Corps, he began a career in investment management at the Hartford Insurance Group. He moved to St. Paul Companies in St. Paul, Minnesota, then returned to Hartford in 1984 to start New England Asset Management, from which he retired in 2014. He enjoyed sports, traveling, and spending time at the beach. He is survived by his wife, Evy; daughter **Allison Lynch Longfield** '98 and her spouse **Ryan Longfield** '00; sons **Coley** '95 and **Brendan** '92 and their spouses; 13 grandchildren; two sisters-in-law, including **Phyllis Gushae Lynch** '55; and several nieces and nephews, including **Mary Bergen Hoag** '82, **Susan C. Lynch** '82, **Jennifer Lynch Seemar** '87, **Suzanne M. Lynch** '90, and **Robert K. Lynch** '90.

James D. Willey '67, of Burlington, Mass., formerly of Ridgewood and Franklin Lakes, N.J.; Apr. 12. He began working at Procter & Gamble, eventually settling in Ridgewood and Franklin Lakes, where he owned several businesses. He was an active member of the First Presbyterian Church in Ridgewood and taught Sunday school, worked with the youth groups, and served as an usher. Upon retiring, he moved to Burlington. He is survived by his wife, Susan; a daughter; a son; five grandchildren; two brothers; a sister-in-law; and four nephews.

William H. White II '68, of Washington, D.C.; May 19. He held many titles, including property manager, stock market investor/consultant, researcher, engineer, thespian director, and U.S. Army veteran. He is survived by three children, five grandchildren, and a sister.

Margaret Dworkin Northrop '69, of Barrington, R.I.; June 4, of Alzheimer's disease. After graduating from Brown, where she was a class president, and the Loyola University

School of Law in Chicago, she practiced labor law, first in Chicago and later for the United Nations at its New York City headquarters. In some of the intervening years, she worked as a magistrate in the Connecticut court system. She was fluent in French, which she mastered as an American Field Service exchange student in Paris. She enjoyed traveling, socializing, and spending time by the ocean. She is survived by her husband, Tom; three sons; three grandchildren; and a brother, **Peter Dworkin** '74.

70s Ronald S. LeFever '70, '71 ScM, of Easton, Pa.; May 28, from complications of prostate cancer. His landmark MIT thesis in 1982 on myoelectrical signaling was lauded internationally and went on to be a cornerstone in research in this area. He was a professor in his early years and later made his mark in the communications technology world with his work in defense contracting and cellular location services. He also worked for the Harris Corporation in the 1980s. He enjoyed problem solving and fixing anything broken. He is survived by his wife, Linda Brad; two daughters; a son; two sons-in-laws; five stepchildren; 13 grandchildren; and his former wife, Catherine LeFever.

Carol Ann Marble Thatcher '72, of Toronto, Canada; June 9. She worked in the electronic publishing field, including positions at Quicklaw, InfoGlobe, and Infomart, then held management positions at CGI and the Ontario Ministry of Health. She volunteered for Out of the Cold, sang with the Toronto Classical Singers, and enjoyed gardening, traveling, and playing bridge. She is survived by her husband, Adrian; a sister and brother-in-law; two brothers and sisters-in-law; and nine nieces and nephews.

Peter J. Durfee '73, of Marshfield, Mass.; June 5, from prostate cancer. He earned a master's in accounting from Northeastern, then worked at Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co. in Boston and as a partner in Durfee & Root. He retired as director of finance for the Beacon Mutual Insurance Company in Warwick, R.I. As a young boy he worked beside his grandparents, father, and brothers at Durfee Hardware Store in Cranston, R.I. and, at the time of his passing, was a co-owner and behind-the-scenes financial consultant. He also served as treasurer of Trinity Episcopal Church, coached a boys' travel basketball team, and volunteered at the Scituate Art Festival. A lover of sports, he completed ten marathons, including three Boston marathons and three Mount Washington road races, and enjoyed playing golf

(he was proud of his hole in one at the Pawtucket Country Club). He is survived by his wife, Sheila; a son and daughter-in-law; two granddaughters; two brothers, including **David Durfee** '80, '87 ScM, '92 PhD; three sisters-in-law; two brothers-in-law; and 11 nieces and nephews, including **Kevin Durfee** '11 and **Kyle Durfee** '14.

Katherine J. Moore '73, of Joshua Tree, Calif., formerly of Purchase, N.Y.; June 3. After Brown, she went on to study law at Rutgers University, where she was an editor of the *Law Review*. She joined the firm of Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy in New York City in 1978 and became a partner. She enjoyed and was a supporter of the arts. She also enjoyed reading and traveling. She is survived by a sister, two brothers, two nieces, and a great nephew.

P. Kevin Walther '74, of Flowery Branch, Ga.; Apr. 20. After receiving his law degree from Indiana University, he specialized in residential and commercial real estate law in the Atlanta area from 1979 until his death. He enjoyed cooking for and hosting family gatherings, gardening, and walking on the beach. He is survived by his wife, Kimberly; a daughter; his stepmother; two grandchildren; and six siblings.

Helen Eustis Ederer '76, of Vero Beach, Fla.; Mar. 29. She was a real estate broker and enjoyed traveling the world, teaching the Transcendental Meditation technique, and competitive open water swimming. She is survived by her husband, David; a sister; and two brothers.

80s Wendy Schornstein Good '80, of New Orleans; May 24, after a battle with glioblastoma brain cancer. After Brown, she went on to Tulane Law School, where she was a member of Order of the Coif and *Tulane Law Review*. After clerking at the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, she joined Sessions, Fishman, Nathan & Israel in the estate and trust practice, remaining there until 1988. After Hurricane Katrina, she began photographing and documenting various aspects of street, burial, and musician culture and ritual. This included David Peters Montana, Big Chief of the Washitaw Nation Mardi Gras Indian Tribe, as well as local musicians, including Kermit Ruffins and his "We Partyin' Traditional Style!" album. She served as an executive board member for Jewish Family Service of Greater New Orleans and of Temple Sinai, where she cocreated and led Sabbath of the Soul. She was a longtime supporter of local artists and the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage

Festival. Prior to her death she had trained to be a medical advocate for victims of domestic violence with the New Orleans Family Justice Center. She is survived by her husband, Julian; two daughters and sons-in-laws; her parents; two sisters and their families.

Robert Stanley '83, of Suffield, Conn.; Apr. 20, of cancer. He began working at G. Fox in Hartford, then accepted a position at Suffield Academy, his former school, where he taught for 13 years and held various positions including varsity hockey coach and dean of students. For three years he was director of Camp Rising Sun, a camp for children with cancer, while pursuing his master's at Yale Divinity School. From 2000 to 2020, he was president of the American Secondary Schools for International Students and Teachers. He was recognized in 2015 with an award from the Institute of International Education. He is survived by his wife, Anne; two daughters; his mother; a brother and sister-in-law; and several nieces and nephews.

Lydia L. English '85, of Randolph Center, Vt.; May 28. After a 20-year banking career in Chicago and in St. Thomas, USVI, she attended Brown as a RUE student, then earned her PhD from Yale University in 1991. She retired in 2009 from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, where she had headed a fellowship program designed to increase the number of professors of color by identifying talented undergraduates interested in pursuing a PhD in the humanities. She is survived by her wife Patricia Menchini; a son; two stepsons and their spouses; and three step-grandchildren.

Amy McCoy Mastin '86, of Leadville, Colo.; Apr. 17, of liver disease. Always an athlete, she ran her first marathon and bicycled from Vancouver to San Diego in 1981. She competed in basketball, cross country, and eventually rowing at Brown, then coached crew for four years at Northeastern. She climbed half of Colorado's 14ers and ran many marathons and other races, including Pikes Peak, Mosquito Pass, and Steamboat. She chaired Summit Recycling Project, which led to the formation of Cloud City Conservation Center in Leadville. She could always be found cleaning a roadside, tending race aid-stations, and recycling at events. She was proud to help long-term renters and worked hard to assist with housing for those in need. She is survived by her husband, Kevin, and two daughters.

90s Kristen Keado Lackner '90, of Dallas; May 13. She was general manager of Overseas Motors in Dallas for 20 years. She also participated in Bible Study Fellowship and taught young

The Gene Finder

A pioneer and mentor in cellular science

Autophagy, or "self-eating," is the way cells clean and recycle themselves, keeping us healthy. Biomedical scientist **Beth Levine** '81 discovered the mammalian autophagy gene *beclin1*, now the most studied of such proteins. She went on to study autophagy's role in suppressing cancer, viruses, and neurodegenerative diseases. "I think what was most critical to my success was my willingness to follow my scientific intuition and pursue questions that I thought were important," she told the *Journal of Clinical Investigation*.

As part of Levine's mission to bring together scientists from diverse countries and disciplines to link fundamental biology to human health, she created the Gordon Conference on Autophagy in Stress, Development, and Disease in 2003, which still continues. A colleague remembers her as "an amazing scientist...and a true understated supporter of female scientists."

After earning a medical degree from Weill Medical College of Cornell University, followed by an internal medicine residency at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York, Levine was a postdoctoral fellow in infectious diseases and virology at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, rising to director of virology research



children. She is survived by her husband, **Randy** '89; a daughter; two sisters; a niece and a nephew.

Glenn J. Barquet '92, of Miami; May 2, from complications of COVID-19. He was a cardiologist at Mercy Hospital in Miami and had a private practice in South Miami. He graduated from the University of Florida College of Medicine and was board certified by the American Board of Cardiovascular Disease. He was not treating patients with COVID-19 at the time of his death. He is survived by his wife, Somaly.

Serena Simmons Connelly '92, of Dallas; Apr. 22. She earned a master's in social work from the University of Texas at Arlington

at Columbia University. She was recruited to University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in 2004 and eventually became director of its Center for Autophagy Research and holder of the Charles Cameron Sprague Distinguished Chair in Biomedical Science. The university remembers her as "an elegant, driven, and focused researcher who demanded the best from herself and the more than 50 graduate students and postdoctoral researchers she mentored."

Levine was a founding associate editor of *Autophagy* and an editorial board member of *Cell*, which honored her as "an exemplary role model for women in science and medicine, and a caring physician with a lifelong dedication to easing human suffering." Elected to the

National Academy of Sciences in 2013, she won awards and honors including the Phyllis T. Bodel Award from Yale and the Barcroft Medal from Queen's University in Belfast, and the American Society for Clinical Investigation's 2014 Stanley J. Korsmeyer Award.

Levine passed away of cancer in Dallas on June 15. She is survived by her husband Milton Packer, a cardiologist and former professor and chair of the department of clinical sciences at UT Southwestern; a daughter; and a son.

in 1995 and set out to change the world. She served HIV/AIDS patients in Dallas, then worked with the city's refugee community and torture survivors. When an agency serving those survivors faced closure, she was instrumental in establishing the Human Rights Initiative of North Texas, which is now in its 20th year serving immigrant survivors of human rights abuses. She later joined the Harold Simmons Foundation, where she worked to help those in the greatest need. She also served on boards including the Texas Women's Foundation, the Texas Muslim Women's Foundation, and the North Texas Regional Board of USA for UNICEF. She was named 2001 Social Worker of the Year by the National Association of Social Workers Texas Chapter and a Distinguished Alumna by the

OBITUARIES

University of Texas at Arlington in 2014. She is survived by her husband, Tom; two children; her mother; a stepmother; three sisters; a stepsister; a stepbrother; as well as many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Elizabeth K. Reilly '01 of Mountain View, Calif., formerly of Barrington, R.I.; Apr. 27, after a long illness. She was a senior managing engineer for the Exponent Company in Menlo Park, Calif., for the past 10 years. She served on the American Gas Association's Transmission Pipeline Operations Committee and was a registered patent agent with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. She is survived by her husband, Philip Stephanou; her parents; a sister and brother-in-law; two nieces; and a nephew.

G.S. Marjorie Schaefer Freeman '49 ScM, of Jersey Village, Tex.; Apr. 30. She was a research assistant at Texas A&M in the 1950s. After raising her children, she taught math and physics at South Texas Junior College, which later became the University of Houston Downtown and named her an associate professor of applied mathematical sciences. She was a longtime board member and officer of the Weather Research Center and the Weather Museum of Houston, and a member of the American Mathematics Association and the American Meteorological Society. In later years she raised Chesapeake Bay retrievers. She served as president and secretary of the South Texas Obedience Club and was a member of the board of the Southwestern Tracking Association of Metropolitan Houston. She is survived by six children and their spouses, seven grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren.

Robin L. Curtis '54 PhD, of Brookings, Ore.; May 9. He began his career as a postdoctoral Fellow at NYU and was subsequently invited to join the faculty of the New Jersey College of Medicine. He and his family moved to Wisconsin, where he worked as a professor and research neuroscientist at Marquette University School of Medicine and then the Medical College of Wisconsin. He won many research grants and received multiple awards for his outstanding teaching. When he retired, he and his wife moved to southwest Oregon. He was a World War II U.S. Navy veteran. He is survived by his wife, Sheila; two children; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Edgar C. Smith Jr. '55 PhD, of Chevy Chase, Md.; May 20. He worked for IBM, where his initial assignment was working with major research universities in the western United

States to set up mainframe computers on their campuses. He went on to have a long and successful career with the company, living in various cities and countries. After retiring, he spent 12 years in Carmel, Calif., where he enjoyed researching and writing about California's history. He also served as a docent in the Monterey Maritime Museum. He was a World War II veteran of the U.S. Navy. He is survived by a daughter, two sons, and five grandchildren.

David P. Rein '57 AM, of Webster, N.Y.; June 1. His teaching career began at West Morris High School (N.J.). In subsequent years he taught at the University of Liberia on a one-year Fulbright-Hays grant, at Bucknell University, Bloomsburg State College, the School for International Training, and Capital Community College. He taught students from more than 50 countries. As a freelancer, he wrote and edited ESL and English for professionals materials for Oxford University Press and Regents Publishing Company. He was a lifelong learner, accomplished classical pianist, and international traveler. He is survived by his sister and brother-in-law and several nieces and nephews.

William T. Moynihan '62 PhD, of Storrs, Conn.; Mar. 28. After serving in the U.S. Marine Corps and graduating from St. Bonaventure University, he was employed as a journalist. In 1955 he began his teaching career at Connecticut's Killingly High School, where he gained the nickname "Wild Bill." At the same time, he began working toward his Brown PhD, while also teaching summer school classes at UConn. In 1961, he was hired as an English professor at UConn and in 1967, he was elected chair of the English department and served as department head for 20 years. He authored a book on the poetry of Dylan Thomas, and co-authored several writing textbooks. He was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to teach in Bergen, Norway, in 1969, then taught in Paris, France, and London on academic exchanges, all while leading the department. After stepping down as department head, he began a second career as a playwright in the 1980s, writing more than nine plays, including *More Than a Man*, about Haitian revolutionary Toussaint L'Ouverture, which was a finalist in both the CBS/Chicago Theater Project playwriting competition and the Sergel Drama Prize from the University of Chicago Court Theater competition in 1985. He is survived by seven children and their spouses, and 19 grandchildren.

Nathaniel A. Friedman '64 PhD, of Albany, N.Y.; May 2, from complications of COVID. After appointments at the University of New

Mexico, Westfield College, and the University of London, he settled into a tenure-track position at SUNY Albany in 1968. He wrote *An Introduction to Ergodic Theory* (1970), one of the early textbooks on the topic, and helped lay a foundation in ergodic theory and dynamical systems that continues to have a broad influence on many areas of mathematics to this day. In 1992, he started the international, interdisciplinary Art and Mathematics Conference, which convened annually in Albany. In 1998 he founded the International Society for the Arts, Mathematics, and Architecture to further interdisciplinary education in these fields, with international conferences in the U.S. and Europe. His newsletter *HYPERSSEEING* became a quarterly magazine covering a lively mix of art/math articles, news, reviews of books and exhibits, even cartoons. He retired as full professor in 2000. He enjoyed sculpting and ballroom dancing. He is survived by six cousins.

John M. Howard '65 MAT (see '59).

Bobby Z. Workman '65 MAT, of Murray, Ky.; Apr. 3, after battling Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease. He taught math and chemistry in Indiana before earning his master's degree and entering the paper industry. He worked at Mead Paper (N.C.), then at Bowater (S.C.), and retired in 1998 from Weyerhaeuser (Wash.). He was a member of Epsilon-Lambda Chapter of Pi Kappa Alpha.

James Dalager '66 MAT, of Thief River Falls, Minn.; June 4. He was a math and science teacher at Augustana Academy (S. Dak.), Camrose Lutheran College (Alberta, Canada), and Northland Community College in Thief River Falls. He retired in 1992 and spent a year in Bratislava, Slovakia, teaching math in English. He was active in organizations including Zion Lutheran Church's choir, the Cancer Society, and the Pennington County Historical Society, and tutored math at Cornerstone Academy. He farmed part-time beginning in 1965. He enjoyed family history, square dancing, stamp collecting, and traveling. He is survived by his wife, Phyllis; five children and their spouses; 11 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and a sister.

Theodore B. Wiehe Jr. '66 MAT, of Cleveland, Ohio; Apr. 11. He taught for 32 years at Shaker Heights High School and was instrumental in forming their men's and women's soccer teams. He was known for creating innovative classes at the school and riding his red bicycle to work. He also enjoyed running. He is survived by his wife, Sarah; two sons; a sister; a brother; and several nieces and nephews.

Virginia J. Dunmire '70 MAT, of Prairie Village, Kans.; Apr. 23, of cancer. She taught history and later became the admissions director at Chatham Hall Boarding School for Girls in Chatham, Va. She enrolled in the University of Virginia School of Law and earned her JD degree in 1979. She was the first female editor of the *Virginia Law Weekly*. She joined the law firm of Spencer Fane Britt & Brown in Kansas City, eventually moving on to the legal department of Commerce Bank. She is survived by two brothers, a sister-in-law, and many nieces and nephews.

Ronald S. LeFever '71 ScM (see '70).

George F. Aubin '72 PhD, of Worcester, Mass.; Apr. 23. After graduating from Brown, he continued his post-doctoral studies at MIT, Bowdoin College, and Middlebury College. He retired in 2006 from Assumption College, where he taught French, Linguistics, and American Indian Studies for more than 43 years. He attended many Algonquian conferences in the U.S. and Canada, researched Native American languages, and published several articles and dictionaries throughout his career. While at Assumption, he was chair of the French department and served on many committees. Music was another great passion and he played piano in several local bands and at campus events with his son. He is survived by eight children and their spouses; eight grandchildren; nine siblings; and several nieces and nephews.

Gerald A. Greenberger '72 AM, '73 PhD, of Short Hills, N.J.; Apr. 3, from COVID-19. He taught French history at The College of William & Mary for several years before earning his JD from Yale Law School. He then had a 36-year career practicing law. He is survived by his wife, Debby; a daughter; a son; two brothers; two sisters-in-law; a brother-in-law; two nieces; and a nephew.

Joan Millman '79 AM, of Cambridge, Mass.; Apr. 4. She studied under John Gardner at the Bread Loaf literary conference and enjoyed two fellowships at New York's Yaddo artists colony. Her stories appeared in the *Virginia Quarterly Review* and the *Carolina Quarterly* and her collection entitled *The Effigy* won the University of Missouri Press's prestigious Breakthrough Prize in short fiction in 1989. For many years she contributed articles to the *Boston Globe*, the *Worcester Telegram & Gazette* and the *MetroWest Daily News*, as well as travelogues for numerous newspapers and magazines. In addition to her writing, she taught English composition and creative writing at Emerson College and Framingham State and Salem State universities. She is survived by

four children and their spouses, nine grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Carla Mathes Woodward '79 AM, of Providence; May 18, after a long illness. Her professional career included service at the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, Wellesley College, and RISD. She sang for many years in the choir at St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Providence and is survived by a daughter, two sisters, and nieces and nephews.

Stephen G. Warfel '80 AM, of New Cumberland, Pa.; May 14, after a four-year battle with gastric junction cancer. Before retiring as senior curator of archaeology at The State Museum of Pennsylvania, he conducted excavations at a variety of Native American and colonial period habitation sites. He enjoyed teaching archaeology to college-aged students at sites such as Ephrata Cloister, Fort Augusta, the Joseph Priestley House, and Eckley Miners' Village. He is survived by his wife, Barbara; two sons and their spouses; three grandchildren; a sister; two brothers; and 15 nieces and nephews.

Barbara L. Nason '82 MAT, of Northampton, Mass., formerly of Springfield, Mass., and Simsbury, Conn.; May 7, from a fall. She had a long career with Disability Management Services in Springfield. She wrote poetry, painted watercolors, sang in church choirs, knitted, and did needlepoint. She also enjoyed camping, kayaking, swimming, and hiking. She is survived by a sister and brother-in-law, a brother and sister-in-law, and a nephew.

Joseph T. Keeley '84 PhD, of Lynchburg, Va.; May 13. He worked for most of his career as a plasma physicist with a focus on fuel cells and nuclear energy. He was the author of numerous scientific publications and held several patents. He worked as a research scientist in Troy, Mich., and Woburn, Mass., in the early years of his career. He eventually settled in Lynchburg, where he worked as a research chemist for McDermott International Ltd., and a research engineer for BWX Technologies. He was a senior technical specialist with Babcock and Wilcox nuclear operations. At the time of his death he was working as a consultant with BWX Technologies and was an adjunct professor at Lynchburg College in the chemistry department. He is survived by his mother, two sisters, a brother, and several nieces and nephews.

Chan-Jin Park '84 ScM, of Weston, Mass.; May 8, after a brief illness. He was the president of Massachusetts Engineering Group for 30 years. He is survived by his wife, Hee-Young, and two sons.

Statement of ownership, management, & circulation (required by 39 U.S.C. 3685)

- Title of publication: *Brown Alumni Magazine*
- Publication no: 1520-863X
- Date of filing: October 1, 2019
- Issue frequency: 5 issues annually
- Number of issues published annually: 5
- Annual subscription price: \$0
- Complete mailing address of known office of publication: Brown University, Box 1854, Providence, RI 02912.
- Complete mailing address of headquarters or general business office of the publisher: Brown University, Box 1854, Providence, RI 02912.
- Names and addresses of publisher, editor: Publisher: Brown University, Box 1854, Providence, RI 02912. Editor: Pippa Jack, Box 1854, Providence, RI 02912.
- Owner (if owned by a corporation its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereafter the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual, must be given): Brown University, Brown Alumni Magazine, Box 1854, Providence, RI 02912.
- Known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities: *None*
- The purpose, function and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes have not changed during the preceding 12 months.
- Publication name: *Brown Alumni Magazine*
- Issue date for circulation data below: Nov./Dec. 2019–Sept./Oct. 2020
- Extent and nature of circulation:

	Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months	Actual no. copies single issue nearest to filing date
a. Total copies printed	112,712	104,573
b. Paid and/or requested circulation:		
1. Paid/request outside county mail subscriptions stated on Form 3541	99,110	94,387
2. Paid in-county subscriptions	0	0
3. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors, counter sales, and other non-USPS paid distribution	8,322	8,224
4. Other classes mailed through the USPS	0	0
c. Total paid and/or requested circulation	107,432	102,611
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution By Mail	0	0
Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside Mail	2,986	707
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution	2,986	707
f. Total distribution (sum of c and e)	110,418	103,318
g. Copies not distributed	2,294	1,255
h. Total (sum of f and g)	112,712	104,573
i. Percent paid and/or requested circulation (c/f x 100)	97%	99%

I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.

—PIPPA JACK, Editor



LEAVE A LEGACY

“May I suggest two good ways to support Brown using tax-advantaged distributions from IRAs or other retirement assets? First, consider directing a distribution, especially from a required minimum distribution, to the Brown Annual Fund to help with the University’s highest priorities. Second, designate Brown as the ultimate beneficiary of your retirement plan, to support the work at Brown that is most important to you. I have done both, and hope you will, too.”

*Nancy L. Buc ’65 LLD’94 hon.
Corporation Trustee Emerita*

IF YOU ARE 70½ OR OLDER YOU CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF A TAX-EFFICIENT WAY TO BENEFIT BROWN.

Did you know that you can make an income tax-free distribution, up to \$100,000 annually, directly from your IRA to the Brown Annual Fund or any University priority that is meaningful to you? The transfer generates neither taxable income nor a tax deduction, so you benefit even if you do not itemize your deductions.

Although the CARES Act suspended mandatory distributions from retirement plans in 2020, beginning again in 2021 a gift to Brown—directly from your IRA—can satisfy all or part of your required minimum distributions.

To learn more, call 401.863.9119 or visit bit.ly/brownnira



Brown University
Office of Planned Giving
401-863-9119
Planned_Giving@brown.edu
plannedgiving.brown.edu



CURRENT OBSESSION

Say It Ain’t So, Blueno!

FIVE MINUTES WITH Emilia Ruzicka ’21

My older sister was a junior when I was a freshman and she gave me a tour. I remember her saying, about Blueno, “It’s just this giant ugly statue that’s on our beautiful campus,” and so for a long time, I wasn’t a super big fan.

But then I started using Dear Blueno a lot. It’s this anonymous forum on Facebook for Brown students to submit questions and opinions. I found it a really good resource to ask questions that I didn’t think my sister would have good answers to, and then my sophomore year, I started commenting on posts myself as a way to give back. Once I became really heavily involved with this Facebook page for which Blueno was the mascot, I started coming around to Blueno as a concept. Yeah, he’s a little weird, but because he’s associated with Dear Blueno and Blueno Bears Admirers, he’s become a symbol for a community. Even though he might not be the prettiest blue bear out there, he’s a mascot for a big part of what has defined my

experience at Brown.

At the beginning, how bright he was kind of annoyed me. Other art pieces that we have on campus blend in with Brown’s refined and reserved Ivy League vibe, while Blueno is bright in the color sense, and literally lights up at night. Now, I feel like that makes him really playful and I like that he sticks out. You can’t not look at Blueno, whether you like it or not, and I like that he is an interruption of the very cultivated landscape of an Ivy League institution. I like that he subverts and throws a wrench in the artistic style you would usually expect from an institution like Brown.

I’m not sure if I want to know a Brown without Blueno. I feel like Blueno and my feelings towards him have grown and changed as I’ve grown and changed as a person. He was a piece of art that meant nothing to me for such a long time but now has become a pillar of my Brown experience. He’ll leave a Blueno-sized hole that nothing else will be able to fill.

Yellow-no?

I don’t know what would have happened if Blueno was some other color; maybe he wouldn’t have been noticed as much if he wasn’t this bright happy blue. He’s this colorful, looming figure in an otherwise very green space. I definitely don’t think he would have become the icon that he is without the nomenclature that accompanies him—so much of his popularity is due to the fact that his name is catchy.

Sadly, Blueno—officially named “Untitled (Lamp/Bear)” and on loan since 2016—was in need of repairs and left campus for good in August.

Another Facebook group, “happy to facilitate meet-cutes of all sexualities and all genders.”

TOGETHER WE CAN FULFILL OUR POTENTIAL



Financial aid is crucial to the success of Brown's mission. It can take the form of endowed scholarships, earnings waivers for students pursuing unpaid or low-paying internships, or, as with The Brown Promise, the replacement of loans with scholarship funding in all University-awarded financial aid packages. These initiatives have made it easier for students from diverse backgrounds to choose Brown, significantly reduced their need to amass loan debt, and expanded the socioeconomic diversity of our student body. To continue on this promising path, we must further strengthen Brown's financial aid programs.

“It is critically important for us to have the financial aid resources to support those students who are extraordinarily talented, who are going to be exceptional students at Brown, and who are going to be exceptional Brown graduates and leaders in all walks of life.”

/ Logan Powell, Dean of Admissions

**LEARN MORE ABOUT SUPPORTING
FINANCIAL AID AT BROWN.**

Visit brown.edu/go/giving/financial-aid



BROWN TOGETHER